

# SECTION 1

Description of Pandemic Flu

Pandemic stats

Who should get a vaccination?

Anti viral info

Things to do to stop the spread of the flu

Things for the Clinics to do

Suggestions for clinics and Staff

Questions for Administrators and Tribal Council

## **What should I do if I find a dead bird?**

Public Health is continuing to monitor bird deaths as part of its West Nile virus prevention program. Dead birds found in King County should be reported to Public Health by using the web-based report form at [www.metrokc.gov/health/westnile/deadbird.htm](http://www.metrokc.gov/health/westnile/deadbird.htm) or by calling by calling 206-205-4394 during business hours Monday-Friday 8 am – 5 pm.

You may dispose of the dead bird by double bagging in plastic bags and discarding in your household garbage. Use gloves or a shovel to avoid touching the bird or any other dead animal with your bare hands.

## Pandemic Influenza (Flu)

Q. What is Pandemic Flu?

A. An influenza pandemic is a global outbreak of flu that occurs when a new influenza virus appears or emerges in the human population, causes serious illness and then spreads easily from person to person.

Q. How is a flu pandemic different from a normal flu outbreak?

A. Seasonal outbreaks of flu are caused by subtypes of flu viruses that are already in existence. Pandemic outbreaks are caused by new subtypes or by subtypes that have never circulated among people or among people for a long time. Also, pandemics don't necessarily occur during what is considered normal flu season. Pandemic flu historically has come in two waves, with months separating the waves.

Q. How can the next pandemic be avoided?

A. It is nearly impossible to avoid another pandemic. Instead, plans must be developed to be as prepared as possible when it begins. At a meeting of North and South health leaders, At the World Health Organization, Director General Lee-Jong Wook declared that a pandemic was virtually inevitable. Efforts are under way at UC Davis to monitor the dangerous H5N1 strain of the Bird Flu. The focus is currently on Alaska, a junction where birds from east Asia could make a turn and head right down the Pacific coast, using a flyway that runs all the way to Argentina.

The current outbreak of avian influenza in Asia has at least ~~114~~<sup>130</sup> confirmed dead since December 2003. Humans have no pre-existing immunity to this virus.

Pandemic Influenza in the US could result in:

- Up to 200 million people infected
- 40-90 million clinically ill
- 18-42 million outpatient medical visits
- 314,000-7333,00 people hospitalized
- 89,000-207,000 deaths

Who should get a vaccination? (See Appendix B of the King County Pandemic Response plan for priority groups receiving anti viral medications.)

- 1) Care Givers - 6 providers, 4 Medical Assistants, 6 clinic office personnel-16 total
- 2) Tribal Council members and decision makers.
- 3) Tribal members under 2 and 65 or older (The Snoqualmie Tribe has 11 members under 2 years old and 58 who are 65 or older)
- 4) Tribal members with Diabetes, Asthma, heart and kidney disease.

5) Administration Employees (there are 28 employees in Admin. and Social Services)

6) Tribal members (600 total)

We will need a minimum of 200 doses for those with the most urgent need plus another 400-500 doses for the remaining Tribal members. If we become a Point-of - Distribution, we will need to up this count to include all other Native patients and surrounding community that now uses or might use the clinics in time of Pandemic. ( There are 314 Tribal members that use the Clinics and 2500 total patient count)

Members and Employees that travel via Airplanes have a higher risk of getting the flu and should be vaccinated before any flights.

As of September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005 the US Gov't has purchased \$100 Million of the Bird Flu vaccine. This should vaccinate 1.7 million people. This may be stretched, by using an immune booster. This is being tested in France.

ANTI-VIRAL info:

The US is also buying enough Relenza to treat 84,300 people.

The US has already stockpiled enough Tamiflu (Oseltamivir) to treat 4.3 million people. This may not work on Bird Flu depending on what virus actually winds up causing the Flu.

"Tamiflu" is an anti viral agent used to treat the flu in patients one year old or older that have had symptoms for no more then 2 days. It is also used to prevent flu in patient's 13 or older in the US who must be in close contact with someone who has the flu.

Generic "Amantadine", at about \$4 for a 5 days course is another way for Tribal members to be treated. (This drug and Relenza should be re-evaluated before stockpiling as they are less effective then Tamiflu, according to current studies)

We are looking into ways to stockpile or get quick access to stockpiled flu drugs for the Tribe, along with how are Clinics are going to handle the "surge" of patients.

Other things to do that will help slow the spread of the Flu:

- 1) If you think you might have the flu, go to a clinic right away, there are medicines to help but they only work if you take it in the first 2 days.
- 2) If you are sick, stay home. This will aid in not spreading it to others.
- 3) Always cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing.
- 4) Wash your hands often
- 5) Don't rub your eyes or nose
- 6) Wash your desk with Alcohol wipes before and after eating your lunch there.
- 7) If you must go to work or be around others, wearing a mask, is highly recommended.

