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About the Institute of Medicine
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Forum Meetings

The Forum members will meet in January, June, and October 2010 to continue to address timely issues that present significant opportunities to advance the nation’s preparedness. The meeting in January will focus on a broad range of issues and will highlight the private sector’s response to H1N1 and explore strategies to continue to enhance public–private collaboration and engage the private sector, and prepare and develop responses to the evolving pandemic. The meeting in June will aim to begin to develop a research agenda and a framework for the preparedness field. The goals of the workshop are (1) to identify and discuss specific research areas and current gaps in the evidence base, (2) to identify specific research questions that could provide substantive evidence on the effectiveness and utility of strategies and approaches that have worked; (3) to identify solutions that require engagement across sectors, agencies, and organizations. In October, the Forum will focus on the H1N1 vaccination campaigns, a workshop on the public health countermeasures enterprise, and a workshop on rural mass casualty response. Forum meetings will bring together a wide range of participants, including those representing community groups, organizations, and the private sector, and will explore potential opportunities to enhance the countermeasures enterprise by evaluating other models or systems that have similar goals of developing medical products with low commercial viability. Speakers and participants will discuss the following topics, among others: (1) strategies to further enhance the nation’s preparedness; (2) the use of public–private partnerships to enhance federal, state, and local response capacity; (3) models for enhancing partnerships between federal programs, innovators, and the commercial marketplace; and (4) market forces that act as an important driver in the development of preparedness. The regional meetings will be held in a format similar to the April and May 2009 meetings.

Looking back

The Forum hosted a series of regional meetings in February, March, and May 2009 to explore potential opportunities to enhance the countermeasures enterprise by evaluating other models or systems that have similar goals of developing medical products with low commercial viability. Speakers and participants will discuss the following topics, among others: (1) strategies to further enhance the nation’s preparedness; (2) the use of public–private partnerships to enhance federal, state, and local response capacity; (3) models for enhancing partnerships between federal programs, innovators, and the commercial marketplace; and (4) market forces that act as an important driver in the development of preparedness.

Regional Meetings on H1N1 Vaccination Campaigns (April and May 2009)

The Forum hosted a series of regional meetings in Baltimore, MD, Austin, TX, and Philadelphia, PA, that will examine lessons learned from current H1N1 vaccination campaigns, with a particular focus on integrated communication, distribution, and delivery strategies. The meetings will highlight critical issues and tactics in collaboration with traditional and nontraditional partners, to communicate and coordinate with public and private providers and distribution partners. Speakers and participants will also examine creative approaches to ensure delivery and improving of vaccine, discuss challenges resulting from the H1N1 vaccination campaign, and examine how these lessons can help improve future pandemic vaccine campaigns.

Rural Mass Casualty Response Workshop (August 2010)

The Forum hosted a workshop that will evaluate the system of emergency care response to large-scale transportation-related rural crashes and the role of the states in improving emergency medical services (EMS) response to such incidents. The workshop discussion will provide an opportunity to examine the current capabilities and future opportunities to improve mass casualty response in rural settings.
Forum Activities in 2009

Forum Meetings
In 2009, the Forum convened in January, June, and October to continue to address timely issues that remain critical to the nation’s health.

Regional Meetings on Crisis Standards of Care (March-May 2009)
In spring 2009, in the midst of the initial phases of the H1N1 pandemic, the Forum hosted a series of regional meetings on crisis standards of care — to discuss current local, state, and regional efforts under way to establish crisis standards of care policies and trained to improve regional efforts by facilitating dialogue and coordination among neighboring jurisdictions. Participants also identified important elements that should be included in a crisis standards of care framework and contributed recommendations to an upcoming IOM committee report, Guidance for Establishing Crisis Standards of Care in Use in Disaster Situations.

Medical Surge Capacity: A Workshop (June 2009)
The Forum convened a 2-day workshop in June 2009 to explore medical surge capacity — with an emphasis on identifying gaps and needed initiatives to enhance the nation’s medical health system. The workshop discussions helped outline the efforts of the Hospital Preparedness Program. A summary of the workshop is available on the Forum’s website.

Assessing the Severity of Influenza-Like Illnesses: Clinical Algorithms to Inform and Empower Healthcare Professionals and the Public (September 2009)
In September 2009, the Forum hosted a workshop to discuss innovative strategies for assessing the severity of influenza-like illness (ILI) and the clinical algorithms that are adopted by public health and healthcare professionals. Speakers included public health and clinical experts.

