

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA: DEFINITION

- Pandemic influenza is the flu that causes a global outbreak, or pandemic, of serious illness that spreads easily from person to person.

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA: KEY FACTS

- Pandemic influenza is different from avian influenza, but avian H5N1 is a strain with pandemic potential which could adapt to be easily transmitted between humans.
- Pandemic influenza is rare but recurrent event.
- Another pandemic may be imminent.
- All countries will be affected.
- Widespread illness will occur.
- Medical supplies will be inadequate.
- Large numbers of deaths will occur.
- Economic and social disruption will be great.
- Every country (and every locality) must be prepared.
- WHO will alert world as threat increases.

TABLE-TOP SIMULATION: KEY NUMBERS

(Assumptions: 8 Week Duration; Attack rate (Percentage Affected): 35%; Mortality rate 0.5%)

	Sick	Seek Care	Hospitalized	Deaths
New Mexico	651,992	325,996	9,609	1,843
Albuquerque	173,449	86,724	2,528	478
University Hospital	97,798	48,899	1,320	259

PLANNING: KEY FACTS

- *Antiviral Medication (Tamiflu)* will be in short supply, and not widely available. It is not feasible to utilize as prophylaxis (not preventative medication).
- *Vaccination* will be “in development” throughout much of the pandemic, and will not be widely available.