Q. Is the world ready for a flu pandemic?

A. Plans are being readied at all levels of government around the world. The plans are dealing with a variety of issues, from how to best use the resources we have to care of patients and how to limit the infection as much as possible.

Things for Clinics to do:

- 1) Find ways to stockpile or get quick access to stockpiled flu drugs for the Tribe. We might consider ordering "Tamiflu" NOW!  
Recommendation, work with Well Partner to get stockpile for clinics, also work with KC and State to get Flu and Pneumonia vaccines
- 2) Make a list of who can administer vaccines at the clinics.  
Recommendation, have list drafted and insert into Pan Flu guide.
- 3) How will the Tribe handle "Isolation?" (Cultural differences that might come into play)  
Recommendation, Ask Council how they would like to handle this, insert decision into Plan
- 4) We need to acknowledge that some employees may need to be sent home forcefully (for the good of all) and their jobs will need to be done by others.  
Recommendation, Cross train wherever possible, let employees know that Matt and Marie have the authority to send them home.
- 5) What does the Organization chart look like and who is in charge should Dr. Yorioka become un-available? Please note continuity of government issues attached to this plan as appendix A  
Recommendation, attach Org. chart to Plan
- 7) How are the clinics going to handle the "surge" of patients, that will want to get Vaccinated? (One idea is to make signs that can be placed on clinic doors to keep patients in the cars until called on by clinic staff, to lesson contamination)  
Recommendation, have clinics practice this, so that it is ingrained before outbreak or flu or bio-terror incident.
- 8) Make Contact list of Clinic employees, for call out in case of sickness among

Clinic employees. (A recommendation is to have call forwarding on each clinic phone lines, then make a list so that one employee can come in and enact call forwarding sending calls to other providers at their homes. A list would need to be made so that everybody new the procedure and which calls went where, a call log would need to be kept at each providers home, for audit at a later date).

- 8) I'm recommending that the administration provide wipes and masks for critical clinic or office personnel that must work when sick or when the pandemic has been confirmed.
- 9) Clinics should make a mass purchase now for the employees and clinics to make sure we have a supply of both.(approx. \$600-\$1000 depending on quantity desired)

Recommendation, Spend the money.

- 10) The EM Dept. has one case of masks on a grant. Should be here by February 2006

- 11) Note appendix D to reduce the spread of Pan Flu

Recommendation, At start of pandemic put up flyers in multiple places in Clinics and offices (these are provided for copying in plan notebook)

- 12) Have we recently identified the most vital services and functions we provide?

Recommendation, have Matt and Marie make this decision and insert written decision into plan.

- 13) Are our backups, offsites, and alternate working locations ready to accommodate Us?

Recommendation, get video webcams and allow for offsite work, look into business disruption insurance. Use cell phones and e-mail to as much work as possible. Look into grant for portable medical equipment to start making house calls to patients, instead of them coming into the office, to ease spread of infection. Social and mental health workers should consider providing the same home service after all vaccinated.

- 14) What will be the impact(s) if pandemic flu suddenly occurs to my operations?  
Employees? Access to buildings?

Recommendation, Each department head must think this thru at a table top exercise and comment back on what would or could happen then work with the employees to address these concerns.

- 15) How can we still conduct operations internally and externally if the flu impacts up to one-third of the work force?

Recommendation, see answers above and write a Continuity of Government (COG) plan, ASAP

16) How can we accomplish our most vital functions/services with only a small percentage of our employees?

Recommendation, again see answers above and cross train.

17) Have we pre-established any 'Do Not Come To Work If You Are Sick' policies and procedures? What about extended sick pay?

Recommendation, Take this question to Council for direction and form policy, add to Employee handbook

18) Since almost all businesses, government agencies, and infrastructures will also suffer employee shortages and probably reduce services, how will we work around these problems?

Recommendation, be patient, this will change the way America and the World does business.

19) If our critical key vendors are impacted or we run low on deliveries due to 'Just in Time' supply chains, how will we continue?

20) We should also contact the Red Cross and ask for a site map of all designated shelters in the Tolt and North Bend area.

Recommendation, we are waiting for Red Cross to reply.

21) Mortality rate. How does the Tribe handle deceased members that might be culturally different then the surrounding community?

22) We must think this thru in light of the Casino, how will this effect employees, families, debt service, deliveries, etc.(It has been found that the payroll department is the most important department to keep functioning).

**Discuss these issues in a Staff meeting and exercise the Plans.**