

III. PREPAREDNESS PLAN

A. Elements of the Preparedness Plan

1. Strengthening the management structure for the prevention and control of avian influenza and other emerging infections from the national to the local level.
2. Operationalizing the surveillance system for HPAI and pandemic influenza.
3. Enhancing capabilities of health and non-health key people in avian and pandemic influenza preparedness and response.
4. Providing antiviral agents and pandemic influenza vaccine to target groups.
5. Ensuring readiness of health facilities, service, manpower and supplies for management of avian and pandemic influenza.
6. Ensuring pandemic preparedness of agencies delivering non-health essential services.
7. Defining public health interventions to minimize spread of avian and pandemic influenza.
8. Strengthening information, education and communication for avian and pandemic influenza.
9. Soliciting support from and networking with other government and non-government agencies/ institutions.

B. Time Frame

Recognizing the urgency of preparing for an imminent influenza pandemic, the pandemic preparedness plan will be carried out within **one year**.

C. Details of the Preparedness Plan

1. Strengthening the management structure for the prevention and control of avian influenza and other emerging infections from the national to the local level.

Objectives	Actions	Lead/ collaborating agencies/ offices
1. To strengthen command and management structure from the national to the local level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize Inter-agency Task Force for Avian Influenza • Organize DOH Core Group for Surveillance, Preparedness and Response to Avian and Pandemic Influenza • Organize Management Committee for Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Disease (to cover avian and pandemic influenza as well) • Hold regular meetings with DA and the poultry industry • Coordinate and involve other agencies in planning • Conduct meetings among DA and DOH offices 	DOH, DA
2. To lobby to decision-makers commitment for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation to the Cabinet • Representation to the NDCC 	Secretary of Health NCDPC, HEMS

support and funding for influenza pandemic preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representation to PCSO and other funding agencies • Representation to technical staff of other agencies 	
3. To organize a group to formulate influenza pandemic preparedness plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate organization/individuals responsible for formulating and revising the influenza pandemic preparedness plan (IPPP) • Identify of individuals and representatives from all organizations that will need to contribute to the plan • MOA among identified agencies • Agreement for scheduled meetings 	OSEC Management Committee for Prevention and Control of Emerging and Re-emerging Infections
4. To develop plan, systems, policies, standards and guidelines for avian and pandemic influenza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops/ Writeshops for drafting the influenza pandemic preparedness plan and formulating guidelines • Realistic timeline of implementation plan 	NCDPC, Other key DOH Offices, Other government and non-government offices
5. To be clear on the command and control from the national to the local level in the event of avian influenza outbreaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Order defining the roles and functions of various agencies in the event of avian influenza outbreaks in poultry and in humans • Identification of members of the Inter-agency Task Force - National, Regional, Provincial and City levels • Mobilization of the Management Committee of DOH for avian and pandemic influenza preparedness and response (a generic group for emerging infectious diseases) • Consensus and coordination among BAI-DA, DOH, poultry industry and the Local Chief Executives of the areas affected 	OSEC, NCDPC
5. To assist local government units prepare for avian and pandemic influenza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist LGUs in formulating local preparedness and response plan • Organize and mobilize local task forces and monitoring and response teams in the communities • Facilitate availability and procurement of personal protective equipment and supplies, namely, disposable caps, N95 masks, gloves and plastic body shields, plastic bags for disposal, disinfectants • Identify areas for disposal of dead chickens • Obtain prototype materials from Department of Agriculture regional office • Reproduce and disseminate information from DA and DOH on appropriate response 	DA, DOH, DILG through their regional offices

	to HPAI specifically in handling and disposal of dead sick chickens, protection of response teams, mass culling, appropriate use of personal protective equipment, appropriate response to pandemic influenza.	
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2. Operationalizing the surveillance system for HPAI and pandemic influenza

Objectives	Actions	Lead/ collaborating agencies/ offices
1. To enhance surveillance of domestic fowl and wild birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrading of the Philippine Animal Health Center and the Regional DA Laboratories and provision of reagents • Conduct surveillance of fowls • Develop guidelines on animal surveillance 	DA, PAWB
2. To develop and operationalize surveillance of human cases of avian influenza in high-risk areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case definition of HPAI and pandemic influenza • Guidelines on reporting, collection of specimens, infection control • Identify persons/ strengthen coordination and partnership with DA-BAI and other representatives of agencies responsible for influenza surveillance in animals and birds • Conduct of training 	NEC, RESUs, CHOs/PHOs/ MHOs
3. To enhance surveillance of influenza and Influenza Like Illness (ILI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish or enhance routine influenza surveillance and ILI <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case definition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sentinel Practice (Pilot) Surveillance (Office Practitioners) ○ Hospital Surveillance ○ Laboratory-based Surveillance ○ Unusual respiratory disease/deaths cluster with emphasis on HCW ○ On human respiratory infections associated with bird/animal deaths ○ Other Information sources • Capability building for surveillance (for all levels) • Surveillance to include the following group; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Travelers ○ Cullers ○ Handlers ○ Health care worker ○ Laboratory workers ○ 	NEC, RESU, WHO, DA

