Rapid deployment of the WHO Strategic Antiviral Stockpile

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WHO Strategic Actions for Pandemic Influenza

1. Reduce human exposure to H5N1
2. Strengthen the early warning system
3. Intensify rapid containment operations
4. Build capacity to cope with a pandemic
5. Coordinate global scientific research and development

Source: WHO strategic action plan for pandemic influenza 2006-2007
Rapid Containment:

Operations undertaken to stop, or at least slow, the spread of pandemic influenza at the source of its emergence in order to minimise global morbidity and mortality.

Extraordinary measures to combat a potential influenza pandemic.
Strategy: Rapid response & containment

Implementing rapid containment measures
Role of Antivirals: Rapid Containment

Index Cluster

Containment zone

Buffer zone
Antiviral for Rapid Containment

- Neuraminidase inhibitors are preferred for RC
  - Inhibitory for H5N1 and other AI viruses in laboratory
  - Amandatine, Remantadine
    - Resistance
    - Neurotropic adverse effects
  - Neuraminidase inhibitors
    - Tolerable,
    - Much less frequent resistance problem
WHO strategic antiviral stockpiles

- For Rapid Containment – 3M*
  Virtual stockpile - 1.5 M in Switzerland, 1.5 M in USA
  Reserved for RRC operation

- For under-resourced countries – 2M*
  Physical stockpile, will expire in 2011
  Regional stockpile (300,000 X 6 ROs, 200,000 at HQ)
  For outbreak response (Phase 3-5)

- WHO – coordinated international stockpiles
  (Japan-ASEAN, US, and other international stockpiles)

* adult therapeutic courses – 10 capsules of 75 mg oseltamivir phosphate
Necessary steps for rapid containment to event with pandemic potential

**STEP 1** Early detection, reporting & response

**STEP 2** Assessment and decision making

**STEP 3** Implementation

**STEP 4** Monitoring and evaluation

Rapid response

Rapid Containment
WHO Interim Protocol: Rapid containment

- Last update: October 2007
- Annex provides Standard Operating Procedures for mobilizing the WHO Strategic Antiviral Stockpile
- Series of Workshops held in affected WHO Regions
- Operational exercises conducted in high-risk countries
Getting Antivirals Where They Need to Go In-Country

- Who will guarantee expedited clearance through customs
- Who will provide security at the airport, during transit or storage
- How will antivirals be moved to the site of the outbreak
- Who will move them
- How will they be distributed and monitored