

Antiviral Distribution During an Influenza Pandemic – LPHA Planning Considerations

Institute of Medicine (IOM) Committee on Implementation of Antiviral Medication Strategies for an Influenza Pandemic



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MHD Perspective on Antiviral Distribution and Use

- Slow spread of disease transmission in conjunction with other community mitigation strategies
- Can reduce severity of illness and duration of disease in targeted populations
- Preserve community healthcare continuity of operations until vaccine availability
 - EMS
 - Private Healthcare
 - Community Clinics

Potential Roles for LPHAs in Antiviral Distribution

- Tracking acquisition, supply, delivery, distribution and efficacy of antivirals (clearinghouse role?)
- Issuance of healthcare guidelines on use
- Monitoring adverse effects and epidemiology
- Re-ordering and cost/reimbursement issues
- Redistribution strategies between pandemic waves
- Reporting and coordination to State and Federal agencies
- Public/Media messaging

Primary LPHA concerns on use of antivirals ...

Epidemiology on emergent strain will drive response strategies and decisions

- What is the “trigger” for deployment and use?
- Strain sensitivity to antivirals?
- Who is at high risk for severe disease?
- Timing of antiviral use and effectiveness?
- Also, who is essential to community critical infrastructure and continuity? NEW!
- What to do when you run out!

Need for clear and practical guidance ...

LPHAs and Healthcare need guidance on:

- Prophylaxis vs. Treatment?
- Length of treatment?
- Identify populations at risk for exposure?
- Adverse or long-term effects?
- Tracking inventory and clients?
- Private healthcare compliance with PH guidance?
- Fairness in distribution?
- Legal Issues?

Current MHD focus

- Pre-positioning or JIT distribution model?
- Coordination and integration with other emergency planning initiatives
- PODs vs. Treatment Centers
- Coordination of stockpiles (SNS, State, Local, private sector)
- Site security issues
- First responder distribution and use

Some current thinking ...

- Treatment center model to limit movement of infected patients in community
- Treatment centers = healthcare systems, hospitals, outpatient clinics, community and LPHA clinics
- Distribution centers need enough antiviral for 5% patients on given day (5% initial attack rate)

Some additional planning considerations ...

- No one will be refused if presenting with symptoms and part of priority group.
- Treatment centers will be secured and geographically located to ensure adequate response coverage
- Distributors must meet certain business criteria including assurance of continuity
- Patients receiving antivirals will be registered using the WIR or WEDSS

Treatment Centers vs. PODS

- **Treatment Centers**

- High level of healthcare services (evaluation, diagnosis and treatment)
- True patient/clinician Interaction
- Better control of dispensing antivirals to individuals who require and are recommended to receive them

- **PODS**

- Familiar PHEP model
- Cross-planning potential
- More accessible to hard to reach populations
- Ability to treat high volumes of people
- Surge capacity oriented
- Focus of current exercises and practice

PODs/Treatment Centers as Critical Infrastructure

- Recognition of PODs/Treatment centers as part of “critical infrastructure” network
- POD/Treatment Center Threat/Vulnerability Assessment
- Securing POD/Treatment Center critical network nodes
- Consequences and recovery of PODs/Treatment Centers
- Leveraging assets within existing planning initiatives (CRI, UASI, BDS, BioWatch)

Healthcare Provider Education Project

- To assess the knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAPs) of healthcare providers concerning use of antiviral medications for seasonal and pandemic influenza
- Develop an educational and planning tool kit to increase local healthcare provider KAPs on use of antiviral medications for pandemic preparedness.
- To conduct a table-top exercise for purposes of assessing the operational knowledge and level of preparedness of healthcare providers

Status of MHD Antiviral Planning

- Develop template site security plans for PODs and treatment centers (Fusion Center)
- Develop plan for EMS and other first responders (MMRS)
- Healthcare Provider Education and Exercise Project (NACCHO)
- Coordinate with regional public health consortium (CDC Cooperative Grant)
- Cross-matrix planning (CRI, BDS, UASI)
- Promote private sector awareness and participation (Occ. health settings)

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