Preparedness Response Capabilities in the National Health Security Strategy: A Workshop (October 2009)
In October 2009, the Forum hosted a workshop to explore how national decision makers can improve medical and health system preparedness for surges in demand. The workshop brought together a wide range of public health officials and influencers to discuss the medical surge capacity assessment framework and the key elements and principles that are needed to achieve these objectives.

WORKING GROUPS
The Forum also convened several working groups that participate in regular teleconferences to discuss in greater detail issues related to a particular topic, as well as to advise on and organize activities to advance those efforts.

• Medical Countermeasures Working Group
  The Medical Countermeasures Working Group focuses on urging efforts to identify ways to improve the dispensing of medical countermeasures. Some of the issues relevant to this group include preparing for educational campaigns and national campaigns for dispensing, public and public health communications, and policy and liability considerations.

• Mass Casualty Working Group
  The Mass Casualty Working Group focuses on reviewing and discussing best practices for managing mass casualty events and raising awareness about the importance of planning. The group focuses on how to prepare for these events and improve responses.

• Health IT Working Group
  The Health IT Working Group focuses on reviewing and discussing the importance of planning for responses to catastrophic events and raising awareness about the importance of planning for these events.

Forum Meetings
The Forum members will meet in January, June, and October 2010 to continue to address timely issues that remain critical to the nation’s health.

Looking Forward
The Forum will convene in January, June, and October 2010 to continue to address timely issues that remain critical to the nation’s health.

Forum Meetings
The Forum will convene in January, June, and October 2010 to continue to address timely issues that remain critical to the nation’s health.
ForUM ACTIVITIES in 2009

Regional Meetings on Crisis Standards of Care (March-May 2009)

In spring 2009, in the midst of the initial phase of the H1N1 pandemic, the Forum hosted a series of seven regional meetings to discuss on the current state, local, and regional efforts under way to establish crisis standards of care policies and address the need to improve regional efforts by facilitating dialogue and coordination among neighboring jurisdictions. Participants also identified important regional crisis standards of care elements to be included in a national crisis standards of care committee report, Guidance for Establishing Crisis Standards of Care in Use during Disasters. A summary of the report is available on the Forum's website.

Medical Surge Capacity: A Workshop (June 2009)

The Forum convened a 2-day workshop in June 2009 to explore strategies to improve medical surge capacity, with an emphasis on hospital-based planning initiatives to facilitate surge capacity; to include the patient with a known or suspected infection in the surge capacity infrastructure; and to expand the traditional surge capacity model to a broad range of key issues.

In 2010, the Forum will continue to address the following long-term priorities, as well as strategies to the nation’s medical and public health preparedness and to explore strategies and approaches used by jurisdictions, in collaboration with traditional and nontraditional partners, to communicate with the public and providers and distribute and dispense vaccine. Speakers and participants will also evaluate creative approaches used to improve delivery and dispensing of vaccine, discuss challenges in tracking and reporting vaccine use, and examine lessons learned from these lessons to help improve emergency mass vaccination delivery systems.

Rural Mass Casualty Response Workshop (August 2010)

The Forum will host a series of meetings in Raleigh, NC, Austin, TX, and Seattle, WA that will reflect the current state of regional and local efforts to ensure readiness for mass casualty events. The meetings will highlight good practices and strategies used by jurisdictions, in collaboration with traditional and nontraditional partners, to communicate with the public and providers and distribute and dispense vaccine. Speakers and participants will also evaluate creative approaches used to improve delivery and dispensing of vaccine, discuss challenges in tracking and reporting vaccine use, and examine lessons learned from these lessons to help improve emergency mass vaccination delivery systems.

Rural Mass Casualty Response Workshop (August 2010)

The Forum continued to host a series of meetings in Raleigh, NC, Austin, TX, and Seattle, WA that will reflect the current state of regional and local efforts to ensure readiness for mass casualty events. The meetings will highlight good practices and strategies used by jurisdictions, in collaboration with traditional and nontraditional partners, to communicate with the public and providers and distribute and dispense vaccine. Speakers and participants will also evaluate creative approaches used to improve delivery and dispensing of vaccine, discuss challenges in tracking and reporting vaccine use, and examine lessons learned from these lessons to help improve emergency mass vaccination delivery systems.

Mass Casualty Care Working Group

The Mass Casualty Care Working Group was established to explore mass casualty care. Specific work groups include crisis standards of care, essential operations of resource movement or fish and local considerations, establishing regional health networks, legal and regulatory issues, and patient care, among others.

