



Redefining Risk to Improve State and Local MCM Operational Readiness

Christine Kosmos, R.N., B.S.N., M.S.

Director, Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLRL)

Ernest “Chip” Smith, M.D.

Associate Director for MCM, DSLRL

13th Annual DPHP Meeting

October 26, 2017



Improving MCM Operational Readiness

- **CDC is proposing to modify its risk-based approach for MCM preparedness planning and operational readiness based on input from a wide range of stakeholders, including:**
 - DPHP Executive Committee
 - Internal and External MCM subject matter experts
 - Office of Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response
 - Department of Homeland Security

What We Learned

- **Based on state and local jurisdictional risk assessments (JRAs), the threat of an anthrax attack or other similar event requiring rapid distribution of MCMs is not considered a priority threat for many jurisdictions.**
- **The threat of an emerging infectious disease outbreak is considered a greater concern for most jurisdictions.**
- **Limited resources should be targeted more appropriately and aligned with this view.**

Proposed Changes to MCM Risk-based Approach

- **Maintain base planning for both an intentional release of a Category A agent such as anthrax and an emerging infectious disease such as pandemic influenza.**
- **Maintain baseline operational capacity for both scenarios.**
- **Demonstrate full operational readiness for one scenario.**

Determination of Operational Focus: Anthrax versus Emerging Infectious Diseases

- **CDC reviewed various national strategic and risk-based initiatives to determine potential criteria for inclusion:**
 - Threat
 - Vulnerability
 - Consequence
 - **Population**
 - **Population density**
 - **Jurisdictional preference (opt in)**
 - Jurisdictional risk assessments
 - Political considerations
 - BioWatch designation

Way Forward: How to Implement Proposed Changes

- **Feedback on proposed strategy?**
- **Other inclusion criteria?**
- **Considerations for defining realistic planning requirements and evaluation standards?**

Thank you

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

