

## Work Plan for the Panflu Task Force<sup>1</sup>:

**Goal: EMS in Hennepin County will be prepared to respond to pandemic influenza**

**Objective 1: The EMS workforce is ready to come to work during a panflu event**

**• Components of Objective 1**

- 1) Staff are aware of panflu
- 2) Staff know how to stay safe on the job
- 3) Staff families are prepared to stay healthy and safe

| <b>Activities Planned for Objective 1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>Achievements for Objective 1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| mid-October mailing to homes of system workforce:<br>○ system cover letter with a reminder about seasonal flu shots<br>○ VA tri-fold, “Pandemic Flu – General Information”                                                                                                                                 | ○ mailed later than planned: 11-4-07<br>○ information delivered to 420 personnel<br>○ one service delivered in mailboxes instead of allowing a mailing to homes<br>○ funding supported by county public health and Metro Region EMS |
| mid-November mailing<br>○ system cover letter with another reminder about seasonal flu shots<br>○ CDC fact sheets, “Pandemic Flu Planning Checklist for Individuals and Families” and “Family Emergency Health Information Sheet”<br>○ CDC flyer “Healthcare Personnel! Are your vaccinations up-to-date?” | ○ mailed later than planned: 11-30-07<br>○ information delivered to 420 personnel<br>○ one service delivered in mailboxes instead of allowing a mailing to homes<br>○ funding supported by county public health                     |
| mid-December mailing<br>○ system cover letter with an update on local planning that is being done<br>○ MDH fact sheets, “Pandemic Influenza: What it is – and what it isn’t” and “Pandemic Influenza: What you can do to be ready”<br>○ VA tri-fold, “How to Control the Spread of Flu”                    | ○ mailed later than planned: 1-10-08<br>○ information delivered to 420 personnel<br>○ one service delivered in mailboxes instead of allowing a mailing to homes<br>○ funding supported by county public health and Metro Region EMS |
| mid-January mailing<br>○ system cover letter with mention that 2008 Protocols will include a Panflu overview<br>○ MDH document on home care (under development; if not available, switch with February)<br>○ VA tri-fold, “Home Care Guide for Flu”                                                        | ○ mailed later than planned: 2-29-08<br>○ information delivered to 420 personnel<br>○ one service delivered in mailboxes instead of allowing a mailing to homes<br>○ funding supported by county public health and Metro Region EMS |

<sup>1</sup> The Panflu Task Force was created in June 2007 by the Medical Standards Committee of the Hennepin County EMS Council. This work plan was developed by the Task Force on 10-30-07 and approved by Medical Standards on 12-6-07.

| Activities Planned for Objective 1 (cont'd)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Achievements for Objective 1 (cont'd)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| Mid-February mailing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ system cover letter</li> <li>○ Channing Bete's "How You Can Be Prepared for a Flu Pandemic"</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ mailed later than planned: 3-28-08</li> <li>○ information delivered to 420 personnel County</li> <li>○ one service delivered in mailboxes instead of allowing a mailing to homes</li> <li>○ funding supported by county public health</li> </ul>                                                   |
| January-February system training (20-30 minutes presentation)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 45-minute presentation was made to about 600 system personnel as scheduled, during mandatory protocols training. This presentation was also made to about 40 staff in Mdwakanton Fire Emergency Services, in a neighboring county.                                                                                                          |
| March-April checklist/survey incorporated into Right to Know process, with results compiled and analyzed for the system, to ask: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Did you get it? (to measure reach, or how many staff were potentially exposed to the information)</li> <li>○ Did you read it? (to measure awareness)</li> <li>○ Did you take any action? (to measure behavior, or how many staff took any recommended actions)</li> </ul> | Right to Know processes not yet completed as of 4/2/08 for all five services. Results from first 145 respondents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>86% received the information</b></li> <li><b>77% read it</b></li> <li><b>30% took some action in response to it</b></li> <li><b>34% have a family emergency plan</b></li> </ul> |

**Objective 2: The EMS system has triage responses prepared for different levels of demand and capacity during a panflu event**

**Activities for Objective 2**

- a) Panflu decision points are identified which need dispatch scripts
- b) Dispatch scripts are developed between Primary and Secondary PSAPs
- c) Dispatch scripts are coordinated between Primary and Secondary PSAPs
- d) Dispatch scripts are trained and exercised

**Achievements for Objective 2:**

- The Panflu Task Force is reviewing issues of medical liability, and developing preliminary triage scenarios for discussion with public health and the dispatch community.
- The Minneapolis 9-1-1 PSAP (public safety answering point) has convened a workgroup which includes city and county public health, city 3-1-1 center, county EMS, the county sheriff's PSAP and two ambulance dispatch centers. The group is working through the federal planning guidance for 9-1-1 centers. It is also reviewing triage plans being developed on the EMS side.

**Objective 3: The EMS system has developed a structure to respond to a panflu event**

**Activities for Objective 3**

- a) NHTSA's EMS Checklist is completed
- b) NHTSA's EMS Checklist is communicated to EMSRB, MDH and Metro Region EMS

**Achievements for Objective 3:**

- The EMS Checklist is about 40% complete (through item 3a).