Framework Working Group

The Framework Working Group was established to continue the dialog around creating a framework for public health preparedness. This group aims to begin to identify shared objectives and the key elements and principles that would be needed to achieve these objectives.

Health IT Working Group

The Health IT Working Group provides a forum for identifying opportunities for the use of information technology during a public health emergency to facilitate the interoperability requirements necessary to prepare, respond, and recover from a catastrophic event.
Forum Activities in 2009

Forum Meetings
The Forum met three times in 2009. Topics of discussion included Hurricane Katrina and the 2008 California wildfires, workforce capacity, medical countermeasures dispensing, emergency surge capac-
ity, and developing a framework to address critical care needs during public health emergencies. The gatherings provided a venue for participants to engage in cross-sector collaboration and exchange ideas on critical public health issues.

Regional Meetings on Crisis Standards of Care (March-May 2009)
In spring 2009, in the midst of the initial phase of the H1N1 pandemic, the Forum hosted a series of regional meetings in California, Illinois, New York, and Texas. The meetings focused on local, state, and regional efforts to establish care standards of care policies and aimed to improve regional efforts by facilitating dialogue and strategies among neighboring jurisdictions. Participants also identified important regional gaps in state crisis standards of care and recommended strategies to address them. The overarching goal of the meetings was to provide guidance to public health emergency management officials on how to establish effective standards policies for crisis situations.

Medical Surge Capacity: A Workshop (June 2009)
The Forum convened a 2-day workshop in June 2009 to explore strategies to improve medical surge capacity, with an emphasis on identifying lessons from past outbreaks that could help to inform the nation’s overall surge capacity. The workshop discussions helped identify the elements of the Hospital Preparedness Program. A summary of the workshop is available on the Forum’s website.

Assessing the Severity of Influenza-Like Illnesses: Clinical Algorithms to Inform Decision-Making (July 2009)
Forum members provided input on assessing the severity of influenza-like illnesses (ILI) and informed decisions about the clinical algorithms used to inform the nation’s preparedness and response efforts.

Preparedness Response Capabilities in the National Health Security Strategy: A Workshop (October 2009)
In October 2009, the Forum hosted a workshop to provide stakeholder input on the development of the National Health Security Strategy (NHSS). The workshop focused on enhancing the capability of health systems to respond to public health emergencies. The workshop brought together a wide range of participants, including those representing community groups, organizations, and public health stakeholders. Participants discussed and identified new strategies for enhancing the preparedness and response capabilities of the NHSS.

Workshop on Emergency Use Authorization (November 2009)
Working on the Forum’s previous workshop, the Forum hosted a workshop on Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). Participants discussed recent FDA guidelines on the use of EUA, and explored the implications of these guidelines on the delivery and dispensing of medical countermeasures.

Workshops on Forum Activities for 2010

Forum Meetings
The Forum members will meet in January, June, and October 2010 to continue their discussion on key issues that remain critical to the nation’s health.

Workshop on the Public Health Countermeasures Research and Development Enterprise: Innovative Strategies to Enhance Products from Development through Approval (February 2010)
In response to a request from the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, the Forum will convene a series of meetings in February 2010 to explore strategies for enhancing the public health countermeasures research and development enterprise. The workshop will discuss the translation of early phase investments in basic science into potential public health interventions; diagnostic, production, and approval of medical countermeasures for public health emergencies; and the translation of evidence-based medical information systems or systems that have similar goals of developing medical products with low commercial viability, into new products and services. The workshop will also highlight new strategies and approaches to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the federal public health emergency medical countermeasures enterprise; strategies to further enhance the effectiveness of the public health emergency medical countermeasures enterprise; and models for enhancing situational awareness into the public health science, technology, policy, and practice.

Regional Meetings on H1N1 Vaccination Campaigns (April-May 2010)
The Forum will host a series of regional meetings in Raleigh, NC, Austin, TX, and Seattle, WA that will assist in addressing key issues and strategies to enhance the success of H1N1 vaccination campaigns.

Regional Mass Casualty Response Workshop (August 2010)
The Forum will host a workshop on regional mass casualty response in August 2010 to explore strategies for improving the translation of regional mass casualty response plans into effective public health strategies. The workshop will highlight the coordination efforts among jurisdictions, in collaboration with traditional and nontraditional partners, to maximize community resources and broaden the distribution and delivery of supplies and equipment. Participants will also examine creative approaches to improve the delivery and dispensing of vaccine, discuss challenges in establishing regional mass casualty response plans, and examine lessons learned from previous H1N1 vaccination campaigns.

