

Exercise *Talune* 2016

Multi-agency pandemic influenza discussion exercise

Hobart, June 2016

FOR EXERCISE USE ONLY

Welcome

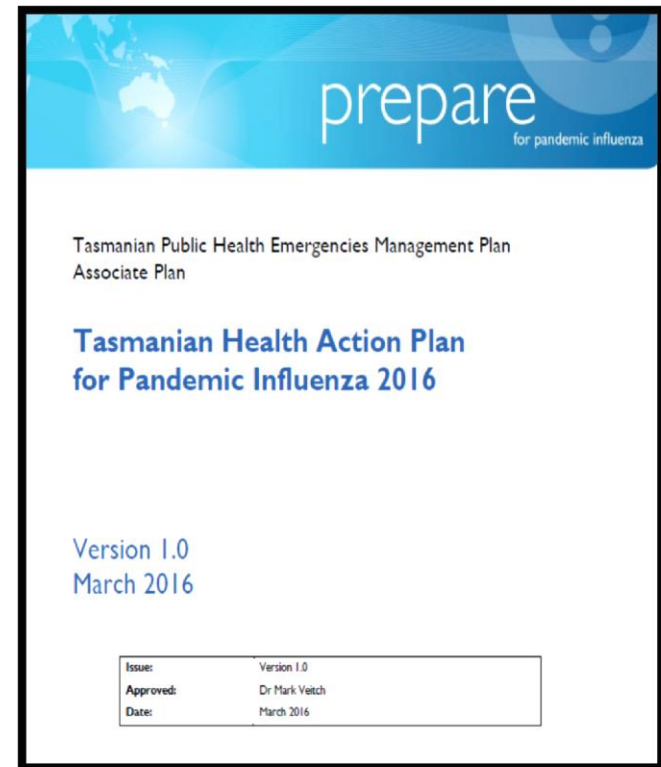
- Dr Scott McKeown
Public Health Physician (DHHS) and GP.

Participant Briefing

- No trick questions, no witch hunt
- High level
- Realistic scenario
- Assume you have the resources and plans that you have today in the 'real world' at your disposal.

Participant Briefing

- The aim of Exercise *Talune 2016* is to practise, explore and validate the pandemic response arrangements described in the Tasmanian Health Action Plan for Pandemic Influenza (THAPPI 2016).



Its not about a cold or man-flu



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VbmbMSrsZVQ>

Influenza 101

- Key symptoms: sudden onset of fever, cough, fatigue.
- Usually seasonal, with outbreaks occurring in the cooler months.
- Complications cause around 2 500 deaths per year in Australia, mostly in elderly people and people with underlying medical conditions.
- Influenza viruses are constantly drifting (small changes), hence the need for yearly vaccine.

Influenza 101

- Influenza spreads easily and quickly:
 - people can be infectious up to 24 hours before they realise they are sick
 - viruses shed easily through respiratory droplets
 - viruses can survive outside the body, for up to 48 hours on hard surfaces.

Pandemic Influenza 101

- As well as constant small changes, an influenza virus can undergo sudden, major changes that are enough to deem it a new human influenza virus.
- When that happens, there is limited community immunity to the new virus, and no targeted vaccine.
- The new virus can spread easily around the world causing a pandemic, and potentially illness more severe than seasonal flu, even for the young, fit and healthy.

Pandemic influenza 101

- The *Australian Health Management Plan for Pandemic Influenza 2014*: new Australian pandemic influenza stages
 1. Planning and Preparedness
 2. Standby
 3. Response – *Initial Action / Targeted Action*
 4. Stand-down
 5. Recovery
- The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee
 - Key national body
 - The Communicable Diseases Network of Australia.

Pandemic influenza 101

- *Tasmanian Health Action Plan for Pandemic Influenza 2016* aligns with the AHMPPI and Tasmania's all hazards approach to emergency management.
- THAPPI 2016 focuses on the most likely pandemic scenario: a mild to moderate pandemic that can be managed through ramped up business as usual arrangements.
- (Mild to moderate – similar to the 1968 Hong Kong Flu or the 1957 Asian Flu, a bit worse than the 2009 H1N1 Swine Flu.)

