

Health Emergency Management in a Post-Pandemic Era May, 2011

*“The only thing more difficult than planning for a disaster
is having to explain why you didn’t.”*

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PEI

ONE ISLAND FUTURE

ONE ISLAND HEALTH SYSTEM



Today's Presentation...

- Shining a Light on Health Emergency Management in Canada
- Planning for an Influenza Pandemic
- The Pandemic Response
- Post-Pandemic Planning



History of Emergencies and Disasters

- Human Induced Disasters
 - ▶ 9-11
- Natural Events
 - ▶ Infectious Disease Outbreaks
 - ▶ Earthquakes
 - ▶ Tsunamis
 - ▶ Weather Related Events

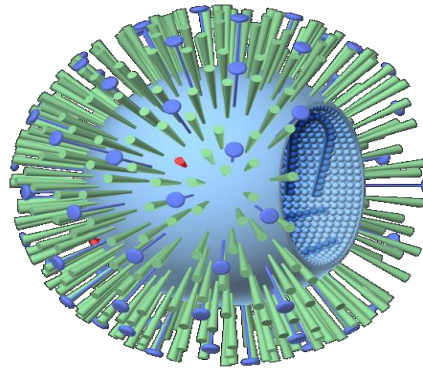


Shining a Light on Health Emergency Management in Canada

- Kirby Report: 2002 on the Federal Role
- Naylor Report: 2003 on SARS
- Walker Report: 2004 on Ontario's response to SARS and Infectious Disease Outbreaks
- Campbell Report: 2004 on the Public Health Response to SARS
- The Public Health Agency of Canada:2004



Risk = Probability x Impact



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Emergency Management

Pillars

- Mitigation
- Preparedness
- Response
- Recovery

Response Levels

- Individual
- Municipal
- Provincial (Health)
- Federal



What is Pandemic Influenza?

- A worldwide spread of a **new** strain of influenza A (Antigenic Shift)
- Virtually no one is immune
- Resulting in large amount of illness and death



Mitigation Activities

- Incident Management System
- Surveillance: International Health Regulations
- Infection Control Strategy
- Recruitment and Retention Strategy
- Memorandums of Understanding with Unions
- Legislation
- Policies: eg.supplies
- Linkages/ Relationships
- Ethics Toolkit
- Protection of Health Care Workers Policy
- All Hazards Emergency Plan

Preparedness Activities

- Stockpiles and Distribution Plans
- Influenza Assessment Sites
- Volunteer Readiness
- Pandemic Newsletters/Staff Awareness
- Antiviral Distribution Plan
- Exercises/Testing
- Seasonal Influenza Planning

The H1N1 Pandemic Response



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Timeline

- In the third week of April the Public Health Agency of Canada began monitoring cases of Severe Respiratory Illness in Mexico and a new Flu Virus was identified in California.
- April 26, 2009- first lab confirmed cases of H1N1 in Canada were reported.
- May 5, 2009 - first lab confirmed cases of H1N1 in PEI was reported.
- June 11, 2009- WHO upgraded its pandemic alert level to Phase 6, signaling H1N1 flu virus outbreak is now considered a *pandemic*.
- Wave 2 of the H1N1 Pandemic started in late October 2010 in PEI.



About H1N1

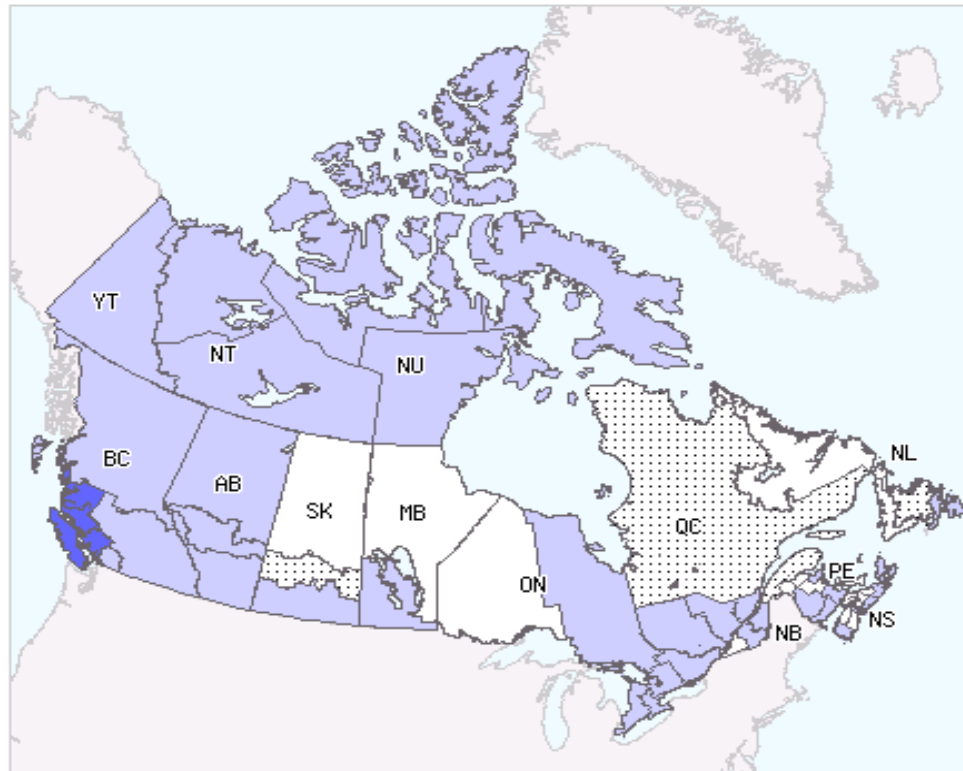
- Identified as a novel Influenza A virus, strain not seen in humans before.
- Spread quickly around the world due to global travel patterns.
- The WHO considered this pandemic to be moderate.
- The virus was unusual in that it was affecting primarily a younger age group, with underlying health risks, pregnancy in the first wave.



World Update: Case counts, deaths snapshot Sept 20,2010

WHO Region	Number of cases	Number of deaths
Regional Office for Africa	8,264	41
Regional Office for the Americas	130,448	2,948
Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean	11,621	72
Regional Office for Europe	≥ 53,000	≥154
Regional Office for South-East Asia	30,293	340
Regional Office for the Western Pacific	85,299	362
Total	>318,925	≥3,917

Influenza Activity Level by Provincial and Territorial
Influenza Surveillance Regions
Canada, September 13 to 19, 2009 (Week 37)



Canada

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Response Activities

- Surveillance
- Information Sharing in Health System
- Established our Incident Management System
- Public Communication Strategy (Web Site, Flu Line, Media)
- Antiviral Strategy
- Vaccine Strategy
- Influenza Assessment Sites
- Infection Control Plan
- HR Plan
- Readyng Hospitals
- Participation in Government Planning
- FPT Incident Management System

Recovery

- R and R
- De-Brief
- Lessons Learned
- Planning for Next Wave
- Post-Pandemic Planning



Post Pandemic Planning

- Implementing Recommendations in an All Hazards Approach
- Business Continuity Planning Across Government in PEI
- Sustainable Training and Exercising
- Strengthening Seasonal Influenza Program Post H1N1



Events Since H1N1

- Closure of Schools in PEI due to Mould
- CUPE Action in NS
- 2010 Olympics
- G8/G20 Summits
- Haiti Earthquake
- Hurricanes Earl, Igor
- Japan's Tsunami and Nuclear Event

