



## **Infectious Communicable Disease Preparedness and Emergency Response Plan**

Prepared By:

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### **Purpose:**

To provide an infectious communicable disease preparedness and response plan.

With emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, it is important to be prepared to respond to outbreaks, epidemics and pandemics. The event can be caused from different types of infections and can spread rapidly as the world has experienced in the past. This policy outlines the steps in preparing for a communicable disease or infection, and an emergency response to an event. This is a model outlining the steps and will be part of the overall facility procedure for an event. The plan incorporates current disaster measures needed for a response. CCHM will collaborate and cooperate with the facility, agency, state, local and federal entities that may include local community/sheriff's offices, Department of Health, Office of Homeland Security and CDC in providing a response for safe responses to staff and community members if needed.

### **Procedures:**

The infection prevention and control program, policies and procedures, and clinical guidelines provide written protocols to give disease and/or condition specific guidelines of the diagnosis, treatment and management of conditions recognized as prevalent in the state or local area.

These include procedures for infections prevention, education, identification, surveillance, immunization (as applicable), treatment, follow-up, isolation (as indicated) and reporting requirements to applicable local, state and federal agencies. A multi-disciplinary team that includes clinical, security and administrative representative(s) meet at least yearly to review and discuss communicable diseases and infection control activities.

- At a minimum disease specific procedures will include:
  - Prevention to include immunizations, when applicable
  - Surveillance (identification and monitoring)
  - Treatment to include medical isolation, when indicated
  - Follow-up care
  - Reporting requirements to applicable local, state and federal agencies
  - Monitoring current community, state and national trends
  - Education and training on PPE
  - Maintain par levels of PPE

- Post-exposure management particularly for HIV and viral hepatitis

Review of all emergency plans will be an essential element of all personnel training and re-training programs. All employees are to be familiar with all emergency plans prior to their permanent work assignments and must complete the required SACDC civilian jail training which covers infection control, blood borne pathogens, emergency preparedness/procedures along with other important SACDC topics.

### **Preparedness:**

- When cases have been diagnosed in the United States (but not in your state)
  - Monitor and provide reliable medication information on current situation
  - Update clinical guidance as recommended by DHEC and the CDC
  - Disseminate information to the healthcare providers
  - Evaluate current par levels of PPE
  - Routine communication with public health
- Single case diagnosed in your state
  - Evaluate current local situation
  - Reinforce infection control measures
  - Update information for the healthcare providers
  - Focus on disease surveillance
  - Increase public health communication
- Cluster linked to cases in your state
  - Continue monitor of local situation
  - Implement a screening tool as indicated
  - Continue public health communication
  - Update information for the healthcare providers
- Multiple unlinked cases in your state
  - Increase surveillance
  - Implement a screening tool as indicated
  - Continue public health communication (emergency operation indicated at this point)
  - Update information for the healthcare providers
  - Strict infection control prevention
  - Monitor PPE supplies
- Multiple linked cases in your state
  - Increase surveillance
  - Implement a screening tool
  - Continue public health communication (emergency operation indicated at this point)
  - Update information for the healthcare providers
  - Strict information control prevention
  - Monitor PPE supplies
  - Follow quarantine recommendations

## **Security**

The facility will maintain health and safety standards at the highest level possible during a communicable emergency. Once an outbreak is confirmed, the community immediately surrounding the institution is also affected. As a result, available resources and external assistance may become limited. This guide should be used in coordination and conjunction with the facility's policy and procedure.

## **Location and Verify**

SCDHEC will verify an outbreak within the community or at the facility and will notify the medical administration/designee.

## **Isolate and Contain**

The first priority upon receiving notification of a possible infected subject would be to isolate the exposed subject in order to contain the spread of the illness.

During the booking process, if the inmate answers yes to question #27 (does the inmate appear to have difficulty breathing), yes to question #28 (have you traveled out of the US in the past 30 days), and/or if they check yes to any symptoms for questions #29 (fever, muscle aches/weakness, vomiting, headache, fatigue/diarrhea and/or stomach pain/lack or appetite) the officer will immediately notify medical.

The subject should then be provided a surgical isolation mask and further questioning should be obtained by medical at this point. Medical personal should don personal protective equipment and contact a provider for further direction.