Avian Influenza A(H5N1)

- Avian influenza A(H5N1) is an influenza virus generally only affecting birds.
- 850 human infections overseas, usually following close contact with infected poultry.
- High mortality rate in humans (53% of confirmed cases).
- Does not spread easily from person to person.
- Closely monitored by the WHO.





Department of Health and Human Services

Special Idea 1: Introduction

- Sustained human-to-human transmission of influenza A(H5NI)
- Spreading in six countries across two continents: Asia and North America.
- Mortality rate = 7.2% of confirmed cases.
- No cases have been identified in Australia.



Special Idea 1

What's the Director of Public Health up to?

Special Idea 1: Syndicate Discussion

1. What is your Agency/Unit's priorities in responding to the emerging threat?
2. What information does your Agency/Unit need and how would you expect to receive it?

20 minutes

Special Idea 1: Syndicates Report Back

- Key discussion points only.

1 minute per syndicate.



Ambulance

000

Special Idea 2: Introduction

- First two cases are confirmed in Australia. (There are likely to be others, undiagnosed/unconfirmed.)
- No cases have been identified in Tasmania.

Special Idea 2

What's the Director of Public Health up to?

Special Idea 2: Whole Group Discussion

Is anyone else doing anything different at this stage
in response to the emerging threat?

Special Idea 3: Introduction

- We have our first one hundred confirmed cases identified in Australia, including 12 confirmed cases in Tasmania.
- Those at risk of serious illness appear to be infants, pregnant women, indigenous Australians and people with underlying medical conditions.



Special Idea 3

What's the Director of Public Health up to?

Special Idea 3: Syndicate Discussions

- Discuss the questions written on the Special Idea 3 Handout (questions vary slightly from group to group)

20 minutes

Special Idea 3: Syndicates Report Back

- Report back key points only.

2 to 3 minutes per syndicate.

LUNCH

- Eat
- Drink
- Be merry (chat, network)
- Peruse butchers' paper on the wall
- Come back.

Cough Etiquette



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qi_VVm6kfuY

Special Idea 4: Introduction

- One month into the pandemic (early days)
- Widespread illness in Tasmania
 - 2 190 confirmed cases
 - 187 hospital admissions (8.5% of confirmed cases, c.f. 5% nationally)
 - 9 ICU admissions (0.4% of confirmed cases, c.f. 0.3% nationally)
 - 2 people have died (0.18% of confirmed cases, c.f. 0.1% nationally)
 - Health services stretched to capacity
 - Higher than normal staff absenteeism rates.

Special Idea 4

What's the Director of Public Health up to?

Special Idea 4: Syndicate Discussions

- What are your pandemic response arrangements? (What are you doing/how?)
- How are you managing the impact on your services?
- There are some additional prompt questions for each syndicate written on your Special Idea 4 handout.

30 minutes

Special Idea 4: Syndicates Report Back

- Syndicates report back their key points of discussion

3 minutes per syndicate

- Open discussion.

AFTERNOON TEA

- Eat
- Drink
- Chat, network
- Peruse butchers' paper on the wall
- Come back!

Debrief: Syndicate Discussions

- What are the three pandemic preparedness priorities for your Agency or business unit, for 2016–17?
- What lessons you will take back to your workplace/agency from today?

15 mins

Debrief: Syndicates Report Back

- What are the three pandemic preparedness priorities for your Agency or business unit, for 2016–17?
- What lessons you will take back to your workplace/agency from today?

2 to 3 mins per syndicate

Participant Questionnaires

- Everyone, including observers and evaluation assistants, please complete your participant questionnaire.
- Hand to the evaluation assistant on your table.

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN
EXERCISE *TALUNE 2016***

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
TREATMENT OF INFLUENZA
PATRIOTIC BAZAAR

GOV^T STANDARD INFLUENZA
MEDICINE DEPOT. M.D.C. 16

Water & Medicine Free if Necessary

STIMULANTS FOR PATIENTS
WISKEY, BRANDY OR STOUT
CENTRAL MEDICINE DEPOT

