



HIGHLY PATHOGENIC AVIAN INFLUENZA AND PANDEMIC INFLUENZA STATE-BY-STATE COMPARISON

Indiana

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Lead Agencies

Pandemic Influenza

The Coordinating State Agency (Lead) is Indiana Department of Homeland Security. The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) acts as the Primary State Agency (PSA) for all phases of pandemic influenza.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

The Coordinating State Agency (Lead) is Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS). The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) acts as the Primary State Agency (PSA) for all phases of both avian and pandemic influenza, except the initial response, which is covered by the Board of Animal Health (BOAH) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Trigger Points

Continuous trigger points exist with the two responsible agencies, Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH).

Trigger points specifically for IDHS are:

- **Phase 1** of IDHS' pandemic influenza operations plan occurs when an infected bird enters the state, dies and spreads a contagious H5N1 virus to other wild or domestic fowl or animals, implying potential danger to humans. Series of actions are taken by the DNR in surveillance and by the BOAH in bird quarantine and euthanasia, if required.
- **Phase 2** is H5N1 spreading from birds to humans.
- **Phase 3** is human-to-human transmission.

Public health jumps into initial action when human-to-human transmission occurs anywhere in the world. When the virus is within Indiana, IDHS immediately conducts increased public awareness, education, monitoring, and increased surveillance, including at schools and airports.

Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions

School Closings

Schools will be carefully monitored by ISDH via syndromic surveillance, and will be closed well ahead of the arrival of a pandemic. Education would change to "delivery services" if needed, using distance education, technology, distribution of lessons and books, etc.

Overall, many other school functions would cease quickly, before education itself would stop. All social, economic, civic, political, athletic and religious activities connected to a school would be shut down.

It is likely the building itself would remain open as a community Point of Distribution, a triage site, or site for other health-related purposes.

Public Venue Closing

Public venues such as sports, civic, social, and other gatherings will be closed initially under the same procedures.

Public Transportation Continuation

Public transportation will be curtailed as appropriate based on syndromic surveillance.

State Emergency Operations Center Activation

The EOC functions 24/7 presently and would go to partial activation under Phase 1 and full activation under Phase 3 (human-to-human transmission).

Social Distancing

The new EOC and Fusion Center do not yet meet the 3 by 6 foot social distancing requirements. The new N95 masks will be obtained for all COOP/COG personnel in the future. There are provisions for full PPE. Spreading personnel out and placing spatial distance between functional groups remains the solution until these changes can be made.



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Continuity of Operations

The State has Common Operating Picture (COP) with DHS FEMA Region V and HHS-CDC Chicago, and has written and published COOP and COG plans.

Businesses

Businesses have been integrated through the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, and the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, as well as through ISDH's business collaboration and public meetings. Universities and colleges in the state have also developed policies and procedures.

Unique Challenges

- Chicago's airports, particularly O'Hare International Airport, have a huge Asian air transportation footprint for northern Indiana and Indianapolis International Airport for Canada and Mexico/Caribbean. CDC monitors these sites.
- Wild bird migratory pathways extend across the state.
- A huge federal interstate highway system of five major roads blankets the state.
- Interstate trucking is extensive.
- Interstate 69 when completed will pass through all of Indiana, reaching from east central Canada to central Mexico.

Innovations

- Nationally, the Indiana State Department of Health's "Tool Kit" designed for local public health directors' use with county-level constituents and the public was accepted by the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) as a "best practice."
- ISDH is initiating a video simulation and online training program on pandemic influenza that has been accepted in Midwest public health circles as a "best practice" for training health care providers and mental health caseworkers.

- The Indiana Department of Homeland Security's five-paragraph, three-phased operational plan (OPLAN) for pandemic influenza with county template and fifteen state ESFs specific to pandemic influenza was accepted and endorsed by DHS FEMA Region V RISC in June, 2006, with distribution as a "leading state best practice" within the Region.

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