


IDSA
**Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza:
Principles for U.S. Action**

Andrew T. Pavia M.D.
Chair IDSA Pandemic Influenza Task Force
George and Esther Gross Presidential Professor
Chief Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases
University of Utah

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“Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future”


- Niels Bohr, Quantum physicist

“If you’ve seen one flu epidemic, you’ve seen one flu epidemic”

- Nancy Cox, Influenza Division Chief, CDC

“No battle plan survives contact with the enemy”


- General Colin Powell






2009 H1N1 – A warning shot?



- 61 million cases
- 274,000 hospitalizations
- 12,469 deaths
 - 1282 children
- 8-12 times greater mortality among children and working adults than seasonal flu



Shrestha et al. Clin Infect Dis 2011; 575-85



- Many lessons were learned in 2009
- Investments paid off
- Gaps were uncovered
- PAHPA reauthorization and the May 2012 HHS “2009 H1N1 Influenza Improvement Plan” are important tools





IDSA
Infectious Diseases Society of America

Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza Principles for United States Action

SEPTEMBER 2012

The Infectious Diseases Society of America is an organization of physicians, scientists, and other health care professionals dedicated to promoting human health through excellence in infectious disease research, education, prevention, and patient care.

The Society, which has more than 10,000 members, was founded in 1963 and is headquartered in Washington, DC.

For more information visit www.idsociety.org.

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Enhance Pharmaceutical Availability and Medical Management of Influenza

- Support development of
 - Antivirals
 - Antibiotics
 - Other treatments
- Support research on pathogenesis and clinical care
- Develop capacity for rapid assessment
- Modernize regulatory guidance and approval process
- Continually re-evaluate and adjust SNS



Improve Accuracy and Availability of Influenza Diagnostics



Strengthen Influenza Communication Strategies

- Develop and maintain influenza communication strategy
 - State, local, and international public health
 - Health care providers
 - Media
 - Public





Improve and Better Coordinate Influenza Surveillance

- Develop, assess and integrate new technologies
- Improve capacity to investigate new viruses
- Increase collection and sharing of specimens for characterization. Improve resistance detection
- Surveillance at the animal human interface





Evaluate and Refine Influenza Community Mitigation Measures

- Support research to develop optimal mitigation measures
- Identify efficacy and adverse social and economic consequences
- Educate public and decision makers; provide guidance



Build All-Hazard Public Health and Medical Care Systems Capable of Responding to Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza

- Our medical systems have limited surge capacity
- The infrastructure of state and local public health systems is crumbling
- Previous HRSA grants and experience in 2009 built health care and public health capacity, but it has largely been lost



Protect the Health Care Workforce During Seasonal and Pandemic Influenza

- Guidance for prevention of transmission in health care settings using the best scientific evidence
- Ensure seasonal and pandemic influenza immunization of HCW
- Injury compensation



Continue to Strengthen International Collaboration

The world is ill-prepared to respond to a severe influenza pandemic or to any similarly global, sustained, and threatening public health emergency.

-Harvey Fineberg
Report of the Review Committee on the Functioning of the International Health Regulations (2005) and on Pandemic Influenza A (H1N1) 2009
Preview copy: 7 March 2011



Allocate significant and sustainable funding for long-term planning and action



- Strong, multi-year funding commitments will help us respond to seasonal influenza outbreaks, influenza pandemics, and other public health and national security threats.
- Continuously funded efforts are more cost-effective than periodic emergency funding.



The next influenza pandemic is inevitable

Despite the investments and progress of the past decade, gaps remain

We cannot be complacent, nor waste the investments we have made.



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Andrew Pavia M.D. (chair)
Gregory Poland M.D.
Michael Polis M.D.
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Edward Septimus M.D.

IDSA staff, including
Robert Guidos, JD
Audrey Jackson, PhD