<p>4. To strengthen early warning system for avian and pandemic influenza</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct rumor surveillance • Decide whether to continue surveillance in the early phase of a pandemic • Formulate criteria for scaling up and down of surveillance 	<p>NEC, RESU, WHO</p>
<p>5. To strengthen laboratory capabilities for influenza diagnosis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish RITM established as the National Influenza Center and National Reference Laboratory • Upgrade existing lab facilities BSL3 • Strengthen protocols, referral and transport system of specimens from the local to the National Reference Laboratory • Plan for storage of clinical specimen • Submit proposals for funding of laboratory needs • Develop of diagnostic assays for pandemic influenza strains • Identify personnel, reagents and funding for increased testing • Decisions on sharing clinical materials from confirmed pandemic cases • Provide update advice on test results • Development of lab website • Provision of equipment and supplies to priority areas for collection, storage and transport of specimens from cases under investigation. • Biosecurity 	<p>RITM, NCHFD, Regional laboratories, WHO</p>
<p>6. To define protocols on surveillance during a pandemic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discontinue routine/early warning • Case definition for Pandemic • Hospital Admission Monitor • Death Monitor • Recovery Monitor • Workforce Absenteeism • Vaccine Usage • Influenza vaccine • Antiviral use • Adverse Reactions from Drugs and Vaccine 	<p>NEC, RESU, Hospitals, Medical Specialties</p>

3. Enhancing capabilities of health and non-health key personnel

Objectives	Actions	Lead/ collaborating agencies/ offices
<p>1. To strengthen the capabilities of sub-national offices and assist LGUs on surveillance and appropriate response to AI and pandemic influenza</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop/ reproduce training materials on AI and pandemic influenza 	DA, DOH Task Force
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orient DOH and DA staff from the regional offices on Preparedness and Response to avian and pandemic influenza 	DOH, DA Task Force
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train key regional personnel and epidemiology and surveillance unit personnel 	DOH
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train field veterinary personnel 	DA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train Provincial/ City Response Teams (PHOs, CHOs, Hospital Chiefs, Veterinary Officers) 	DA, DOH
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train Municipal Health Officers and Agriculture Officers 	DOH and DA Regional Offices
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train Municipal & Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams 	DOH and DA Regional Offices
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train RESUs on GIS and On-line reporting 	NEC
<p>2. To strengthen capabilities of hospitals in responding to AI and pandemic influenza</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop/ Reproduce training materials 	DOH-NCHFD
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update key staff of National Referral Hospitals and Regional Hospital and Medical Centers 	DOH-NCHFD, NCDPC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train Provincial, City Hospitals, District and Municipal Hospitals 	CHDs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of Personal Protective Equipment (additional PPE for replenishment of stocks) 	Hospital Administrators
<p>3. To strengthen capabilities of government facilities to attain prescribed levels of capability for laboratory diagnosis of emerging infections</p>	Identify capabilities at different level	NCHFD
	Develop and reproduce training module	NCHFD, RITM
	Train laboratory staff and response team for the collection, storage and transport of specimens	RITM/ Regional Referral Hospitals
<p>4. To strengthen capabilities of key staff on risk communication</p>	Train spokespersons, heads of key offices on risk Communication	NCHP, NCDPC, PIA, UP College of Public Health (UP CPH)

