

Preparing for
Large Scale Emergencies
& Bird Flu Pandemic
(Overview & Status Jan 2008)

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This Presentation

- *Purpose – Introduce the Threat, Get Your Attention, Provide Information, and Solicit Action*
- *Overview of the County's Large Scale Emergency and Pandemic Planning Efforts*
- *SESF – Policy Analysis & Educational Resource to County*
 - sesfoundation.org



Large Scale Emergency (LSE)

- *Definition – An emergency/catastrophe affecting **everyone** in the county for which outside help is very limited or not available.*
 - Pandemic (natural, man-made)
 - Northern California Earthquake (>RS9)
 - Terrorist Attack (upwind dirty bomb or nuclear explosion, hemorrhagic fever, attack on California water system, ...)
 - Large Tsunami
 - Common Characteristics



Dynamics of an LSE

– Pandemic

- Viewed in Phases (1 through 6)
- Affects Large Regions (possibly entire country)
- Arrives in Waves (4-6 wks, then several months respite, then repeat)
- ‘Social Distancing’ and Civil Unrest
- Mass Migration of People (“Head for the hills!!”)

– Earthquake, Tsunami

- Single Event, Massive Help Arrives within Hours/Days
- Possibly Localized
- Long-lasting effect extending into years

– Terrorist Attack

- Localized
- Single Event, Massive Help Arrives within Hours/Days
- Long-lasting effect extending into years, possibly decades



LASCER

- County's Integrated Large Scale Emergency Response System (working name LASCER);
- Goal to establish a single organizational structure that brings together the common functions for responding to any LSE;
- Specific LSEs will activate different response subsystems as appropriate;
- Part of county's Emergency Operations Plan



The H5N1 Bird Flu Threat

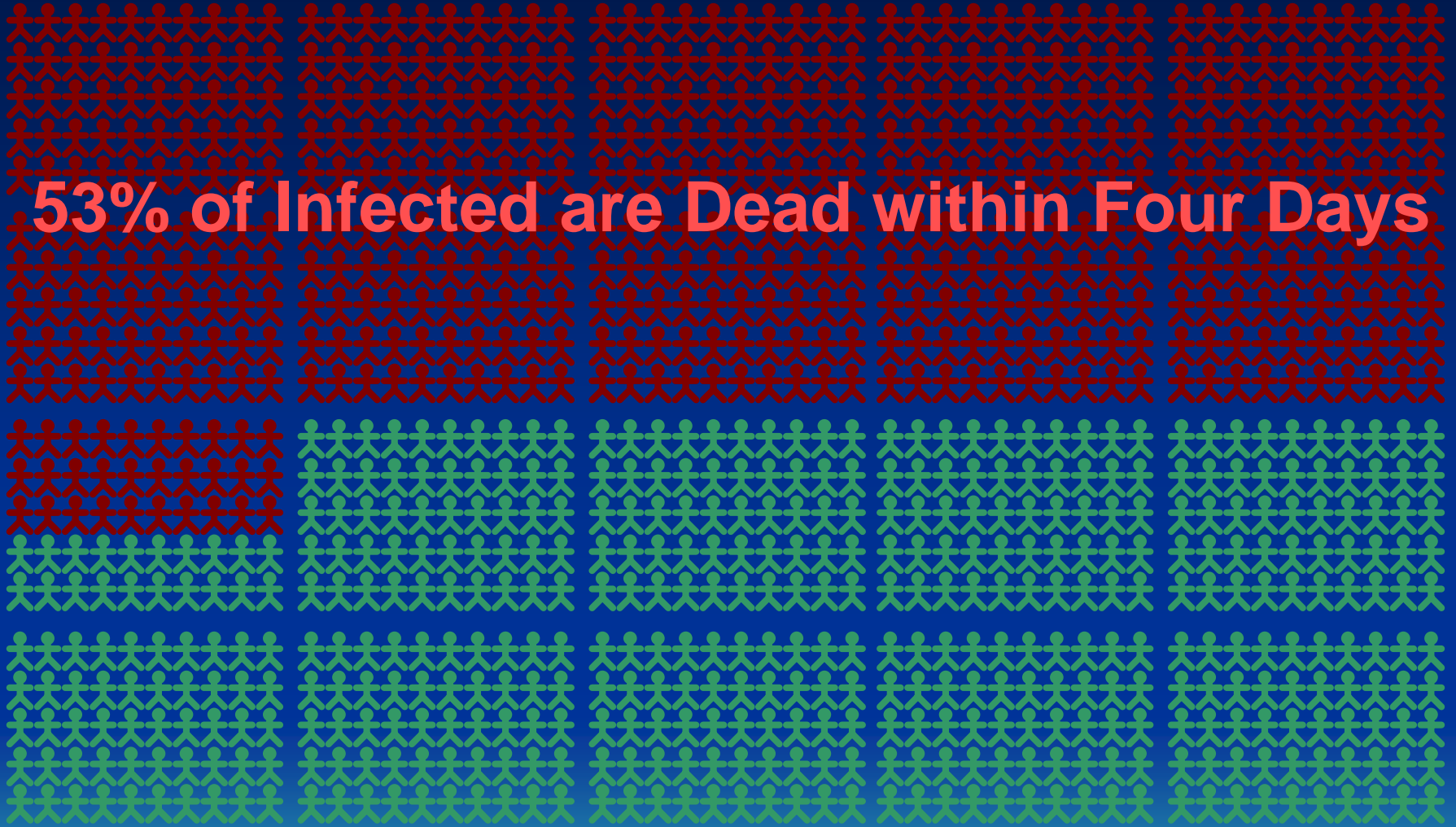
- *Recent Worldwide Epidemiology*
- *Morbidity & Mortality Rates*
- *Likely Avenues of Spreading*
- *Flu Vaccines*





