Public health Preparedness planning

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Definition

• « Capability of the public health and health care system, communities, and individuals, to prevent, protect against, quickly respond to and recover from health emergencies… particularly those who threatens to overwhelm routine capabilities » Nelson & al (AJPH)
Definition

• Public health emergency preparedness (PHEP) is not a steady state
• Avoid confusing planning with a written plan
• Written plans should be living documents
• Planning depends on resources, skills but mostly motivation
MOTIVATION

If there is a better reason to paddle, I don't know what it is.

Sitting in a 3.8-metre sea kayak and watching a four-metre great white approach you is a fairly tense experience.
Elements of Public health emergency preparedness *Nelson & al (AJPH)*

- Preplanned and coordinated rapid response capability
- Expert and fully staffed workforce
- Accountability and quality improvement
Preplanned and coordinated rapid response capability \textit{Nelson \\ & al (AJPH)}

- Health risk assessment
- Legal climate
- Roles and responsibilities
- ICS
- Public engagement
- Epidemiology functions

- Laboratory functions
- Counter measures and mitigation strategies
- Mass health care
- Public information and communication
- Robust supply chain
Expert and fully staffed workforce *Nelson & al (AJPH)*

- Operation-ready workers and volunteer
- Leadership
Accountability and quality improvement *Nelson & al* *(AJPH)*

- Testing operational capabilities

- Performance management

- Financial tracking
Now, how do we engage our communities for the airport plan?
Just an example! Mtl Airport

• Meeting with all stakeholders
Just an example! Mtl Airport

- Study Montreal Airport plans for other emergency events
- Draft the public health response plan
- Share the plan with all stakeholders
- Elaborate a training and exercise strategy
- Create an airport public health committee
- Review the plan yearly
Some tips for the plan

- The plan should not be too detailed
  - anticipation of all contingencies is impossible
  - too much details tend to get out of date quickly and requires more updates
  - try to keep it short and easy to read (facilitate training and implementation)
Some tips for the exercises

• The best way to train the field staff and to develop relationship
• Engage stakeholders to plan exercise
• Clearly define your scope and objectives
• Have external experienced evaluators/observers
• Improve your plan after each exercise
« An exercise with no problems is probably one with a trivial scenario or an inadequate evaluation » Perry & al
IHR and CAPSCA contribution

• IHR and Annex 9 for early notification of communicable disease on board
• IHR workshop pre-designation (Yulex 2010)
• Capsca assistance visit:
  - PPE
  - Passenger locator form
Challenges and discussion

- How to ensure communication coordination?
- How do you train stakeholders when PHEP is not their priority anymore?
- Can you share the challenges and successes while making your airport plan?
References