4. Providing antiviral agents and pandemic influenza vaccine to high-risk groups

Objectives	Actions	Lead/ collaborating agencies/ offices
ANTIVIRAL AGENTS		
1. To formulate guidelines on use of antiviral agents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop treatment guidelines on the use of anti-viral drugs (during avian influenza outbreaks and during a pandemic) • Identify priority recipients of antiviral agents • Formulate guidelines in the storage and distribution of antiviral agents 	NCDPC, NCHFD, Specialty Organizations
2. To advocate for funding/ sourcing of antiviral agents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate to PCSO • Advocate to international agencies • Advocate to LGUs • MOA with pharmaceuticals ensuring the availability of supplies for the pandemic phase • Develop benefit package • Encourage local and international donors stockpile for their firm and to share supplies 	NCDPC, OSEC BIHC BLHD Undersecretary for Health Regulation PHIC Business sector
3. To make representation to other international agencies on providing the Philippines stocks of antiviral agents from their stockpile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request to WHO, other international organizations, other governments 	Office of External Affairs, BIHC, NCDPC
4. To undertake collaborative efforts with LGUs for the provision of antiviral agents and other supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify needs for antiviral drugs and other needs and identify funding source – e.g. calamity fund, donors, PCSO funds for DOH stockpile 	CHDs, NCDPC
VACCINE		
1. To formulate guidelines on influenza vaccination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate guidelines in consultation with the private sector • Develop the implementing guidelines (adopt the measles guideline) on administration, distribution strategy of the vaccine, monitoring 	NCDPC, NCHFD, Hospitals, Specialty Organizations
2. To develop funding strategy for routine influenza vaccine policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate to LGUs for funding • Develop a benefit package for health care workers and members of Philhealth 	BLHD NCDPC, PHIC
3. To facilitate provision of interpandemic (regular) and pandemic influenza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiatives to lower cost of regular influenza vaccine for poultry handlers/workers • Develop a contingency plan for procuring 	NCDPC, Specialty organizations Office, BFAD,

vaccine in the Philippines	<p>the vaccine or management of a pandemic without pandemic vaccine available</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOA with vaccine companies for arrangements on vaccine availability during a pandemic 	Vaccine companies
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5. Ensuring readiness of health facilities, service, manpower and supplies for management of avian and pandemic influenza

Objectives	Actions	Lead/ collaborating agencies/ offices
1. To develop policies, guidelines and protocols and strengthen systems on appropriate response to and management of avian and pandemic influenza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidelines and protocols for appropriate response to and management of avian influenza and pandemic influenza: • Adjust standards for health facilities and clinical management prepared for the SARS program • Adapt PSMID CPG on antibiotic use • Develop checklist for preparedness of health care facilities • Develop protocol for the appropriate disposal of dead bodies • Consultative meetings with specialty organizations • Conduct refresher courses on infection control for HCWs • Conduct basic training for infection control for volunteers 	<p>NCDPC NCHFD BLHD PHICS PSMID, PPS, PIDSP, PHA, PMA , Other medical/ paramedical organizations TWG for Influenza</p>
2. To ensure availability/ readiness of health facilities for management of avian influenza and pandemic influenza	<p>1. HEALTH SERVICE FACILITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt AO 134 (Strengthen the functionality of the existing referral system on each level of health care facilities) • Determine potential alternative sites for medical care • Determine and coordinate for alternative sites for medical care, e.g., use of schools, tents, military facilities • Coordinate clinical care and health services plans • Develop executive order to facilitate transit from one political area to another • Advocate to Local Chief Executives, government and private hospital administrators on the health facilities and services that need to be prepared 	<p>NCHFD, HEMS NCDPC, Hospital Administrators, (Private and Government), LGUs</p>
3. To ensure availability of health manpower in the	<p>HEALTH SERVICE MANPOWER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify community support groups for 	<p>HEMS, BLHD, NCHFD, NCDPC,</p>

<p>event of an influenza pandemic.</p>	<p>health manpower augmentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain/update a directory of contact persons at the national level and of government and private medical practitioners and paramedical workers at the local level • Hospitals and health centers to arrange places and schedule of duties during the pandemic with a regular updating • Develop a policies/guidelines on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Deciding on suitability of volunteers ○ Accepting and training for defined health care roles for volunteers liability, insurance and temporary licensing issues for retired health care workers and volunteers • Arrange with PRC for a memorandum allowing retired health care workers and volunteers to practice their profession in case of influenza pandemic • Develop guidelines or policy prepared by the Legal Group for the • Memorandum of agreement between the national offices of organizations and the Department of Health • Social mobilization of professional organizations, unions and NGOs for volunteerism during a pandemic • Involve DSWD for the provision of social services and counseling services related to the pandemic • Develop a contingency plan to provide food and other provisions for health personnel and volunteers rendering service during a pandemic 	<p>CHDs, LGUs, PMA, PHA, PNA, IMAP, Specialty organizations, Hospital administrators, Professional Regulation Commission, DSWD Legal Officers of involved agencies, PNRC</p>
<p>4. To facilitate availability of medical supplies during an influenza pandemic.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a protocol/guidelines to fast-track procurement of extra medical supplies and drugs, including PPE • Tap NGOs and other organizations to donate additional supplies • Develop a guideline/protocol for determining the level of care appropriate for primary alternative health care facilities and criteria for provision of equipment and supplies (schools, churches, military, etc.) – IV insertion, observation 	<p>NCDPC, NCHFD, Procurement and Logistics Service</p>

