Committee on the Use of Elastomeric Respirators in Health Care: State Perspective

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Objectives

• Review the historical perspective of the 2009 H1N1 response

• Discuss factors that drive decisions around which respirators will be used for preparedness and response

• Identify areas of consideration from the state and local level
Respirator/Mask Experience

- Limited if any sharing between facilities
- Shortages and backorders occur rapidly
- Wholesaler allocation process
- Hording of respirators
• Respirator reuse strategies implemented

• Stockpile asset mismatch to clinical care

• Facility fit testing burden
Major Public Health Events of 2016

- Sevier County Wildfires
- Severe-weather associated deaths
- Measles cases
- Mumps cases
- Travel-associated Zika cases
- Dental clinic investigation
- Tuberculosis contact investigations
- Severe-weather associated deaths
- Large foodborne outbreak investigation
Major Public Health Events of 2017

- Seoul virus investigation
- Hotel-associated *Legionella* outbreak
- Prison-associated scabies outbreak
- Mumps cases
- Hurricane response strike teams*
- Highly pathogenic avian influenza
- Tuberculosis investigation
- Salmonella outbreak
- Neuroinvasive mosquito-borne disease (West Nile/La Crosse)
- HIV cluster investigation

*TDH deployed staff to Florida and the US Virgin Islands to assist with hurricane response and recovery*
Factors that Drive Respirator Selection

- Level of protection (droplet Vs. aerosol)
- Shelf life of product
- Reusability
- Ease of Use
- Cost
Areas for Consideration

• Supply Chain Logistics
  – Is the market large enough to support healthcare adoption of elastomeric respirators
  – Shelf life of filters and masks (helps calculate quantities)
  – Cost of filters
  – Funding for stockpiles
  – Proprietary Vs. Standardization
  – National Vs. Regional strategy
• **Culture**
  – Deviation from routine causes concern
  – Change requires effective safety documentation
  – Aesthetics is a real concern in patient care
  – Impact on communication

• **Training**
  – Fit testing process
  – Donning and Doffing processes
  – Cleaning guidance
  – Rapid conversion doubtful
Ideal Stockpiling Strategy

• Includes a variety of product types
  – Increases chance of availability
  – Supports adaptability with varying threats
  – Increases complexity

• For Success:
  – Communication needs to be clear
  – Readily available online training
  – Easy to follow and implement cleaning guidance
  – Safety and return on investment demonstrated
  – Identification of success stories
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