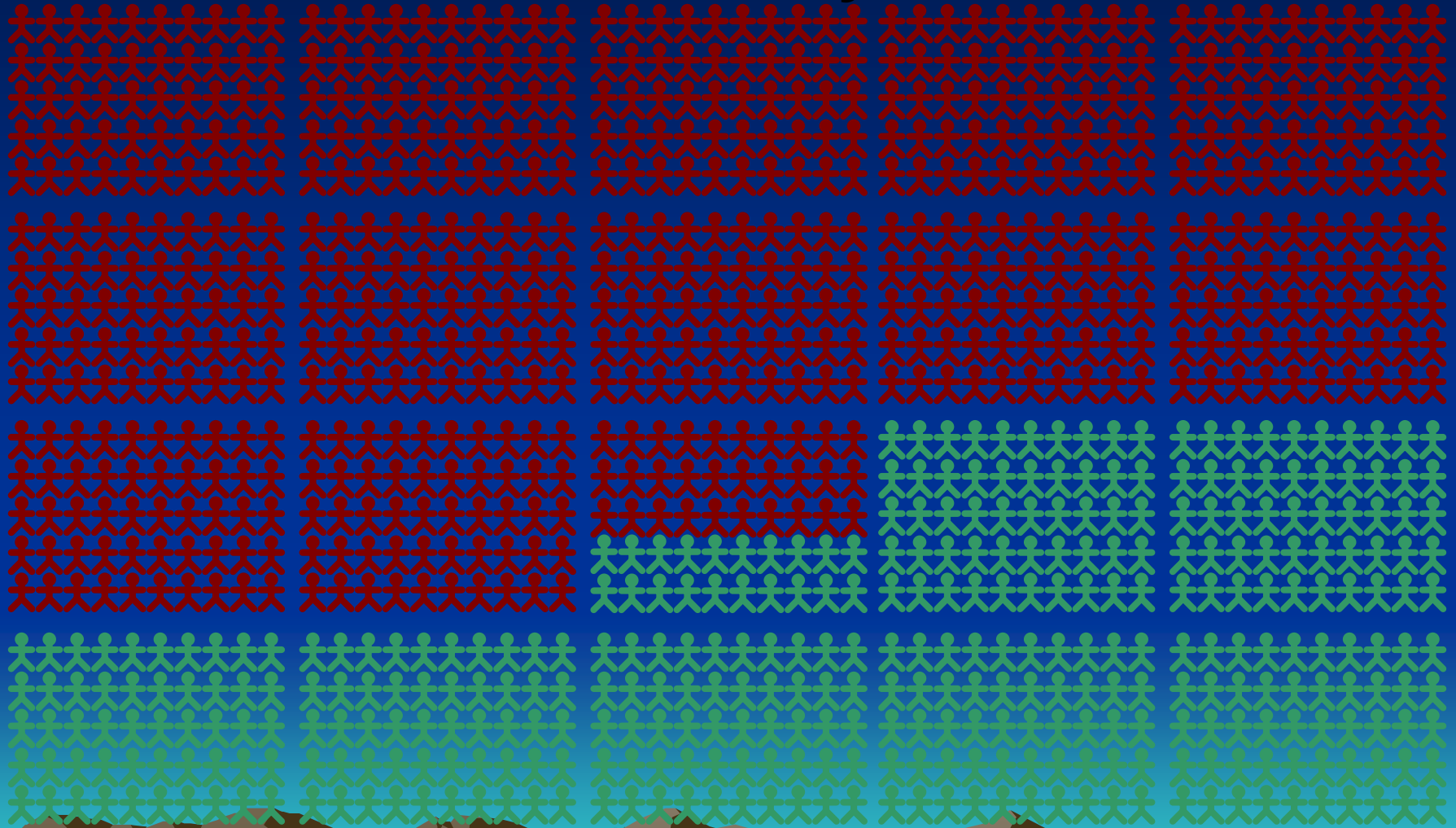
95% of Infected are Dead within Four Days