6. Ensuring pandemic preparedness of agencies delivering non-health essential services

Objectives	• Actions	Lead/ collaborating agencies/ offices
1. To advocate and assist agencies/ institutions providing non-health services in developing contingency plans to ensure services during a pandemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify non-health essential services providers whose absence would pose a serious threat to public safety • Provide guidance on the preparation of contingency plans of concerned agencies • Consultative meetings with the heads of concerned agencies 	HEMS, NCDPC DND, PNP, DILG, NDCC, PNRC
2. To develop a protection program for non-health essential service providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions on use of antiviral agents and pandemic influenza vaccine for non-health essential service providers • Discussions on use of Personal Protective Equipment • Information materials on personal hygiene and other measures to prevent illness 	
3. To prepare contingency plan to ensure the delivery of essential services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimate the number and list of personnel whose absence will pose a threat to public safety or will interfere in the appropriate response to a pandemic • Determine the minimum number necessary for a sustained pandemic response • Identify personnel who may be available to assist in the maintenance of essential non-health care services. • Develop a back-up system for personnel to maintain services during a pandemic • Seek assistance from non-government organizations, the church, military or volunteers groups for replacement of personnel. • Prepare licensing/ temporary permits to volunteers and workers. • Discuss with professional organizations and other health essential services the plan to ensure delivery of appropriate services 	National offices/organizations concerned like PNP, AFP, BFP, ATO-DOTC, DOE, energy and water service providers and local government units Business sector

7. Defining public health interventions to minimize spread of avian and pandemic influenza.

Objectives	Actions	Lead/ collaborating agencies/ offices
1. To have a clear plan of action when there are cases of avian influenza and during an influenza pandemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define specific courses of action on community response, referral and transport of avian influenza cases • Define specific public health interventions in schools, workplace, community and other settings • Develop information materials/ guidelines for use of LGUs and communities • Develop a communication plan for public health interventions • Conduct meeting with airport and seaport authorities on entry and exit management of passengers • Conduct meetings with the other agencies like DILG, DepEd, DOLE, DSWD, PNP, DND for support and action and also to define their specific roles during outbreaks 	NCDPC, NCHP, BLHD, BQ, CHDs, DepEd, DILG, DOLE, DSWD, PNRC, PNP, DND, PIA, Airport/seaport authorities,

8. Strengthening information, education and communication for avian and pandemic influenza

Objectives	Actions	Lead/ collaborating agencies/ offices
1. To strengthen communication links with international organizations and embassies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate with international organizations / offices and embassies • Coordinate with DFA Provide update and on government's efforts to embassies/ diplomatic corps 	NCDPC, NEC, DFA
2. To strengthen communication links with national organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate a representative to liaise with senior bureaucrats and politicians in health and other areas • Identify and maintain directory of contact persons • Mechanism for distribution of information between national bodies • Link with national communication network represented by government agencies • Provide update on AI and pandemic influenza • Identify their specific roles and tasks in the event of AI outbreaks in birds and during a pandemic 	NCDPC, HEMS

3. To ensure communication with regional and local governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a national directory of hospital administrators, DOH Central Office and Regional key staff for Emerging Infections • Provide information to regional coordinators through e-mails, DOH website, text message • Identify/ Conduct training of speakers, regional coordinators, city and provincial coordinators • Zonal Pandemic Conferences with webcast 	NCDPC, NEC NCHP, IMS, NCDPC
4. To strengthen communication links with news media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate/orient media to report news responsibly • Conduct media summit • Conduct regular press briefing 	NCHP, MRU, PIA
5. To develop a multi-phase communication plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify specific key messages and prototype materials for each stage of avian and pandemic influenza • Develop audience-based IEC materials • Coordinate with other groups for dissemination of information • Disseminate through websites, press releases, media interviews 	NCHP, MRU, NCDPC
6. To disseminate information on avian influenza, its prevention and control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop prototype materials for various target audiences and identify/package information for circulation through the website • Conduct information campaigns (Regional Summits) with LGEs, poultry owners, health officers as target audience • Conduct information campaigns in elementary and high schools 	DOH, DA DOH, DA, poultry industry representatives DepEd

9. Soliciting support from and networking with other government and non-government agencies/ institutions

Objectives	Measures	Lead/ collaborating agencies/ offices
1. To define critical roles, functions and tasks of various agencies in preparedness and response to avian and pandemic influenza	Formulation of roles, tasks and functions	Involved agencies
2. To provide a forum for agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings • Consultations 	DA, DOH, NDCC
3. To formulate plans, guidelines,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings, writeshops 	Involved agencies

communication plan in their respective agencies		
4. To identify financial, technical, financial and logistic support that can be mobilized during outbreaks of avian influenza and in an influenza pandemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with other agencies, • Medical/ paramedical associations • Key non-government organizations • Inventory of manpower and logistics 	NDCC, NSC DOH, DA, DILG,