Isolation and Quarantine in a Public Health Emergency

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Roadmap

- Part 1: Background
  - Isolation and Quarantine Template
  - The inside story…

- Part 2: Practical Application
  - What is in the plan?
  - How can I use it?

Priorities and Regional Work Plans

- November 2012: Top Three Priorities
  - At Risk Population Planning and Recovery
  - Risk Communications Training
  - SNS Inventory Management System

- January 2013: Regional Work Plans
  - Mapping of Activities to address the 3 Priorities

Gaps and Strategies

- What’s the use?
  - Policy determinate
  - Communications with partners
  - Documentation of basis for measuring progress

- What we’ve done with this so far
  - Engaged with NC Hospital Association’s NC Community Health Improvement Collaborative
  - Collaboration with Community Health Assessment Team at NC DPH
  - Engaged with partner DHHS agencies’ disaster coordinators
  - Training and exercise plans
  - Delivering on the strategies…..
Overview of the Template

- Introduction & Definitions
- Purpose
- Scope
- Assumptions
- Authorities
- Continuum of I&Q
- Responsibilities
- Concept of Operations
- References, Appendices, Supplemental Materials

Disclaimers

- The plan is LONG…
  - …we wanted to put in absolutely everything that we could think of that you MIGHT need someday

- The plan uses “Preparedness Language”
  - Concept of Operations?
  - It is intended to be an official preparedness plan
  - …but hopefully this will help demystify it!

Introduction

- Communicable diseases threaten the public’s health

- Our job – reduce that threat
  - Immunizations (prevent disease)
  - STD treatment (prevent spread)
  - Identify outbreaks (stop spread, protect others)

- Isolation & quarantine
  (stop or reduce spread, protect others)
Definitions

- What is isolation?
- What is quarantine?
- I need volunteers…

Definitions

- **Isolation** – For People Who are Ill
- **Quarantine** – For People Who have been Exposed but are not Ill

Example

Isolation
Example

Quarantine

Example

Mass Quarantine

Brand New Disease
Highly Contagious
High Fatality Rate

Social Distancing
**Purpose**

- Establish decision making criteria
- Identify roles and responsibilities
- Describe procedures
- Identify additional resources

**Scope**

- Who does this plan apply to?
  - Your County Health Department
  - Partner agencies (MOU)
  - Community members that are ill/exposed

**Assumptions**

- Must address vulnerable populations
- Must protect PHI
- Applies to individuals and groups, but not places
- You are only responsible for your county
- Voluntary compliance will always come first
- Effective communication is key

**Authorities**

- Who has the authority to implement I&Q?
  - Local health director
  - State health director (SHD)
  - Local health director’s designee
  - Local health director in consultation w/SHD
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The Law...

- NCGS130A-144
  - The Local Health Director has authority to take action to control diseases that are threats to public health.

What if they don’t comply?

- NCGS130A-144
  - The Local Health Director has authority to take action to control diseases that are threats to public health.

- Not explicitly about Isolation and Quarantine
- Infected or exposed persons usually comply
- Voluntary detention
The Next Law...

- **NC GS 130A-145:**
  - The Local Health Director or designee, at his or her sole discretion, may initiate involuntary detention of a person for purposes of isolation or quarantine.

Explicitly about Isolation and Quarantine

- Infected or exposed person refuses to comply
- Involuntary Detention

Implementation

- **Three Criteria:**
  1. The public health is endangered, &
  2. All other reasonable means have been exhausted, &
  3. No less restrictive alternative exists

- Can be implemented for up to 30 days
- Extensions may be obtained through the court

Consequence

- **NCGS 130A-25:**
  - A person who violates these will be guilty of a misdemeanor.
Continuum of I&Q

Passive monitoring
- Active monitoring (without activity restriction)
- Active monitoring (with activity restriction)
- Focused quarantine to increase social distance
- Community-wide measures to increase social distance
- Widespread community quarantine, including "Cordon Sanitaire"

Responsibilities
- Coordinated effort
  - Local Health Department
  - Local Law Enforcement
  - County Attorney
  - Support agencies (Red cross, utility companies)
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Pre-planning with support agencies
- “Identify, Assess, Communicate, Agree”

Concept of Operations
- Answers basic questions
  - Who is in charge?
  - What is the reporting hierarchy?
  - What teams might be necessary?
  - What will each team do?
  - What are the step by step directions?
  - What is a communications plan?
Teams

- Use what works for YOUR county
- Two suggestions in the template
  - Epidemiology Team
  - Clinical Operations Team

Epidemiology Team

- “Keep counts, have the BIG picture”
- Make contact with person
- Determine if they need I&Q
- Hand them off to clinical operations
- Keep counts of how many I&Q orders
- Perform contact investigations
- Have “big view” of outbreak

Clinical Operations Team

- “Handle details of isolation/quarantine”
- Determine suitability of home for I&Q
- Maintain daily contact
- Address needs
- Give updates to Epi Team

Visual Diagram

- People in Isolation & Quarantine
  - Epi Team: Investigating outbreak
  - Performing Contact Investigations
  - Clinical Operations
Other Resources

- Helpful Links
- Appendices
  - Go into detail about each part of the plan
  - Flow diagrams, decision trees
  - Sample MOU, dialogue for approaching partners
  - Sample I&Q orders
- Supplemental Information
  - Facility assessment, risk communication

Model Orders

MODEL QUARANTINE ORDER (Suspected Exposure)

You may have been exposed to ____________ in a disease caused with ____________. You may be placed in contact with person identified as ____________. If you contact the community, you may have new public health consequences.

If you test positive, you will be removed from the community. If you test negative, you will be returned to the community. You can contact the County Health Department for more information.

You must follow the Quarantine Order after the conclusion of your 14-day quarantine. You can contact the County Health Department for more information.

Local Health Department: ____________

Date: ____________

I have received the original copy of this order: ____________
State Resources

- Public Health Preparedness and Response (PHPR)
- Preparedness Regional Coordinators
- Communicable Disease Branch (CDB)

Remember…

- **Isolation** – for those who are **Ill**
- **Quarantine** – for those who are **Exposed**

Legal Authorities

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NC GS 130A-144</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who?</td>
<td>Local Health Director</td>
<td>Local Health Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What?</td>
<td>General Authority</td>
<td>Isolation and Quarantine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When?</td>
<td>Voluntary Detention</td>
<td>Involuntary Detention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For how long?</td>
<td>Not specified</td>
<td>30 day increments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consequence for failure to comply</td>
<td>NC GS 130A – 25 (Misdemeanor)</td>
<td>NC GS 130A – 25 (Misdemeanor)</td>
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Summary

- **I&Q Template Plan**
  - Flexible
  - Customizable
  - Comprehensive (as much as that’s possible…)
  - Helpful
Questions?