

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Requestor:

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Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): 20 December 2017

Response Date: 3 January 2018

Type of TA Request: Standard

Request:

██████████ noted that the HHS “[Pandemic Influenza Plan: 2017 Update](#)” document uses a Federal example for Domain 6, “Scientific Infrastructure and Preparedness.” He asked for example plans and guidance on how to address Domain 6 at the state public health level.

Response:

The ASPR TRACIE Team reached out to our points of contact with the CDC Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program and ASPR’s Office of Policy and Planning (OPP) for a response. Below is a summary of the response to your request:

The [Pandemic Influenza Plan: 2017 Update](#) is an update to the HHS Pandemic Flu Plan which is a federal plan that may be difficult to translate/compare to a state pandemic flu plan. A one-to-one comparison between this federal plan and a state plan may not be exact. Domain 6 in particular speaks to the federal government’s role in creating, sustaining, and capitalizing on a rigorous scientific infrastructure that provides a mechanism for supporting basic and translational research that can aid the government in knowing the type of agent, its perceived threat, and countermeasures needed to protect lives and wellness. It is not necessarily the intent that such infrastructure also exist at the state level. It is possible that a loose translation can be made from the federal goals listed in Domain 6 of the HHS Pandemic Influenza Plan Update to state specific goals that may be included in a state pandemic flu plan, for example:

- State’s strengthening of epidemiological plans and procedures to include oversight on collaboration, ethical practices, safety, and evidence-based findings to inform pre-pandemic planning.
- State’s role in ensuring strategies and collaborations to prevent, diagnose, treat, and respond to pandemic influenza through collaboration with tribal, local, regional, state, and federal partners.
- State’s role in providing policy and procedural guidance to tribal, local, and regional partners per federal and inter-state collaboration.
- Strengthening state and/or local laboratory capacity and capability to handle pandemic influenza.
- Updating state/regional/local pandemic plans as necessary to improve preparedness planning and infrastructure to support MCM, response, and recovery efforts.

- Maintain a cadre of subject matter experts available to stay abreast of the latest research and paired with operational experts, translate such findings into plans, practices, training, and communications.
- Ensure infrastructure is in place to gather and analyze state/local-specific data (i.e. through syndromic surveillance and other detection mechanisms) and how that data informs their planning and response to influenza pandemics and other such emergencies.

Additionally, the ASPR TRACIE Team conducted a search for pandemic influenza plans at the state health department level and would like to provide these samples that may be helpful to you in your planning efforts. Please also see our [Epidemic/ Pandemic Flu Topic Collection](#), which is a compilation of resources related to pandemic influenza and includes other resources that may be helpful to this request.

I. State-Level Health Department Pandemic Influenza Plans

Connecticut Department of Public Health (2006). [Pandemic Influenza Response Plan](#).

This document provides a framework for government agencies and private organizations to work together in mitigating the consequences of pandemic influenza.

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Community Health Administration, Epidemiology and Disease Control Program. (2002). [Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan for Maryland](#).

This plan includes the procedures that local health departments and the State health department in Maryland should follow in order to mitigate the impacts of an influenza pandemic affecting the State. Note: This plan is outdated but may still provide useful information to help other health departments in developing their pandemic influenza plans.

North Dakota Department of Health. (2010). [North Dakota Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan](#).

This plan provides guidance to State health official on how to respond to pandemic influenza outbreaks.

State of Delaware, Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health. (2008). [Delaware Pandemic Influenza Plan](#).

This plan provides the State of Delaware with guidelines on how to prepare for and respond to a pandemic influenza outbreak.

State of Illinois, Illinois Department of Public Health. (2014). [Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan](#).

This document identifies the preparedness and response activities that need to be taken by the State government and its partners as it relates to pandemic influenza.

State of Tennessee, Department of Health. (2009). [Pandemic Influenza Response Plan](#).

This plan provides a framework for State public health officials to respond to an influenza pandemic.

Texas Health and Human Services. (2011). [Pandemic Influenza](#).

This website contains links to several statewide plans, including the Pandemic Influenza Plan Operational Guidelines, and the Pandemic Influenza Annex to the Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plan.

Utah Department of Health. (2007). [Utah Pandemic Influenza Response Plan](#).

This draft plan identifies the roles and responsibilities of state and local public health officials as it relates to pandemic influenza, and builds upon preparedness efforts established at all levels of the government and in the private sector.

II. Additional Resources

ASPR TRACIE. (2017). [Health Care Coalition Influenza Pandemic Checklist](#).

This planning tool is intended to assist health care coalitions and their partners in assessing their preparedness for an influenza pandemic. It may also be used to orient the response as a pandemic begins. This checklist can help healthcare coalitions assess, create, and improve their pandemic preparedness and response plans.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2011). [Public Health Preparedness Capabilities: National Standards for State and Local Planning](#).

This document provides national standards on 15 public health preparedness capabilities, and is intended to assist state and local public health departments in developing and advancing their preparedness plans. Note: [Capability 8](#) (Medical Countermeasure Dispensing), [Capability 9](#) (Medical Materiel Management and Distribution), and [Capability 13](#) (Public Health Surveillance and Epidemiological Investigation) may be particularly useful as it relates to Domain 6 in the "[Pandemic Influenza Plan: 2017 Update](#)" document.

Qualls, N., Levitt, A., Kanade, N., et al. (2017). [Community Mitigation Guidelines to Prevent Pandemic Influenza - United States, 2017](#). Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. 66(1):1-34.

These guidelines update Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations on the use of non-pharmaceutical interventions to slow the spread of infectious respiratory diseases, including influenza.