

SWC Healthcare Preparedness Advisory Coalition (HPAC) Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2019

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health / West Conference Room

Present at meeting: Crystalynn Kuntz, Kalen Ost, Annette Staael, Dona Pazdernic, Roxanne Eggers, Anna Odenbeck, George Walker, Stacy Benz, Neil Johnson, Jeff Strange, Marlys Harrison, Rochelle Schaffer, Erica Reiner, Kathy Speidel, Doris Weiss, Becky Worden, Jolynn Brendel, Karen Schlomer.

Via IVAN: None

AGENDA

➤ **Exercise After Action**

Loss of Communication

Table top objectives, including strengths and areas of improvement were discussed. Strengths included organizations operating at full capability, being able to communicate efficiently inside the facility, and the ability to contact stakeholders. Areas of improvement included creation of weekly checks to ensure hardware workability in the event of power loss, and how to reach state radio in the event of cell/landline phone towers are compromised.

Full Scale Conducted July 17 at Your Facility

Three facilities that conducted full scale exercises were present at the meeting: Northland Pace, Elm Crest Manor and St. Vincent's. Some questions that came from the full scale exercise were how much a facility could share in a press release due to HIPPA laws, and how to contact staff that were providing services outside of the main facility.

➤ **Communicable Disease**

Current Updates

- A few new breeds of mosquitoes in San Diego County have the ability to transmit Zika or dengue virus. They are smaller than native mosquitoes.
- An outbreak of hepatitis A has been happening in multiple Minnesota counties. People at the highest risk are individuals who use injection or non-injection drugs, people experiencing homelessness or unstable housing, or people who are, or have recently been incarcerated.
- CDC and MDH are urging providers to watch for symptoms of acute flaccid myelitis (AFM) as we enter late summer and early fall. AFM cases have followed a seasonal and biennial pattern, spiking between August and October every other year. The majority of AFM patients are previously healthy children who had respiratory symptoms or fever consistent with a viral infection less than a week before they experienced limb weakness. Providers seeing symptoms consistent with AFM should consult an infectious disease physician and neurologist right away and quickly report all suspect cases. For more information on AFM, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/afm/index.html>.

- For 2019-2020 the composition of U.S. trivalent (three-component) flu vaccines are recommended to contain A/Brisbane/02/2018 (H1N1)pdm09-like virus (updated), A/Kansas/14/2017 (H3N2)-like virus (updated), B/Colorado/06/2017-like (Victoria lineage) virus. Quadrivalent (four-component) vaccines are recommended to contain the three previously-listed viruses, plus B/Phuket/3073/2013-like (Yamagata lineage) virus.

➤ Trainings

- The North Dakota Center for Persons with Disabilities is providing a free one-hour training in conjunction with the Ohio Disability & Health Program for first responders working with individuals with disabilities. The course has been designed to provide first responders (law enforcement, firefighters, nurses, EMTs and/or paramedics) with information and methods that will help to ensure effective and appropriate communication between first responders and individuals with disabilities.
www.ndcpd.org/first-responder.html
- The North Dakota Department of Emergency Services is providing two Public Information Officer trainings:
 - L0105 Public Information and Warning, November 13-14 in Bismarck. The course introduces participants to what a Public Information Officer (PIO) does in an emergency management, along with the basic information about the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). <https://www.des.nd.gov/events/basic-academy-l0105-public-information-and-warning>
 - L388 Advanced Public Information Officer, March 23-27 in Bismarck. This course is offered by the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) and provides participants with the knowledge and skills to establish, manage and work within a JIC, applying advanced public information skills during a multi-day functional exercise. A number of prerequisites must be completed prior to class dates. <https://www.des.nd.gov/events/l388-advanced-public-information-officer-0>

➤ Roundtable Sharing

- The CDC and EPA have released a guide titled **Emergency Water Supply Planning Guide for Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities** to help maintain daily operations and patient care services. This guide can provide a road map for health care facilities to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a total or partial water supply interruption. It provides guidance to assess water usage, response capabilities and water supply alternatives.
https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/emergency/ewsp.html?deliveryName=USCDC_964-DM6535
- A question was asked about a HIPAA algorithm that is used for sharing information during an emergency. Information about sharing techniques will be provided at the next meeting.
- A question was asked about the Emergency Water Supply Planning Guide for Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities guide. An item will be added to the next meeting's agenda so that all

organizations have the opportunity to inspect their own emergency water supplies and policies.

➤ **Next Meeting:**

- November 20, 9 a.m., Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health's West Conference Room