Being Prepared for an Epidemic of Yellow Fever
Public Health Program

for Yellow Fever

1. Prevention Program
   - is based on vaccinating susceptibles
   - add YF vaccine to EPI program

2. Plan for Responding to Epidemics
   - early detection of epidemics
   - prompt mass vaccination of high risk groups
   - mosquito control measures
   - provision of funding and resources
Preparedness Components - 1

- Ensure the surveillance system can detect yellow fever
- Ensure the ability to get laboratory confirmation
- Identify and address training needs
- Maintain reserve stock of vaccine and supplies (national level of responsibility)
- Organize an epidemic committee
Preparedness Components - 2

- Plan logistics and staff needed to respond
- Ensure financial support is available
- Organize vaccination teams
- Make an emergency response plan
- Evaluate epidemic preparedness
- Plan for prevention
Preparedness

- Evaluate level of preparedness
  - \textit{Before} an epidemic
to be ready to detect & respond
  - \textit{During} an epidemic
so the response is effective
  - \textit{After} an epidemic
in order to improve
Can the Surveillance System Detect an Epidemic of Yellow Fever?

- Routine Reporting & Emergency Notification
  - Can health workers (HWS) recognize YF?
  - Do HWSs know the case definition of YF?
  - Do HWSs know HOW to report?
  - Do HWSs know WHAT to report?

- Are routine reports?
  - complete?
  - sent regularly?
  - on time?
Can the Surveillance System Detect an Epidemic of Yellow Fever?

- Investigation Team
  - Have members been identified?
  - Have members been trained or briefed on their duties?
  - Has funding for the investigation been found?
  - Have supplies been provided for?
Ensure the Ability to Get Laboratory Confirmation-1

- If relying on a cooperating reference laboratory
  - Has a cooperating laboratory been identified?
  - Have any funds needed been allocated?
Ensure Ability to Get Laboratory Confirmation-2

- If District Personnel will collect and transport specimens:
  - Is a person trained to collect specimens?
  - Are supplies for collection & transport available?
  - Is cold chain ready?
  - Have funds been allocated?
Train Staff in Knowledge and Skills Needed to Detect and Control Epidemic Yellow Fever

- Determine staff responsibilities

- Decide **who** needs to be trained and **what** they need to learn

- Make a training plan
  - what training is needed before an epidemic?
  - what training will be needed when an epidemic begins?

- Conduct training
Training for Clinical Staff

Before an Epidemic

- Basic Epidemiology of yellow fever
- How to recognize yellow fever
- Case definitions
- How to report suspected cases
Train Clinical Staff
At the Start of an Epidemic

- Clinical management
- Record keeping / How to report / What to report
- Inventory of supplies
- Conducting rapid mass vaccination campaign
- Mosquito control measures
- Public education
Training for District Staff
Before an Epidemic

- Basic yellow fever Epidemiology
- Surveillance for yellow fever
- How to report suspected yellow fever
Training for District Staff
At the Start of an Epidemic

- Field investigation
- Data collection & analysis
- Arranging for laboratory confirmation
- Reporting
- Inventory, ordering supplies
- Planning & conducting rapid mass vaccination
- Mosquito control measures
- Public education
Identify & Address Training Needs

- What % of clinical staff are up-to-date on Yellow Fever?
- Is there a plan to train HWs *before* an epidemic? Is it being done?
- Is there a plan to quickly train HWs at the moment of an epidemic?
- Has funding been allocated for training?
Maintain Reserve Stock of Supplies

- Is there a reserve stock of Rx supplies?
- Is there a reserve stock of vaccination supplies?
- Has funding been found for the reserves?

Optional
- Is there a reserve stock of vaccine?
- Is there a reserve stock of materials needed for laboratory confirmation
Organize Epidemic Committee

- Is there a YF disease committee?
  OR
- a YF subgroup of an epidemic committee?

- Does the committee meet regularly?

- Are members working to prepare the district for a possible epidemic of YF?
Plan Staff and Logistics

- Have specific responsibilities been decided?
- Is there a plan for reassigning staff during an epidemic?
- Is there a plan for enlisting additional personnel (e.g. nursing students?)
- Is there a plan for setting up Temporary Treatment Centers?
- Have logistics needs been identified?
- Has funding for staff costs and logistics been identified?
Financial Planning

- Have costs related to *preparation* for an epidemic been identified?
- Have costs related to *investigation and confirmation* been identified?
- Have cost related to *response* been identified?
- Has a source of funding been found for each expense?
Vaccination Campaign

- Have members been identified?
- Have they been trained?
- Is the cold-chain prepared?
- Has a source of supplies (except vaccine) been identified?
- Have possible sites been identified?
- Has funding (other than for vaccine purchase) been identified?
Emergency Response Plan

- Is there an Emergency Response Plan for responding to an epidemic?

- Are all persons and agencies that are mentioned in the plan, aware of the plan?
Evaluate Epidemic Preparedness

- Has the district's level of preparedness been evaluated?
- If so, were the results of the evaluation acted on?
- Are regular, periodic evaluations scheduled?
Plan for Prevention of Yellow Fever

- Yellow Fever Vaccine in EPI Program
  - Is YF included in the EPI Program?
  - Is it given regularly?

- Reduction of Peri-Domestic Mosquitoes
  - Are local mosquitoes potential vectors of YF?
  - Do people store water safely?
  - Are potential breeding sites common?
  - Is there health education / activities to reduce mosquitoes?