

Thank you Rosemary Franklin for these minutes.

Minutes of the FAB sub-committee

FAB Conference Call

September 12, 2006
11 AM

Attendees: MDCH: Bob Swanson, Rachel Potter, Rosemary Franklin, Terri Adams, Teri Lee Dyke

Via Conference Call: Susan Bass, Carol Legwand, Carolee Besteman, Sue Schryber, Cassandra Dowling (MHA), Kay Renny, Dianne McCagg, JoAnne Hyde, Kay Houseman, Talat Danish, Becky Blake, Liz Harton, Joe Miller (MAFP), Pat White, M. C. Thirumoorthi, Stan Reedy, Karine Pawlicki, Lynn (on call with Stan Reedy)

Minutes

Subcommittee Updates:

Education & Communication – Rosemary

FluBytes: We will begin distributing FluBytes weekly again this Thursday. This flu season, we are requesting committee members to submit articles for inclusion in FluBytes. To submit your articles for inclusion in FluBytes, email them to Liz at HartonE@michigan.gov. Suggested topics for this week's FluBytes: Vaccine Supply projections and projected delivery dates.

2-1-1 Hotline Number: We recently learned that MDCH is working on putting something together for the entire department, something that would be statewide. When we meet again in November, we will let you know about any updated information. Given that the department is working on this, we are going to take a "wait and see" attitude. There is no sense in running ahead and doing something for our division if the entire department is going to do something.

Flu Educational Programs – The flu modules for both the physicians and the nurses have been updated. CMEs and Nursing Contact Hours are available. Remember that the flu educational programs may be useful in a number of settings: To update medical staff, to update health care workers in a health care setting, and they might also be used at coalition meetings. Sue Schryber uses these modules at her meetings with area providers to make sure that they have all the updated information and recommendations on flu. Carolee Besteman uses the Flu Modules to update the FQHCs and Rural Health Centers by the use of Net Conferencing. To schedule a Flu Update for nurses, call JoEllen Wolicki at 248-330-9989. To schedule a Flu Update for physicians, call Dawn Contreras at 517-353-3886.

Pocket Guides – The Flu and Pneumo Pocket Guides have been updated. They were delivered to the clearinghouse today & you can start ordering them now. To order online: www.hpclearinghouse.org. When you order the pocket guides online, you can only get 50 at a time. (The online order form will only allow you to order a maximum of 50.) Dianne McCagg said she needs 100 of each; I advised her to send her request to me by email. Email me at: franklin@michigan.gov. Please remember to include your entire shipping address in your email.

Conference Flu Folders: This year, conference attendees at the MI Reg. Imm. Confs will receive a separate Flu Folder (separate from the regular conference packets). If (when) we get updated information, we will be able to update the folders more easily. The Flu Folders contain information about seasonal flu, pandemic flu, and bird flu. The updated influenza pocket guides will be included, as well as the new Bird Flu brochure, the updated Keep Your Family Safe from the Flu brochure, and the Sentinel Flu brochure. The Flu Folders will also include the new flu vaccine dosing chart.

Miscellaneous:

Check out the National Influenza Vaccine Summit Health Care Worker website at

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/16633.html#TOP>. **This will be included in FluBytes.**

CDC Conference Calls:

As part of preparations for the 2006-07 influenza season, CDC hosted two conference calls to provide healthcare professionals with the most up-to-date information on influenza vaccine supply and CDC recommendations for vaccination.

On 9/7/06, CDC hosted a conference call on the "Issues in Vaccinating Adults against Influenza." On 9/11/06, CDC hosted a conference call on, "Issues in Vaccinating Children against Influenza." PowerPoint Presentations for both conference calls have been posted on the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nip/ed/ciinc/calls/default.htm>

This will be included in FluBytes.

The Leadership and Deployment Sub-Committee – Bob Swanson

Bob gave an update on the flu supply and projections. He said that 75% (which is 75 million doses) of the flu supply is supposed to be distributed by the end of October. An anticipated total of 100 million doses is expected, about 16% more than last year. If the new GSK / ID Biomedical vaccine is licensed by FDA, an additional 15-20 million doses will be available.

If supply issues should occur, the deployment subcommittee will need to be activated. Bob asked for volunteers to serve on the deployment sub-committee. Two members volunteered: Sue S. and Carolee. Bob would welcome more volunteers.

IVEN status –

This is no longer housed within the MI-TRAIN website, as it was last year. It is now housed within the MCIR website.

It is currently on the Test Page of the MCIR website. IVEN will not go live until we get specific FDA authorization for redistribution of influenza vaccine.

Flu Vaccine Supply issues

Discussion about the fact that we might run short on flu vaccine for 3-year-olds.

Dr. Thirumoorathi asked about using the Novartis product off-label.

Discussion. Pros and Cons. Federally-purchased VFC vaccine can only be used as licensed. Also, discussion about following ACIP recs.

Conclusion: Bob said that he will ask Novartis about off-label use of their flu vaccine.

Flu Assessment in MCIR and MCIR scan forms

Flu assessment has been added to MCIR. Providers ARE using this for adults now – there are 15,000 adults entered into MCIR already!

MCIR is now working on creating a “high-risk” flag that would alert providers to high-risk patients. This would possibly generate a letter. This is being worked on.

Pharmacists and flu vaccine update - Bob

Discussion about pharmacists giving flu shots. The language in the Public Health Code was changed effective 4/4/06.

PUBLIC HEALTH CODE (EXCERPT); Act 368 of 1978; Section 333.9204; Administration of immunizing agent.

Sec. 9204. “A health professional other than a physician may administer an immunizing agent as long as the agent is being administered under the direction of a physician.”

[This is what it used to say: “Formerly Sec 333.9204 read “a health professional other than a physician may administer an immunizing agent when authorized by a local health department and when the agent is administered under the direction of a physician”]

DISCUSSION

Surveillance Update -Rachel

The Michigan Flu Focus has been distributed weekly all summer. It has updates on syndromic and sentinel surveillance, outbreaks, lab surveillance, and pediatric mortality. This summer all indicators have shown very low levels of influenza and no lab confirmed cases, outbreaks, or pediatric deaths were reported.

H5N1 activity has continued among birds and humans in SE Asia. As of September 8, 2006 WHO reported 244 cases including 143 deaths due to H5N1 in humans.

Miscellaneous

Register now for the “Current Issues in Immunization NetConference.” This will be broadcast on Thursday, October 12, 2006 at Noon. The one-hour session will focus on emerging immunization topics. For more information, go to:

<http://www.cdc.gov/nip/ed/ciinc/default.htm>

Press Release:

(Rosemary) Last year sometime, our department issued a Press Release about FAB. I asked the committee whether they would like to see another press release, what the timing should be, etc. (no comments from committee)

Final notes:

When is the VFC Vaccine coming? Terri said she will check with CDC.

August 16th FAB Conference Call: WHAT HAPPENED? Something baffling happened during the August 16th conference call. A number of committee members tried to call in, without success. On our end, we didn't have any callers. We will send out the minutes from this meeting to committee members.

As far as the glitch goes: We will look into this and try to figure out what happened.

Next Meeting

The next FAB face-to-face meeting will follow the MACI meeting on Wednesday, November 15.

The FAB meeting will begin at 12:30 (following the morning MACI meeting).