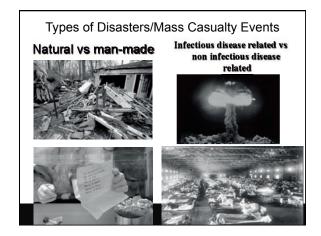
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# Planning for Infectious Disease Disasters in Ambulatory Care Centers Terri Rebmann, PhD, RN, CIC Institute for BISECURITY Saint Louis University School of Public Health Hosted by Paul Webber paul@webbertraining.com www.webbertraining.com September 9, 2010

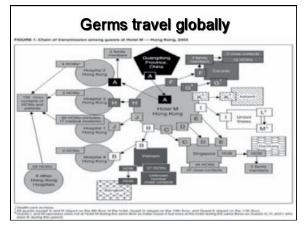
#### **Objectives**

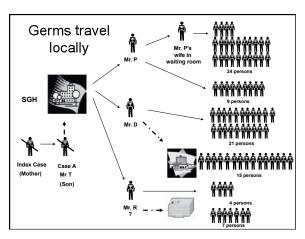
- · Describe threat of IDDs
- Planning for IDDs in ACCs

  Triaggleronning inslation doesn
  - Triage/screening, isolation, decon, etc
- Address infection prevention in ACCs during disasters
- Occupational health concerns in ACCs during disasters









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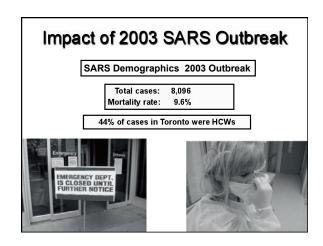




Usually not a healthcare issue....

Pets in ambulatory care centers







# Impact of 2009 H1N1 Pandemic

- · Pandemic considered "moderate" in terms of morb & mort
  - Some areas/populations affected worse
- 43 89 million cases in U.S.
- 8.900 18,300 deaths in U.S.
- Ended June 23rd in U.S.
- · Ended worldwide Aug 10, 2010

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#### Potential Future Impact of Pandemic

- · Potential for high morb & mort
- Costs: \$71 \$166 billion
- 865,000 9.9 million hospital stays
- · 45 million additional outpatient visits

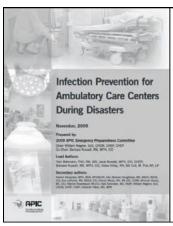


#### **Pandemic**

- National and global event
  - Difficult to get outside help
- Longer event than other disasters
  - Wave: 6 12 weeks
- · High absenteeism rate (>40%)

Sick HCWs may contribute to the outbreak





Recommendations based on APIC Guidance document

www.apic.org

# Infection Transmission in Ambulatory Care Center

- Communicable disease spread
  - Likely to be endemic disease in community
    - · Measles, chickenpox, influenza
- · Healthcare associated infections
  - Urinary tract infection
  - Bloodstream infection
  - Surgical site infection

#### Infection Prevention Coverage

- Best if Infection Preventionist involved
   At least as consultant in planning stages
- Need IP designee for coverage on site

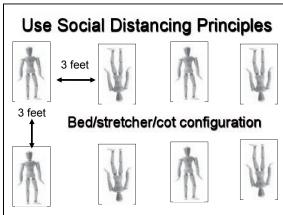


#### May Need to Increase Surge Capacity

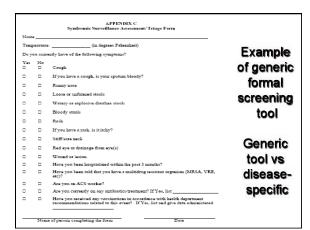
- · Increase number of pts that can be seen
  - Extra beds, staff, supplies, linens, PPE
- · Expand into non-clinical areas or buildings
- · Stretchers, cots, other makeshift beds
- · Double-up pts in rooms/areas
  - Screen pts for contagious illness first