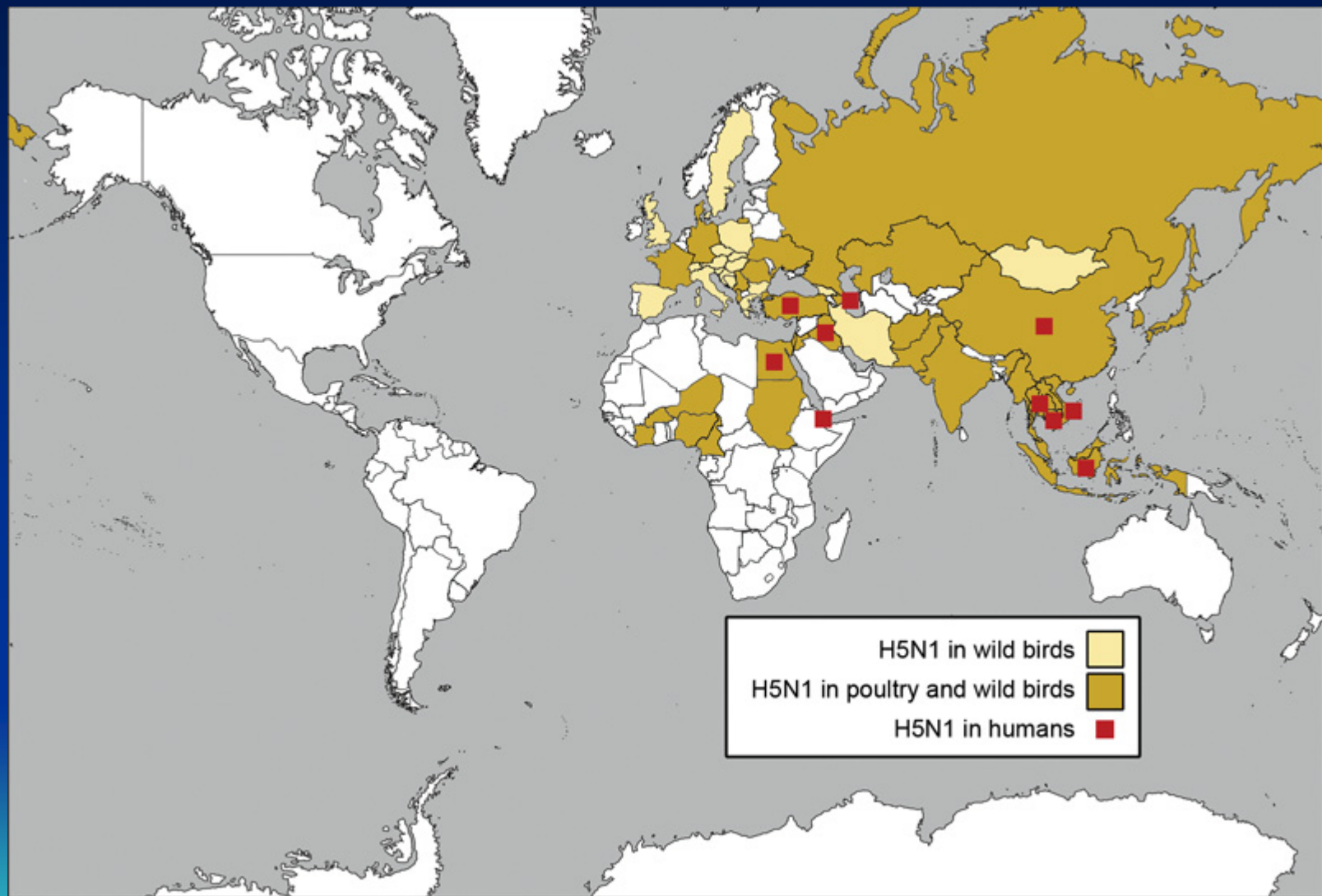
53% of Infected are Dead within Four Days



