

CONFRONTING THE ETHICS OF PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLANNING

The 2008 Summit of the States

July 14-15, 2008

Indiana University - Purdue University, Indianapolis (IUPUI)

Summit Goals

- To provide an opportunity for state and territorial health departments to learn about each other's efforts to address ethical and policy issues in pandemic influenza preparedness and planning;
- To provide an opportunity for sharing best practices where they exist;
- To share new data, generated specifically for the Summit, about public and professional opinion regarding pandemic influenza, and to present an overview of existing public health legislation as it pertains to ethical preparedness; and
- To identify areas of common action that can be undertaken by all Summit participants to improve ethical preparedness.

The Summit of the States will bring together **delegations from each state and territory** for two days of intensive discussion and information sharing about ethical preparedness. More than 200 delegates are expected at the IUPUI Conference Center.

Opening plenary sessions will allow representatives from the 10 HHS Regions to **summarize current ethical issues** in pandemic influenza planning and preparedness in their regions, emphasizing recommended best practices and remaining challenges.

Following the plenary presentations, delegates will break into working groups for intensive discussions about the key ethical issues raised during the presentations. Moderated by a trained facilitator, each working group will identify and **prioritize the key issues facing their jurisdictions**, with a particular emphasis on proposing ways in which they **can effectively collaborate to address them**.

Using the information generated by the working groups, the health commissioners will draft a preliminary list of proposals. The delegates, using audience response technology, will then be invited to express their views about the language contained in the proposals and the feasibility of adopting them in each state or territory. Once a consensus has been reached, the final proposals will be incorporated into a Joint Communiqué on Ethical Preparedness.

Convened by: Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, Indiana State Department of Health and Indiana University Center for Bioethics

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