




Crimson Contagion 2019 Functional Exercise (FE)




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Exercise Background and Scope


- The aftermath of both Ebola and Zika response efforts stresses the nation's need to prepare, plan, train, and exercise in a unified manner; specifically, conducting a coordinated response where FEMA is not the Lead Federal Agency
- Crimson Contagion 19 will provide an opportunity to design, develop, and execute a whole community exercise to test and evaluate current plans, policies, and procedures as well as our core capabilities for biological incident response and recovery
- Crimson Contagion 19 will be an FE with play in all 10 regions across the US. The FE will be preceded by a series of tabletop exercises (TTXs) and seminars to examine the problems and issues from the local level through the National Security Staff with each TTX event building on the results of the previous component exercise
- Designated as an ASPR priority event



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Scenario Overview


- A large-scale outbreak of avian influenza (H7N9) originates in China but quickly spreads to the continental U.S., where the virus is first detected in Chicago, Illinois
- Sustained human-to-human transmission of the virus enables the virus to quickly spread to other areas across the U.S.
- To further complicate matters, the virus is antigenically distinct from stockpiled H7N9 vaccines (not matched)



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Overarching Series Objectives


- Examine the ability of federal, state, and local governments, as well as private industry, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public, to take coordinated protective actions during a pandemic influenza outbreak in accordance with applicable plans, policies, and procedures.
- Examine current gaps in capabilities and policies needed to determine risks to the affected population and the processes to manage, treat, and care for an overwhelming number of patients with an emphasis on people, pharmaceuticals, transportation requirements and standards of care.
- Test and identify gaps in applicable plans, policies, and procedures to maintain a viable workforce in order to minimize disruptions to critical infrastructure systems and supply chains.
- Examine current mechanisms to integrate federal, state and local decision-making and public messaging processes during a pandemic influenza response.



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Exercise Overview

- **Disease:** H7N9 with sustained human-to-human transmission
- **Exercise Series:**
 - **HHS Internal Pandemic Influenza TTX**
 - ✓ January 23 – 24, 2019
 - ✓ Internal HHS Staff
 - **Chicago and Illinois Pandemic Influenza TTX**
 - ✓ April 10, 2019
 - ✓ Chicago/Illinois/Region V focused
 - **National Level Seminar**
 - ✓ May 14 – 15, 2019
 - ✓ NSC, federal interagency partners, participating states
 - **Crimson Contagion 2019 National-Level Functional Exercise**
 - ✓ **August 13 – 16, 2019**
 - ✓ Local, state, regional, federal, private-sector, NGO participation




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Crimson Contagion Exercise

Scope and Scale

- 10 States
- NGOs
- Private Industry
- All Levels of Government
- Non-Traditional Federal Lead Agency
- 10 Month planning cycle



October 2018	November 2018	December 2018	January 2019	February 2019	March 2019	April 2019	May 2019	July 2019	August 2019
CSO / PM Internal MSEL TTX	MPM Internal MPM TTX	CSO / PM Chicago Illness, Health & TTX	FPM Internal MPM TTX	MPM Chicago Illness, Health TTX	FPM Chicago Illness, Health & TTX	CSO / PM Internal MSEL TTX	MPM Internal MSEL TTX	MPM Internal MSEL TTX	MPM Internal MSEL TTX
CSO / PM Crimson Contagion FE			Conduct Internal MSEL TTX	FPM Federal Interagency Seminar	MPM / MSEL Social Contagion Contingency FE	FPM Internal Contingency FE	Conduct Internal Contingency FE	FPM Contingency FE	Conduct Contingency FE

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State Participation Overview

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State Planning

- With the exception of the State of Illinois, all participating states are only required to play in the FE and participate in its corresponding planning process.
- States are encouraged to observe the following component exercises:
 - **Chicago and Illinois Pandemic Influenza TTX:** All states participating in the FE will be invited to observe the Chicago and Illinois Pandemic Influenza TTX in Chicago, Illinois to hear local, state, and regional pandemic influenza issues to help inform the FE planning process
 - **Federal Interagency Seminar:** Each state participating in the FE will be invited to observe and potentially brief out local, state, and regional pandemic planning issues at the Federal Interagency Seminar in Washington, D.C.; these individuals will be required to participate in one or two lead-up planning meetings, which will be held virtually

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State Planning (cont.)

