



Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation

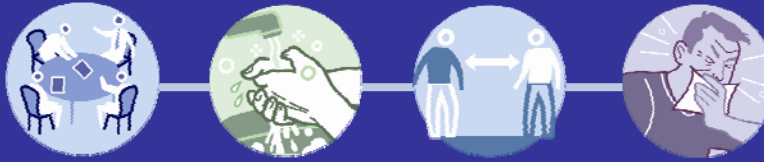
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APEC Pandemic Flu Planning Guide for SMEs

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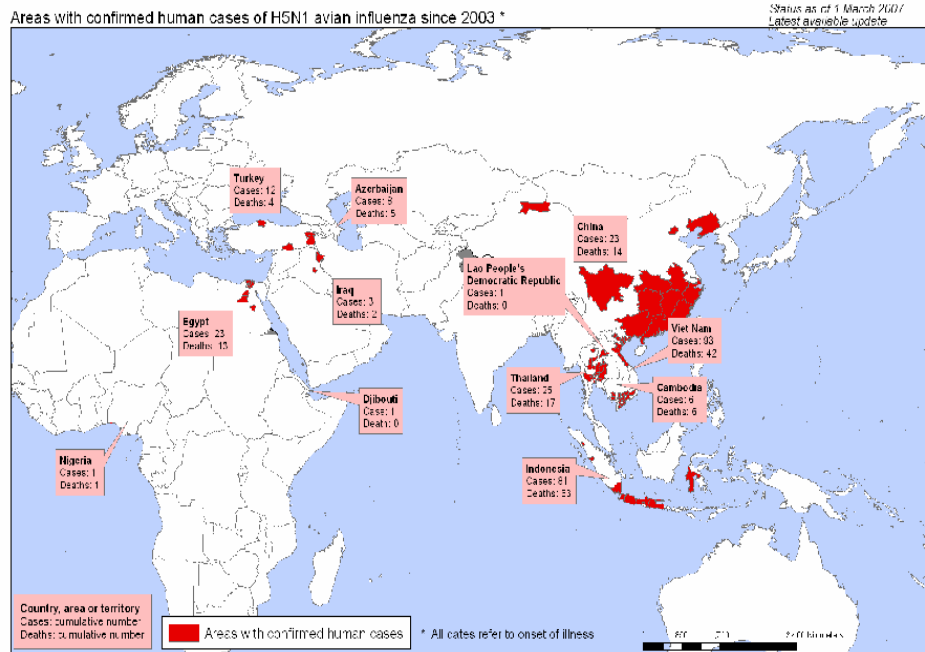
**Small and Medium Enterprises Ministerial
Meeting
Hobart, Australia
8 - 9 March 2007**



APEC Pandemic Flu Planning Guide for SMEs Hobart, Australia

Presented by:

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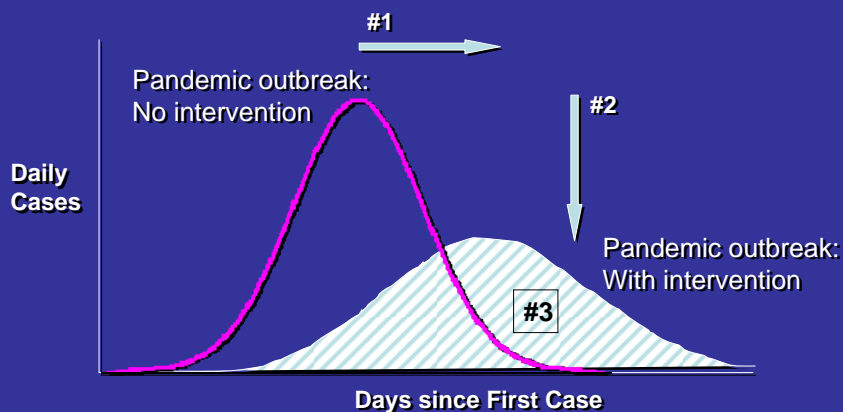
What is a Pandemic?

Key Features

- A flu (influenza) pandemic is a worldwide outbreak of a new flu virus
- Most people will not be protected (immune) from it
- A very bad flu pandemic will make people sick and many may die (1918 50 million deaths worldwide)
- Can not predict timing
- There is no flu pandemic now
- A severe pandemic will affect businesses and disrupt the functioning of community
- But people can plan now to protect themselves, their families, and their businesses

The Pandemic Wave

1. Delay disease transmission and outbreak peak
2. Decompress peak burden on infrastructure
3. Diminish overall cases and health impacts