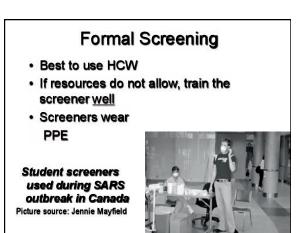
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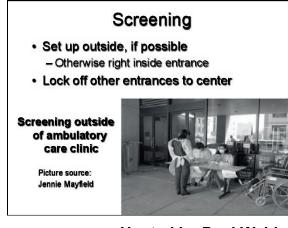
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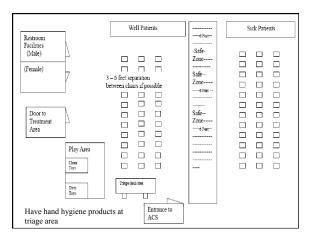


# Screening/Identifying Potentially Contagious Individuals • Screening extent will depend on event - Formal vs informal screening • Contagious disease involved - Extensive screening needed • Patients, staff &visitors need to be screened









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#### **Staff Screening**

- · Frequency during infectious disease disaster:
  - Formal screening before each shift
  - Report symptoms between shifts
- Consider separate entrance
- Medically evaluate sick staff or send home

Picture source: Jennie Mayfield

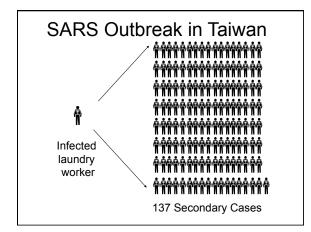


#### **Furloughing Staff**

- · Do not want sick staff working
- Length of furlough depends on disease/ event
- · Need policy on work restriction







#### Anti-Infective Therapy & Prophylaxis

- · Administer to patients & staff
  - Follow case definition & public health protocols
- USDHHS' pre-exposure prophylaxis recommendation





#### Vaccine

- · Before an event:
  - Encourage annual flu vaccine
    - · Monitor compliance rate
- · During an event:
  - Administer to pts & staff as needed
    - · Follow public health protocols





# Prioritization Plan for Pharmaceuticals

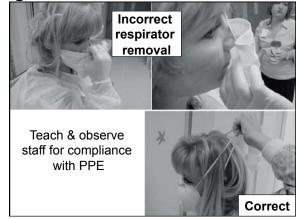
- · Shortages of meds & vaccine likely
- · Have prioritization plan for staff
  - Define high risk staff
  - Define high risk exposure
  - Example: When meds are limited during flu pandemic, reserve for staff performing aerosolizing procedures or providing direct care to pts

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### **Personal Protective Equipment**

- · Have sufficient amounts
- Be sure it is appropriate to the hazard or task
  - Educate staff





### **Obtaining Extra Supplies**

- · Stockpile on-site
- · Partner with health system
- Obtain from local/regional stockpile
  - Get involved in local planning efforts
- · MOA with vendor



# Extending the Use or Reusing Respirators

- N95s can be more than single use items
- Follow published guidelines
- · www.apic.org

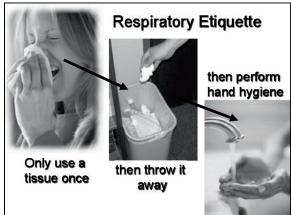


# Managing Contagious Individual in Ambulatory Care Center

- · Reschedule pt if possible
  - Until not contagious or last case of day
- · Isolation can be implemented
  - Follow HICPAC guidelines
  - Standard & transmission-based precautions



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### **Choosing Isolation Category**

- Disease known: Follow HICPAC
- Undiagnosed: transmission based precautions

#### Symptoms Isolation Precautions Needed

Cough, runny nose, watery eyes = Standard
Fever & cough (adults) = Droplet
Fever & cough (kids) = Droplet & Contact
Fever, cough, bloody sputum, & wt loss = Airborne
Eye infection or drainage = Standard

