Vancouver Coastal Health
Pandemic Influenza Steering Committee

Shelagh Weatherill
Chair

Surveillance
Subcommittee
Patty Daly
(Chair)
Mel Krajden
Eva Thomas
Margaret Antolovich

Emergency
Management
Subcommittee
Doreen Myers
(Chair)
Linda McCannell
Dalton Cross
Bob Alexander

Communications
Subcommittee
Patty Daly
(Chair)
Kristjana Hawthorne
Louise Holmes

Vaccine and
Antivirals
Subcommittee
Reka Gustafson
(Chair)
Shelagh Weatherill
Jane Addison
Simon Dobson
Monika Lindegger
Val Munroe
Margot Smythe

Health Services
Emergency Planning
Subcommittee
Denys Carrier
(Chair)
Liz Bryce
Marg DeGrace
Chris Windle
Jeanette Beattie
Shelagh Weatherill
Paul Olsoff
Mary Laing

Public Health
Measures
Subcommittee
Cheryl Anderson
(Chair)
Reka Gustafson
George Eng
Margot Smythe
James Lu
Louise Holmes
Monika Lindegger
Mary Laing
Influenza A viruses periodically cause worldwide epidemics, or pandemics, with high rates of illness and death. There have been three Influenza pandemics in the 20th Century; the Spanish Flu of 1918, The Asian Flu of 1957, and the Hong Kong Flu of 1968. Advanced planning for a large scale and widespread health emergency such as this, is required to sustain health care delivery during an influenza pandemic. Unlike other public disaster emergencies, an influenza pandemic will impact on multiple regions across Canada simultaneously. Each region must be prepared to respond and provide services within the context of limited availability of external resources and support. Therefore, contingency planning is required to mitigate the impact of influenza pandemic through consideration, planning and preparation efforts within all communities of Vancouver Coastal Region in collaboration with their stakeholders.

The overall goal of a pandemic influenza preparedness and response plan is first to minimize serious illness and overall deaths, and second to minimize societal disruption among Canadians as a result of an influenza pandemic.

The VCH Regional Pandemic Response Plan is a dynamic document that will be reviewed, updated and revised regularly to ensure that assumptions, resources and priorities are consistent with the existing infrastructure and current knowledge.

John Blatherwick, CM, CD, MD, FRCP(C)
Chief Medical Health Officer
Vancouver Coastal Health
Foreword

The purpose of the Vancouver Coastal Health Pandemic Influenza Implementation Plan is to provide a practical manual-style document to assist front-line health care providers in the execution of emergency response activities during the influenza pandemic. The document is divided into 15 independent chapters which function as stand-alone documents. Each section includes practical information, tables, charts, forms, and tools assembled to assist public health care personnel to carry out their tasks in specific areas of acute and community health care action. For general guidance, a user may consult the background information in chapter 1. To find the appropriate information for specific actions, the executive summary provides a site-map for the entire document. The executive summary allows users to identify the relevant chapters for their respective tasks. In general, the introduction in Section 1, the reference lists in Section 14, together with one of the other sections focusing on a specific area of action, should constitute a complete resource to health care personnel seeking to fulfill specific responsibilities within the overall pandemic influenza response mechanism.
List of Contents

CHAPTER 1  Introduction
CHAPTER 2  The Health Impact of Pandemic Influenza
CHAPTER 3  Surveillance
CHAPTER 4  Infection and Environmental Control
CHAPTER 5  Self Care During an Influenza Pandemic
CHAPTER 6  Emergency Response
CHAPTER 7  Medical Management and Health Care Facilities
CHAPTER 8  Public Health Measures
CHAPTER 9  Vaccine and Antivirals
CHAPTER 10 Communications
CHAPTER 11 Handling and Disposal of the Deceased
CHAPTER 12 Private Sector
CHAPTER 13 Local Governments
CHAPTER 14 Glossary, References, Contact List
CHAPTER 15 Pandemic Influenza Vaccine Certification
Feedback Form: VCH Regional Pandemic Response Plan

From: ___________________________________________________________

Organization: _____________________________________________________

Date: ____________________________________________________________

Subject: __________________________________________________________

Please review the plan and provide specific feedback on the following:

☐ General content for accuracy and appropriateness to ensure the level of detail and content is practical, reasonable, workable and understandable.

☐ Specific areas for accuracy and appropriateness to ensure the level of detail and content are practical, reasonable, workable and understandable.

Comments:

_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

Please fax comments back to 604-731-2756
DISCLAIMER
The views and recommendations expressed in this Plan represent a collaborative effort of local and regional
governments and non-governmental stakeholders. Individual legal advice should be sought in regards to the
use of the information, views and recommendations contained in the Plan.

Copyright © 2005 Vancouver Coastal Health Authority

Comments on this plan should be forwarded to:
Vancouver Coastal Health Authority
#800-601 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC, V5Z 4C2
Telephone: 604-875 4252
Fax: 604-731-2756
E-mail: shelagh.weatherill@vch.ca