

Pandemic Influenza Plan

Policy:

This protocol outlines the management of any Influenza strain in the event sustained human-to-human transmission results in an epidemic or pandemic.

Procedures:

Student Health (SH) personnel and the Office of Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) will monitor influenza activity by regularly checking these web sites:

<http://www.sedgwickcounty.org/healthdept/>
<http://kdheks.gov>
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>
<http://flu.gov>
<http://who.int/en/>
<http://healthyamericans.org>

Case Management:

Identification of sustained human-to-human transmission of influenza in any geographic locale will provoke the following actions:

Alert the Executive Policy and Decision Team.

Student Health (SH) will:

- Advise students, staff, and faculty about health risks, symptoms, and preventive measures to use if travel to affected locales is unavoidable.
- Personnel returning from an affected locale will be reminded to monitor their own health and report symptoms that occur within 10 days of travel.
- SH will post a sign at the entrance asking patients with fever and respiratory symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, and myalgia) and recent travel to or from influenza affected locale to self-identify to staff immediately.
- Persons exhibiting symptoms will be advised to use hand hygiene, cover their mouth if coughing or sneezing, monitor their temperature and not use public transportation or attend classes/work if temperature is = or > 101 degrees. They should contact their health care provider for further instructions.
- SH staff will observe droplet precautions by (1) giving the patient a surgical or procedural mask when warranted; (2) if indicated front clerical staff will wear an N-95 mask; (3) the nursing staff will be notified of a potential case and escort patient to a pre-determined

special examination room; (4) instruct patient to wash hands or use hand sanitizer; (5) close door to room and post "Isolation" placard on door. (6) Personal protective equipment will be used by nursing staff as indicated. When patient leaves, the room should be cleaned according to protocol.

- The definition for influenza requires (1) travel within a locale with documented influenza activity; (2) close contact with an influenza patient (usually a household contact); (3) fever (101 degrees or greater) with cough or sore throat; and (4) confirmatory laboratory test if clinically indicated.

The medical staff will:

- Collect specimens when indicated that include: (1) one nasopharyngeal (NP) swab in viral transport media for virus isolation and (2) one NP in a sterile tube for PCR tests.
- Notify the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Laboratory or laboratory of choice. Specimens should arrive at the Laboratory within 24 hours.
- Report confirmation of positive laboratory novel influenza virus to the local Health Department.
- Notify patient of positive laboratory test and follow-up according to proper guidelines for the particular virus.

Patient management:

- Explain quarantine or isolation measures to patient if indicated. These measures should be maintained for 24 hours after resolution of symptoms or negative laboratory test.
- Explain and demonstrate good respiratory hygiene, cough/sneeze etiquette and hand washing.
- Direct patient to the campus resource that can help make arrangements for transportation of patient to family home if advised.
- Provide treatment if clinically indicated.

Patient Contacts:

- Contacts are defined as anyone who had face-to-face contact with a confirmed positive case patient in the 3 days before onset of illness.
- Contacts should be monitored for fever and respiratory symptoms for 10 days following their last exposure to a confirmed positive case and treated accordingly when needed.
- The local health officials may place contacts on home quarantine. Routine use of antiviral medications for prophylaxis is not recommended for asymptomatic contacts.

- Individuals arriving from influenza affected locale within the past 10 days and are asymptomatic may engage in normal activities following the guidelines outlined by the local Health Department.

Epidemic influenza in the campus community:

- The President, in consultation with the local Public Health authorities, may cancel all campus activities when deemed appropriate.
- All students, staff, and faculty with epidemic influenza symptoms will be asked to remain at home.
- All asymptomatic students in residence halls may be directed to return home.
- Students exhibiting epidemic influenza symptoms will be directed to return home in private vehicles.
- All personnel should cover their mouths when coughing or sneezing and wash their hands frequently or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Students who cannot travel home will be quarantined or isolated in their residence hall according to Health Department guidelines.
- One or two medical providers will triage personnel daily at the SH.
- Acutely ill persons, i.e., those with compromised respiratory function, dehydration, or impending shock, will be transferred to a hospital by ambulance.

Vaccination:

- All health care workers should receive the most recent influenza A vaccine cocktail.
- If an influenza vaccine is available, SH will administer vaccine to SH personnel and others on campus according to Health Department guidelines.

Communication:

- Communication will be handled as outlined in the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).
- The Director of the SH will be in frequent contact with the Sedgwick County Health Department.

my documents: pandemic influenza 2006

Updated April 2009

Updated June 2009

Updated August 2009