

# Pandemic Influenza: Where do we go from here?

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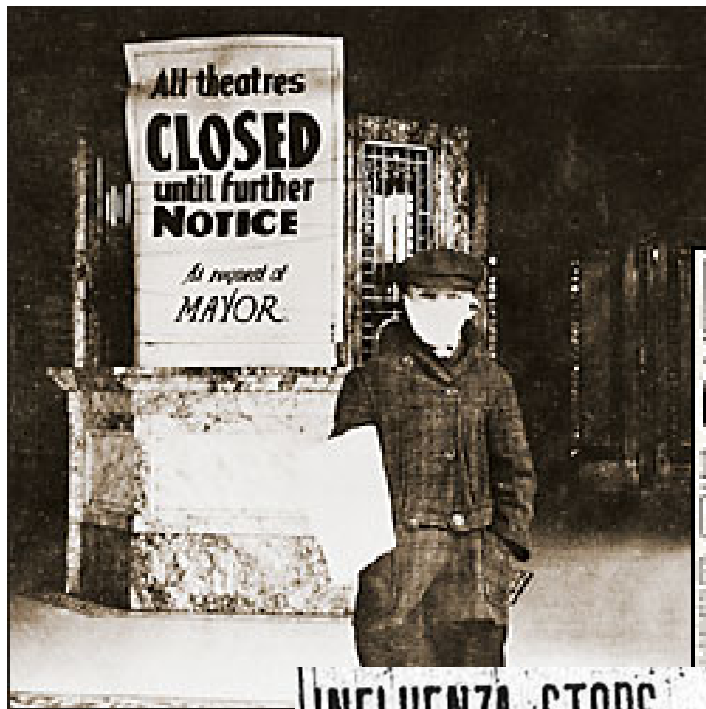
Whatcom County Health Officer



Hurricane Katrina (Cat-5)  
NOAA-18 AVHRR 1 km  
August 28, 2005 @ 1950 UTC







**"Flu" Kills 77 At Camp Meade;  
City Reports Show 38 Deaths;  
Hopkins Suspends Its Classes**

**NIGHT EXTRA** **The Seattle Daily Times**

**CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, SHOWS CLOSED**

**EPIDEMIC PUTS BAR ON ALL PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES**

**THE GOVERNMENT'S  
COMMENT**

**SEATTLE TO  
MAKE FIGHT  
ON DISEASE**



**AMERICANS  
AND FRENCH  
SMASH FOE**

**U.S. TROOPS  
SMASH HUNS  
IN ARBONNE**

**BUILDING BUILT FOR  
CITY'S JOINT FUND  
LOAN SUBSCRIBED**

**BLAST SHATTERS  
DAMKING BY DUNBAR  
IN NEW JERSEY**

**NEW WAGE SCALE  
IN SHIPYARDS TO  
RUN FROM WAGE 1**

**INFLUENZA STOPS  
BOUTS IN PHILLY**

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Oct. 5.—The three boxing clubs in this city were given a hard blow when, in an order issued by the board of health which closes all schools, theaters, churches, and other public places, they were ordered closed for an indefinite period owing to the rapid spread of Spanish influenza. This ruling stopped the bouts which were scheduled at the Cambria A. C. last night. The show at the National Saturday and the Dempsey-Levinsky fuss scheduled for the Olympia A. C. for next Wednesday also have been swept off the books.

# The Challenge

- **“How would a healthy community respond to a sustained emergency with limited outside resources?”**
- **“What can we do as members of that community to assure that response?”**

# Task Force

- Develop ongoing working relationships in planning and exercising a community pandemic flu plan
- Integrate the plans of member organizations
- Modify the plan as new information and new challenges are identified

# Work Groups

- Medical care
- Infrastructure
- Social and Economic Support
- Organizational Contingency Planning
- Public Education/Communication
- Legal

# Medical Care

- Increased numbers of sick people,
- Decreased medical staffing from illness or fear of infection
- Provide care for the ongoing acute and chronic health conditions
- Medications limited as manufacturers and distributors are affected by the pandemic
- Mortuary services and capacity

# Infrastructure

- Maintain essential functions and services, such as food supply, water, fuel, electricity, and communications
- Determine which functions of businesses, organizations, government are essential, and which can be suspended to shift limited resource?
- Maintain public works and public safety

# Social and Economic Support

- Maintenance of food and shelter
- Loss of income from illness or closed work
- Care of children when schools closed
- Support for those affected by illness
- Care of vulnerable populations

# Organizational Contingency Planning

- Planning for expansion of capacity, alternatives when capacity exceeded.
- Support for social distancing (telecommuting, etc.)
- Plans for decreased staffing, supply delays or loss
- Integration with other organization and community plans

# Education/Communication

- Increase knowledge of potential threat and resources to deal with it
- Avoidance of panic and helplessness
- Educate and build community

# Legal

- Issuance and enforcement of emergency and health orders
- Balance civil liberty with emergency response needs of community
- Compensation for emergency use of facilities, goods, and services

# Task Force and Work Group

## Next Steps

- Develop list of members by mid-December
- Prepare for Task Force meeting
  - Email discussion to refine objectives of Work Groups
- Task Force meeting in late January
  - Assure shared understanding of problems and scope of work of Work Groups

# Task Force and Work Group

## Next Steps

- Work Groups meet monthly
- Work Group chairs and Task Force coordinators meet regularly to update on progress of work groups and assure groups exchange ideas
- Draft Community Pandemic Plan presented in June 2006
- Task Force meets periodically to review and exercise plan

# Task Force and Work Group

## Next Steps

- Draft Community Pandemic Plan presented in June 2006
- Task Force meets periodically to review and exercise plan
- Work Groups topics will overlap, will need to coordinate
- Consensus will develop on criteria and values to be applied to difficult decisions

- Plans don't fix problems, planning does.
- It is the training, relationships, trust, shared knowledge, testing and revising of plans that will prepare us.
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- The plan is the record of that ongoing activity.