WHO 28dec07 Update

63% Mortality Rate





Pandemic as a Large-Scale Emergency

- *Previous Flu Pandemics –*
 - The "*Spanish Flu*", 1918–1919; 25-50 million deaths worldwide.
 - The "*Asian Flu*", 1957–58; Up to 4 million deaths worldwide.
 - The "*Hong Kong Flu*", 1968–69; 750,000 deaths worldwide.
- *Other Pandemics (Typhus, Cholera, Bubonic Plague, Hemorrhagic Fevers, ...)*



World Health Organization Pandemic Phase Definitions

- Interpandemic period:
 - Phase 1: No new influenza virus subtypes have been detected in humans.
 - Phase 2: No new influenza virus subtypes have been detected in humans, but an animal variant threatens human disease.
- Pandemic alert period
 - *Phase 3: Human infection(s) with a new subtype but no human-to-human spread.*
 - Phase 4: Small cluster(s) with limited localized human-to-human transmission
 - Phase 5: Larger cluster(s) but human-to-human spread still localized.
- Pandemic period:
 - *Phase 6: Pandemic: increased and sustained transmission in general population.*



The Phase 6 Scenario

- *Who Knows What – Rumor and Misinformation*
 - Everyone will ‘know’ a lot of rumors and facts;
 - Heavy Media Coverage – National, Local
 - Managing News – uncoordinated censorship
- *First Responders Late/Absent*
 - You call 911 and a tape or no one answers



The Phase 6 Scenario (cont'd)

- *Social Distancing Effects*
 - Who will you trust to come within ten feet?
 - If they leave healthy, will they return infected?
 - How will you know from whom to accept help?
- *Mass Movements – ‘Head for the Hills!’*
 - Thousands coming up Hwy 20 and 49
 - People unprepared, scared, hungry, desperate, (sick?), (armed?)



The Phase 6 Scenario (cont'd)

- *Group Gatherings Prohibited/Avoided*
 - Schools, churches, assembly halls closed
 - Government by Assembly and Consent Suspended
- *Quarantined Areas/Neighborhoods*
 - Identification/Designation resources
 - Enforcement resources
 - Social Distancing



The Phase 6 Scenario (cont'd)

- *Medical Facilities Overloaded*
 - Filled with sick and dying
 - Understaffed by medical personnel
 - Vaccines unavailable
- *Disposal of Dead*
 - Available and field mortuaries full
 - No/delayed pick up of corpses



The Phase 6 Scenario (cont'd)

- *Public/Civilian Movements*
 - Food Distribution
 - Medicines Distribution
 - Potable Water
 - Heating & Transportation Fuel Distribution
- *County/Official Movements*
 - Police/Sheriff
 - Fire Fighters
 - Medical Response
 - Quarantine/Isolation Enforcement
 - Check point controls



The Phase 6 Scenario (cont'd)

- *Civil Disorder (Worst Case)*
 - Looting of Food, Medicines, Fuel (Heating, gasoline), Water
 - Marauding bands
 - Fire fights (between neighbors?)



Are Governments Ready?

- *The Katrina Experience*
- *Federal Government*
- *State Government*
- *County Government*
- ***CDC: No one is Ready, Lots of planning and planning-to-plan going on.***



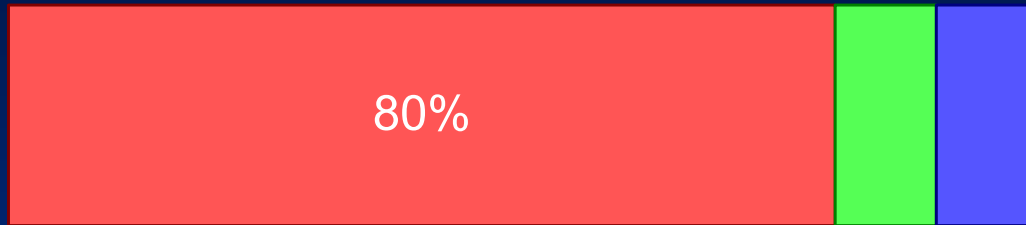
Surviving a Large Scale Emergency

- *You Have Three Alternatives*
 - Become part of the problem
 - Remain ‘problem neutral’ (self-sufficient)
 - Become part of the solution (help others)
- *‘Doing Nothing’ is to become part of the problem.*
- *Do Not Panic – “If you think you’re going to panic, do it early.”*

