



ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Influenza Pandemic Response Plan

Summary

**Pandemic Influenza Working Group
February 27, 2007**

Influenza Pandemic Response Plan
Executive Summary
February 20, 2007

ASU formed the Pandemic Influenza Working Group in order to study and develop a multi-campus plan for response to a Pandemic Influenza viral strain. This report is the culmination of the collaboration of university officials on all campuses. The report draws upon information from the CDC (Center for Disease Control), WHO (World Health Organization), OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Association), infectious disease and public health experts, and other various local, state, and county organizations.

Pandemic Influenza has the potential to cause significant morbidity and mortality with a high likelihood of loss of operational ability for ASU and its community. Although not yet easily transmissible from human to human, the recent H5N1 strain of Avian Flu has been shown to cause a mortality rate of 60% in those infected in the Far East. Medical experts from the various governmental and scientific communities relate that there is little doubt about whether there will be another Pandemic, only regarding its timing. This document puts together a base plan for ASU's response to an influenza pandemic.

The plan hinges on timely execution by the administration of key steps to limit the spread of contagion at the campus. The working group, through this report, proposes the use of the WHO alert system and the presence of local cases to trigger the decision making process. Other factors such as the Pandemic Severity Index, which is based upon Pandemic mortality and the CDC Community Mitigation Recommendations, should be included in decisions for management of this Pandemic Plan. This plan includes:

- 1) Dispersing students out of their residence halls to their homes;
- 2) Suspending all but essential operations of the University including social and community gatherings;
- 3) Providing housing and food service for students unable to go home;
- 4) Providing medical care for those students who are ill but cannot access medical care because of community health care accessibility during a Pandemic; and
- 5) Activating essential business operations plans such as security, maintenance of computer infrastructure, alternative instruction mechanisms, payroll, animal and research laboratory care.

The plan outlines the preparations needed for the approximately 500 essential ASU personnel and the equipment and medications needed to protect these essential personnel from contracting Pandemic Influenza. The plan also details the use of communications tools through an ASU Pandemic Website which will give instructions to students, faculty, and staff on operation plans. The plan briefly outlines a recovery plan after a Pandemic event that can last 8 to 12 weeks.

The working group realizes that there may still be further planning necessary including contingency planning for more severe Pandemic outbreaks than those outlined in this report. The working group will continue to monitor events such as infection frequency, vaccine development, medication availability, and will work with constituent groups to further revise this plan as needed.