Upon notification of a confirmed case(s), the subject(s) affected with the illness will be quarantined in the infirmary. In the event of a mass epidemic, the Health Services Administrator or designee will coordinate with the Chief or designee to utilize other areas within the facility to quarantine infected subjects based on the number of infected subjects, suspected exposures and the custody levels of all involved.

## **Staffing**

Staff assignments will consist of both on duty staff and off duty staff being on-call (if needed). In the event of staff shortages, likely resulting from staff becoming infected and the inability to return to work, on-call staff will be called in to cover their shifts.

CCHM will:

- Continue to provide services contained in the contract, including diagnosis and treatment for affected subjects
- Contact local area hospitals giving them a briefing on the status (if needed) and request that they accept any critically ill subjects if deemed necessary
- Continue to monitor and treat any confirmed or suspected cases. All new cases shall be reported to SCDHEC as required.

### **Pharmaceuticals:**

Vaccines (if available), and/or antiviral/antibacterial drugs will be made available to all institutional staff first. Vaccines (if available) and or antiviral drugs will be made available to inmates based on availability and in accordance with CDC and SCDHEC recommended priority populations. Although information may change based on the particular strain and virulence of the causative communicable disease, the following represents the current information and priority for inmate populations.

- Inmates over 65 with 2 or more high risk conditions
- Inmates over 65 with 1 or more high risk conditions
- Inmates with history of hospitalization for pneumonia, flu or symptoms of disease
- Immune-compromised inmates who would not be vaccinated due likely poor response to vaccine (transplant recipients, HIV/AIDs, cancer)
- Healthy inmates 65 and older
- Inmates under 65 with 2 or more high risk conditions
- Inmates under 65 with 1 or more high risk condition
- Healthy inmates

### **Notification:**

The staff will notify the Director of Nursing or designee at the time of discovery. The Director of Nursing or designee will then notify the Health Services Administrator or designee.

Notification of the status within the facility will be provided by the Health Services Administrator or designee who notify the Chief or designee.

The Director of Nursing or designee will be responsible for:

- Updates on the number of infected individuals
- Any deaths believed to be related to the communicable disease
- Any other information requested by the facility related to the event
- Required reporting to the SCDHEC, or other agencies, number of cases either suspected or confirmed
- Necessary staff and resources to provide medical evaluation and treatment of routine health issues as well as communicable disease related health care in all areas of the facility, including those designated as quarantined and non-quarantined. Examples of such services include, but are not limited to:
  - Sick Call
  - Medication management and delivery
  - Health assessments
  - Mental health services
  - Pharmacy services

### **Deaths:**

Any death will be reported in accordance with the facilities policy and procedure.

## **Additional Information:**

- Resource, storage and supplies:
  - An assessment of necessary resources, including volume, storage requirements, availability and utilization procedures will include the following:
    - Medical supplies
    - PPE (masks, gloves, gowns, goggles, sanitizers, etc.)
    - Medications and medical supplies (i.e., insulin/diabetic supplies, cardiac, respiratory, anti-viral medications, vaccines – influenza, pneumococcal and new vaccines developed during pandemic, IV solutions and IV supplies, blood collection tubes, vacutainers, etc.)
    - Disposable equipment (urinals, bedpans, wash basins, emesis basins, disposable instruments, biohazard waste bags)
- Coordination with Community Resources:
  - CCHM will continue to maintain contact with local health authorities and service providers to coordinate any assistance should outside services be necessary. This will include off-site local pharmacies in order to obtain medications should routine delivery methods be disrupted, use of local emergency rooms and ancillary services such as radiology.
- Updates and Revisions:
  - As additional information becomes available through the SCDHEC and the CDC, the plans may be updated and/or modified to reflect the most current data and processes.
- Education:
  - CCHM will work to prepare and provide appropriate education for staff on proper identification and control of infectious diseases, to include benefits of appropriate vaccines, hand washing techniques, universal precautions, and wellness in general.
- Reporting and Testing:
  - CCHM will complete any reports and testing as required by SCDHEC, CDC or other health authorities, as well as specific forms required by the facility.