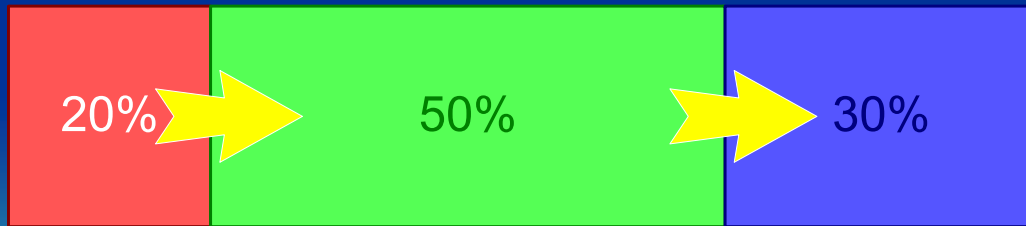


10% 10%

Part of the Problem



- Educate
- Prepare
- Stay Informed



Problem Neutral

Part of the Solution

Surviving a Large Scale Emergency

- *Educate Yourself (and your neighbor)*
 - Government & NGO Websites
 - Talk about an LSE and the bird flu pandemic with friends and neighbors
- *Stay Informed*
 - Stay tuned – radio, TV, newspapers
 - County website
 - Identify reliable information sources



Surviving a Large-Scale Emergency

- *Individual Preparation*
 - Make family response plan
 - Stock up Consumables – food, water, medicines, batteries, fuel, ...
- *Get Organized*
 - Mobilize your group (church, service club, neighborhood association) with a response plan
 - Form a group (neighbors), meet, and make a plan



Information Resources

- *General Information and Links*
 - CDC cdc.gov/flu/avian
 - Fed Govt pandemicflu.gov
 - California Govt dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/izgroup/pdf/pandemic.pdf
- *Consumables – Acquisition, Storage (google ‘emergency food’)*
- *Community Planning Checklist*
 - pandemicflu.gov/plan/pdf/faithbasedcommunitychecklist.pdf
- *Nevada County Response Planning – **Investigate, Evaluate, Participate***
 - <http://new.mynevadacounty.com/flu/> (three pages deep)



Meanwhile in Nevada County

DRAFT

**NEVADA COUNTY
PANDEMIC INFLUENZA RESPONSE PLAN**
(Annex to the County Emergency Operations Plan—EOP)
Continuous Working Draft

**Nevada County
Public Health Department**
500 Crown Point Circle
Grass Valley, California 95945
(530) 265-1450 (530) 265-1437

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Portions of this plan contain information that raises personal privacy or other concerns, and those portions may be exempt from mandatory disclosure under the Brown Act, Section 54957.

Any decision to disclose information in this plan outside Nevada County Government or to withhold information in this plan from a non-County requester must be coordinated with the Department of Public Health.



Advice to Individuals and Families From the Department of Health

3. Items to have on hand for an extended stay at home:

Examples of food and non-perishables

- Ready-to-eat canned meats, fish, fruits, vegetables, beans, and soups
- Protein or fruit bars
- Dry cereal or granola
- Peanut butter or nuts
- Dried Fruit
- Crackers
- Canned juices
- Bottled water
- Canned or jarred baby food and formula
- Pet food
- Other nonperishable foods

Examples of medical, health, and emergency supplies

- Prescribed medical supplies such as glucose and blood-pressure monitoring equipment
- Soap and water, or alcohol-based (60-95%) hand wash
- Medicines for fever, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen
- Thermometer
- Anti-diarrheal medication
- Vitamins
- Fluids with electrolytes
- Cleansing agent/soap
- Flashlight
- Batteries
- Portable radio
- Manual can opener
- Garbage bags
- Tissues, toilet paper, disposable diapers

PandemicFlu.gov



AvianFlu.gov

Advice to Individuals and Families From the Federal Government

To plan for a pandemic:

- **Store a two week supply of water and food.** During a pandemic, if you cannot get to a store, or if stores are out of supplies, it will be important for you to have extra supplies on hand. This can be useful in other types of emergencies, such as power outages and disasters.
- Periodically **check your regular prescription drugs** to ensure a continuous supply in your home.
- Have any **nonprescription drugs and other health supplies** on hand, including pain relievers, stomach remedies, cough and cold medicines, fluids with electrolytes, and vitamins.
- **Talk with family members and loved ones** about how they would be cared for if they got sick, or what will be needed to care for them in your home.
- **Volunteer with local groups** to prepare and assist with emergency response.
- **Get involved in your community** as it works to prepare for an influenza pandemic.

For more info go to <http://pandemicflu.gov/plan/checklists.html>

Thank You

Questions/Comments?