- **Crimson Contagion 19 FE:** We would like each state to send an exercise planner and a subject matter expert (trusted agent) for the FE milestone planning meetings; these meetings include:
 - Midterm Planning Meeting (MPM), March 14, 2019 (Washington, DC)
 - In-Progress Review (IPR) / Master Scenario Events List (MSEL) Development, May 22 or 23, 2019 (Virtual)
 - Final Planning Meeting (FPM) / Final MSEL Synch, July 16 or 17, 2019 (Washington, DC)
- HHS / ASPR / E2A2 will conduct a site visit and in-person MSEL review meeting with each state prior to the FPM

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Suggested Level of Play

- In order to meet exercise objectives, HHS / ASPR suggests the following minimum level of play for each of the participating states:
 - Activating and testing state pandemic influenza plans
 - Activating and staffing the State Medical Operations Center
 - Potential activation and staffing of the State Emergency Operations Center
- HHS / ASPR / E2A2 will negotiate an Extent of Play Agreement with all participating organizations

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Simulation, Control, and Evaluation

- In addition to exercise play requirements, each state should provide individuals to serve as simulators, controllers, and evaluators
- Locations for these individuals during exercise play will vary depending on evaluation criteria and control/simulation needs and requirements
- HHS / ASPR / E2A2 will stand-up and manage a Master Control Cell (MCC) in Washington, D.C.
- Each state will designate staff to serve in the following positions:
 - Exercise Director
 - Lead Controller / Evaluator
 - MCC liaison

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Contract Support

- Each participating state will be assigned one member of the HHS / ASPR contract support team to help:
 - Scope the state's level of play
 - Create state-specific exercise documentation (Exercise Plan, MSEL, Control and Evaluation Plan)
 - Develop planning meeting materials (e.g., slide decks for IPM, MPM, IPR, FPM)
 - Create injects that will be used for exercise conduct
- While planning meetings are not required outside of the FE planning schedule, it is highly recommend that states facilitate their own internal planning cycle to prepare for each of the FE milestone meetings; the assigned contractor is available to participate in state-specific planning meetings, upon request

Funding

- In addition to contract support, HHS / ASPR / E2A2 will provide two planners / observers from each participating state funding for the following activities:
 - Travel to and from the Chicago and Illinois Pandemic Influenza TTX in Chicago, Illinois
 - Travel to and from the Federal Interagency Seminar in Washington, D.C.
 - Travel to and from all Crimson Contagion FE planning meetings in Washington, D.C.
- HHS / ASPR / E2A2 will also provide funding for one state liaison (controller / simulator) to travel to and from the MCC in Washington, D.C.

Exercise Outputs

- Following each of the component exercises, HHS / ASPR / E2A2 will produce an after-action document outlining key findings, including issues that may be addressed at the next exercise within the series
- Upon conclusion of the Crimson Contagion 19 FE, HHS / ASPR / E2A2 will create an overarching After-Action Report (AAR) outlining best practices and areas for improvement for future pandemic influenza planning and response operations

Crimson Contagion 19 FE Planning Timeline

Event	Date	Location(s)
Midterm Planning Meeting	March 14, 2019	Washington, D.C.
In-Progress Review / MSEL Development	May 22 or 23, 2019	Virtual
Final Planning Meeting / MSEL Synch	July 16 or 17, 2019	Washington, D.C.
Exercise Conduct	August 13 – 16, 2019	Multiple locations nationwide

Questions?