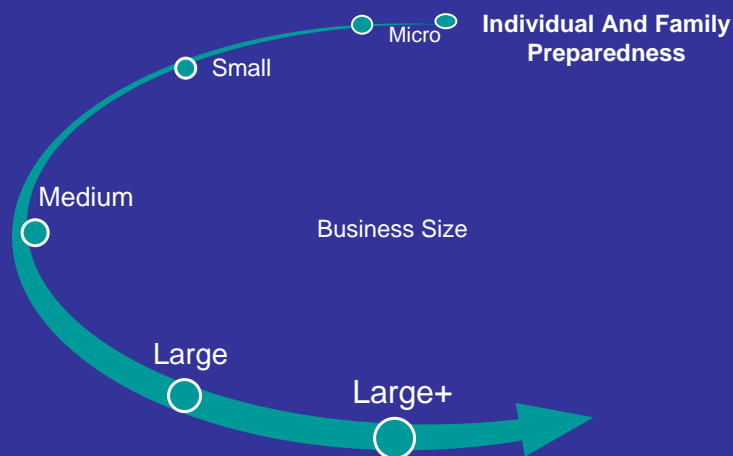


Potential Tools in Our Toolbox



- **Pandemic Vaccine** – will probably be unavailable during the first wave of a pandemic
- The supply of **antiviral** medications is limited
- **Infection control and social distancing measures:**
 - Transmission Interventions (Infection Control)
 - Contact Interventions (Social Distancing)

Business Preparedness





Pandemic Influenza Planning for Businesses

- Plan for the impact on organizations and operations
- Plan to protect people
- Establish policies
- Allocate resources
- Communicate to and educate people
- Coordinate plans, response, and recovery

APEC Pandemic Flu Planning Guide for SMEs

A flu (influenza) pandemic is an outbreak of a new flu virus that spreads around the world. Because it is a kind of flu that is new to people, most people will not be protected (immune) from it. A very bad flu pandemic will make people sick and many may die, and will also affect your business. We do not know yet how bad a new flu pandemic will be until it happens. There is no flu pandemic now – but people can plan how to protect themselves, their families, and their businesses.



Stay in Business

- Develop a plan for your business during a pandemic.
- Test, review and update your plan as new information becomes available.
- Work out how to run your business if many of your employees can not come to work.
- Find out if local schools plan to close during a pandemic and the effect that may have on your employees.
- Plan where to get essential business supplies if you cannot get them from your normal sources.
- Plan for changes in demand for your services and products.
- Put some extra cash aside for your business to use in an emergency.
- Think about how you will communicate with employees, suppliers, and other business partners before, during, and after a pandemic.
- Plan how you will work with employees, other business partners, other companies, and the government before, during, and after a flu pandemic.



Protect your People

There may be limited or no access to vaccines and antiviral medications during a pandemic. However, other actions can protect people:

- Share information that will help employees and their families learn about pandemic flu and be ready for pandemic flu.
- People who have flu can spread it to others. Ask employees to stay home if they are sick during a pandemic.
- Most people with the flu will be cared for at home. Prepare to assist employees to care for sick family members at home.
- Slow the spread of disease: cover your nose and mouth with a handkerchief or tissue when coughing or sneezing, and be sure to wash your hands.
- Encourage your employees to wash their hands often with soap and water especially after coughing or sneezing, before eating, drinking, smoking, or touching their face.
- Flu virus can spread easily when people are close together. Plan how you will help your employees avoid large groups, continue working, and keep people apart from each other at your business.
- Wear a mask if health officials tell you to.

Prepare at Home

During a flu pandemic you may not be able to get to a store or market. Your home may not be able to get water to your home or business.

- Stock up on:
 - extra food that will not spoil
 - food and supplies for children
 - clean water to last for at least 2 weeks or a water purification system
 - flashlight and batteries
 - soap and water to wash hands
 - thermometer
 - handkerchiefs/tissues
 - extra cash
 - key documents and identification (passport, government issued identification, health records, health insurance papers)
 - supplies for animals

For more information

World Health Organization

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/

US Department of Health and Human Services

www.pandemicflu.gov

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION



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Ms. Lisa Koonin serves as Chief of the Private and Public Partners Branch in the Division of Partnerships and Strategic Alliances, National Center for Health Marketing, at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In this role, she provides leadership and coordination for partnerships with CDC and business, education, healthcare, federal agencies, and faith-based and community organizations.

Ms Koonin also serves as Director for Business Partnerships for CDC and develops and leads effective partnerships among businesses, business organizations, public and private purchasers of health care, and others with CDC and public health. Ms. Koonin provides direction for major initiatives linking public health agencies and the private sector for improving community-level preparedness for public health emergencies. She serves as CDC's Lead for Private Sector pandemic influenza planning and response. Her team has produced checklists and tools for businesses, as well as for educational, health care and faith and community-based organizations to use for pandemic influenza planning and preparedness.

Ms. Koonin has been with CDC since 1987 and previously served as CDC's Chief for Reproductive Health Surveillance for 12 years. Prior to her employment with CDC, Ms. Koonin spent 10 years in a variety of clinical and faculty nursing leadership positions. Ms. Koonin is a Family Nurse Practitioner and Epidemiologist with a Master of Nursing and a Master of Public Health degree from Emory University. Ms. Koonin actively serves as a member of multiple committees both within CDC and for other organizations. She participates in the White House Homeland Security Council's Interagency Private Sector Workgroup on Pandemic Influenza. Ms. Koonin has published approximately 50 papers on a variety of health topics.