



To: Bay Area UASI Approval Authority

From: Dr. Erica Pan, Alameda County Public Health Department, Director, Division of Communicable Disease Control & Prevention and Deputy Public Health Officer

Date: April 13, 2017

Re: Item 4: Bay Area Medical Countermeasures Plan Update

Staff Recommendation:

None

Action or Discussion Items:

Discussion, Possible Action

Background:

In April 2015, Dennis McKeown, Planning Branch Chief from FEMA Region IX, briefed the Approval Authority on the planning process to complete a Medical Countermeasures (MCM) Plan for the Bay Area. The plan development is driven by Executive Order 13527, which is aimed at providing federal support to MCM prophylaxis to affected populations within 48 hours of the decision to dispense. Mr. McKeown requested Bay Area stakeholders join the plan development process. Dr. Erica Pan last provided an update on the Bay Area MCM planning process in July 2016, and is providing a final briefing today.

Discussion:

Medical countermeasure dispensing is identified as Center for Disease Control's Capability #8. It is defined as the ability to provide medical countermeasures (including vaccines, antiviral drugs, antibiotics, antitoxin, etc.) in support of treatment or prophylaxis (oral or vaccination) to the identified population in accordance with public health guidelines and/or recommendations.

This capability consists of a public health agency's ability to perform the following functions:

1. Identify and initiate medical countermeasure dispensing strategies
2. Receive medical countermeasures
3. Activate dispensing modalities
4. Dispense medical countermeasures to identified population
5. Report adverse events

Over mid 2015-2016, the Bay Area public health agency stakeholders were engaged with FEMA Region IX along with California Department of Public Health and California Office of Emergency Services key representatives to identify gaps in medical countermeasures resources and integrate with current state and Bay Area plans. Public health leadership and staff members from the twelve Bay Area counties participated in numerous planning meetings. Key areas of need identified included transportation, supplemental law enforcement, supplemental POD staffing, and public information and messaging. A course of action workshop was conducted in September 2016 to outline federal support in these areas. A final Region IX Bioterrorism/Medical Counter Measures (MCM) Plan: Bay Area Supplement Plan was released on December 19, 2016.

Next Steps:

California OES and FEMA are committed to future work with Bay Area stakeholders to further align Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI), county, state, and federal MCM plans. Additional efforts will also be made to explore private sector pharmaceutical assets, other transportation modes for delivery of the Strategic National Stockpile, and exploration of direct delivery of assets to Points of Dispensing to reduce touch points and decrease distribution timelines. Bay Area Public Health agencies will consider testing the FEMA Region IX MCM plan in a future Bay Area local government Mass Prophylaxis exercise.