Working Groups

The Forum also convenes several working groups that participate in regular discussions to discuss pressing issues and to identify new opportunities to enhance the nation’s health. These working groups are chaired by the Forum’s membership and provide a venue for participants to engage in cross-sector collaboration and exchange ideas on critical public health issues.

Medical Countermeasures Working Group
The Medical Countermeasures Working Group focuses on exploring strategies to identify the problems related to the development and approval of medical countermeasures for public health emergencies. Some of the challenges in this group include areas such as identifying the gaps in the development, production, and approval of medical countermeasures for public health emergencies; identifying the best practices and approaches used by jurisdictions, in collaboration with traditional and nontraditional partners, to maximize community resources and broaden the distribution and delivery of supplies and equipment. Participants will also examine creative approaches to improve the delivery and dispensing of vaccine, discuss challenges in establishing regional mass casualty response plans, and examine lessons learned from previous H1N1 vaccination campaigns.

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Framework Working Group
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Health IT Working Group
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Jeffrey A. disadvantages and vulnerable populations. The Forum provides a forum for dialogue among stakeholders and provide ongoing opportunities to discuss and confront issues of mutual interest and concern. The Forum provides a neutral venue for broader-based policy discussion that serve to facilitate coordination and cooperation among the public- and private-sector stakeholders in developing and enhancing the nation’s medical and public health preparedness. More specifically, the Forum provides a catalyst for voluntary, public-private collaboration on topics where there is synergy among potential partners. This broader perspective offers a unique approach for resolving problem areas, and elevates the general understanding and visibility of medical and public health preparedness in the broader research, public policy, and other appropriate communities. Additional information about the Forum can be found online at www.iom.edu/preparednessforum.

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www.iom.edu/preparednessforum.

Preparedness issues elevate the general understanding and visibility of medical and public health preparedness in the scientific community, and they are considered significant research, public policy, and other appropriate priorities. The Forum provides a catalyst for voluntary coordination and cooperation among the public- and private-sector stakeholders in developing and enhancing the nation’s medical and public health preparedness. More specifically, the Forum provides a catalyst for voluntary, public-private collaboration on topics where there is energy among potential partners, helps define the scope of the field and set the stage for future policy action, brings ongoing attention and visibility to important preparedness issues, engages new approaches for resolving problem areas, and obviates the general understanding and visibility of medical and public health preparedness for the broader scientific, public policy, and other appropriate communities. Additional information about the Forum is available online at www.iom.edu/preparednessforum.

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American Society for Preparedness Research and Quality
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
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Board on Human Sciences Policy

INSTITUTE OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

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FORUM MEMBERS

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About the Preparedness Forum

The Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Catastrophic Events was established in 2007 by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) in accordance with the National Health Security Act of 2006, which directed the IOM to convene a forum to coordinate the nation's medical and public health preparedness for catastrophic events. The purpose of the forum is to facilitate coordination and cooperation among the public and private-sector stakeholders in developing and enhancing the nation's medical and public health preparedness. More specifically, the forum provides a platform for voluntary, public-private collaboration on topics where there is ongoing, emerging, or potential harm. The forum draws on the expertise of all sectors and leverages the insights of a diverse, multidisciplinary group of stakeholders to help define the scope of the field and thus set the stage for future policy action. It brings together experts and policymakers to prioritize areas for further research and policy discussion that serve to facilitate the implementation of policy and strategy. The Forum holds regular meetings every 3 to 4 months to foster dialogue among stakeholders and provide ongoing opportunities for discussion and contact on issues of mutual interest and concern. The Forum provides a neutral venue for broad-ranging policy discussions that serve to facilitate coordination and cooperation among the public and private-sector stakeholders in developing and enhancing the nation's medical and public health preparedness. More specifically, the forum provides a platform for voluntary, public-private collaboration on topics where there is ongoing, emerging, or potential harm. The forum draws on the expertise of all sectors and leverages the insights of a diverse, multidisciplinary group of stakeholders to help define the scope of the field and thus set the stage for future policy action. It brings together experts and policymakers to prioritize areas for further research and policy discussion that serve to facilitate the implementation of policy and strategy. The Forum holds regular meetings every 3 to 4 months to foster dialogue among stakeholders and provide ongoing opportunities for discussion and contact on issues of mutual interest and concern.

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  - Bruce Altevogt, Ph.D., Forum Staff
  - Alex Repace, Program Assistant

- **Academic**
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- **Government**
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  - David K. Kessler, M.D., Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
  - John E. McClellan, M.D., Director, National Institute of Mental Health

- **Private Sector**
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