#### Isolation in Ambulatory Care Center

- · Place in private room
- · Put PPE for staff outside of room
- · Post isolation sign

Improvised PPE cart

Picture source: Jennie Mayfield



#### Improvised Isolation Area



Physically separate the pt
 Building or area outside ca

Improvising isolation area

- Building or area outside can be used
- Best if room/area has walls & a door
- Makeshift walls/doors
  - · Plastic or other barrier material
- Hang isolation sign near entrance

# Airborne Isolation in Ambulatory Care Center

- · Hospital better
- Bronchoscopy room may be AIIR
- · Improvise negative pressure

Temporary negative pressure rooms/areas used in Toronto during SARS

Picture source: Jennie Mayfield



#### **Environmental Decontamination**

- · Cleaning pt care areas
- · Reprocessing equipment
- · "White powder" incidents





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#### **Cleaning Patient Care Areas**

- · Clean all horizontal surfaces daily
- · Clean between pts for Contact Isolation
- · Allow for adequate contact/dwell time
- · Focus on high-touch areas



#### **Cohort Staff**

- · Assign dedicated staff to contagious pts
  - Minimizes number of staff exposed
- Use vaccinated staff whenever possible
  - Disease/event specific guidelines



#### **Visitor Management**

- Limit visitors
- Do not allow sick visitors in (i.e., screen)
  - Exception: parent of sick pediatric patient
- Limit entrances
- May need crowd control





#### If Your Site Performs Surgery

- Should have good infection prevention protocols for routine practice in place
- · During an IDD:
  - Reschedule contagious pts if possible
  - Until not contagious or last case of day
- · Perform vigilant environmental decon

# **Managing Surgical Equipment**

- Use disposable equipment once then discard
- Reprocess reusable medical equipment between uses



Reprocessing Equipment		
Device classification	Device examples	Disinfection Process
Critical: Enters sterile tissue or vascular system	Surgical instruments, needles, implants, IUD's, etc	Sterilization
Semicritical: Touches mucous membranes or broken skin	Speculum, respiratory therapy equipment, laryngoscope blades, etc	Intermediate or High-level
Noncritical: Touches intact skin	Stethoscope, exam table, blood pressure cuff, etc	Low level

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#### **Animal Management**

- · Only service animals allowed in ACC
- Coordinate with community disaster planners for emergency pet kennels







#### Staff Education

- · Before event & just-in-time during event
  - Triage/screening
  - Employee exposure management
  - Basic infection prevention (disease transmission, isolation, hand hygiene, etc)
  - Social distancing
  - Environmental decon, cleaning, disinfection

# Talk to Staff about Having a Personal/Family Disaster Plan



#### In Conclusion

- Infectious disease spread likely during an IDD
- Need good infection prevention practices
- · Get involved in local disaster planning
- Have a personal disaster plan & encourage staff to have one

#### **Contact Me**

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	The Next Few Teleclasses	
16 Sep. 10	Lessons Learned From the Canadian Listeriosis Outbreak Speaker: Dr. Franco Pagotto, Health Canada	
20 Sep. 10	(Free British Teleclass Live Broadcast from the IPS Conference, UK) The Evolving Role of Epidemiology in Infection Prevention Speaker: Prof. Jacqui Reilly, Health Protection Scotland	
22 Sep. 10	(Free British Teleclass Live Broadcast from the IPS Conference, UK) Preventing and Controlling ESBL's, The Future is Here Speaker: Prof. Hilary Humphreys, Royal College of Surgeons	
29 Sep. 10	(Free Teleclass) Voices of CHICA – Part 2 Speaker: Community and Hospital Infection Control Association of Canada Board Members and Guests	
30 Sep. 10	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV Speaker: Dr. Kay Libbus, University of Missouri	
13 Oct. 10	(South Pacific Teleclass) Infection Control in the Tropics Speaker Claire Boardman, VICNISS Australia	