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Pandemic Influenza: Assessing the Feasibility and Acceptability of Implementing the 2017 Community Mitigation Guidelines and Recommendations

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Pandemic Influenza: Assessing the Feasibility and Acceptability of Implementing the 2017 Community Mitigation Guidelines and Recommendations

ASSESSMENT TOOL

PREAMBLE

Introduction to the Project and the Tool

Dear Colleague:

On April 21, 2017, the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and its Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released the <u>Community Mitigation Guidelines to Prevent Pandemic Influenza – United States, 2017</u>. The guidelines serve as a pre-pandemic planning tool for state, territorial, and local public health officials, and include updated recommendations on the use of nonpharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) in community settings, in a layered or phased approach starting at the earliest stages of a pandemic.

NPIs reserved for influenza pandemics include personal protective measures such as voluntary home quarantine of exposed household members and use of face masks in community settings when ill. They also include community measures such as temporary closures or dismissals of childcare facilities and K-12 schools as well as other social distancing measures that increase the physical space between people (e.g., limiting face-to-face contact in workplaces by replacing in-person meetings with teleconferences, or postponing or canceling mass gatherings).

Purpose and Relevance

This project is designed to assess the feasibility and acceptability of implementing the recommended NPIs in your jurisdiction. This online assessment tool will capture the responses related to your jurisdiction, which will be compiled with responses from other jurisdictions to help CDC to:

- · Identify issues raised by public health officials with respect to the feasibility and acceptability of implementing NPIs during severe influenza pandemics.
- · Highlight expressed barriers to implementing NPIs in community settings by public health officials.
- Update sections of the 2017 Community Mitigation Guidelines, as needed, to enhance the usefulness of the guidelines for pre-pandemic planning.

This information also may give public health officials insight into how they can strengthen their pre-pandemic strategic planning and preparedness by identifying gaps and barriers as well as areas in which communication and education may need to be enhanced in their jurisdictions.

Instructions on the Tool

Please respond to the questions in your role as a state, territorial, or local public health official, and from the perspective of the communities within your jurisdiction. For questions where others in your agency might be more appropriate to respond (e.g., emergency preparedness, epidemiologist, infectious disease surveillance coordinator), please feel free to consult those colleagues, but submit only one assessment for your jurisdiction. Please do not forward this assessment tool to another individual or jurisdiction.

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Attachment D: Instrument Web Version - Survey Monkey

Please note that several questions in Section II of this assessment tool refer specifically to the 2017 Community Mitigation Guidelines; therefore, accessing and reviewing the resources identified in Section II (i.e., the boxes, figures, and tables) beforehand may be helpful. You can access the 2017 guidelines here: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/rr/pdfs/rr6601.pdf.

Once you begin completing the assessment, you can exit out of it by closing the tab and return to it at a later time without losing your responses. To save responses entered on the current page, you must first click the "next" button before exiting the assessment—as responses are saved page by page as you progress through the assessment.

Your participation is voluntary. You can opt not to participate, or to refuse to answer any question, or to withdraw from participation at any time without loss of any services or support from HHS or CDC.

We will report only the aggregated responses of all the participating jurisdictions. The results of this assessment should provide information of benefit to your agency's pre-pandemic strategic planning and preparedness efforts. Completing this assessment tool is expected to take up to 90 minutes.

If you have any questions about the project, this assessment tool, or your participation, please contact The MayaTech Corporation, which is helping CDC with this effort, at cdccmg@mayatech.com, or Dr. Noreen Qualls, the CDC Project Co-Lead, at nqualls@cdc.gov. Thank you, in advance, for your participation and valuable input.

We kindly request the completion and submission of this assessment by [DATE].

By clicking the button below, you are consenting to participate in this assessment. Please consult with colleagues in your agency, as appropriate, but submit only one assessment. Please do not forward the assessment.

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	10%
I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON RESPONDENT In this section, we request some brief background information.	
1. What is your jurisdiction size?	
Fewer than 10,000	
10,000 to 49,999	
50,000 to 499,999	
O 500,000+	
2. At which level of government is yo	ur agency?
○ State	Local-multicounty, but not state-level
Territory	Local-single city
O Local-single county	O Local-multicity, but not county-level
Other (please specify)	
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3. Does your (local) health department of the second of t	artment op	erate aut	onomously?	
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			17%
4. Please indicate your role/pos	ition:		
State public health official		Planne	er
Territorial public health official		O Policy	analyst
Local public health official		O Public	information officer/communications specialist
O Disaster/emergency preparedness coordinates	ator	Other	
 Epidemiologist 			
Please specify Other Role/Position:			
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	21%	
II. STATUS OF PRE-PANDEMIC PLANNING IN YOUR JURIS	SDICTION	
In this section, we would like to get information about your juri incorporating the HHS/CDC Community Mitigation Guidelines 2017 (hereafter referred to as the 2017 Community Mitigation	s to Prevent Pandemic Influenza – United States,	d
5. Are you aware of the updated HHS/CD Prevent Pandemic Influenza – United Sta Yes No	, ,	
6. Have you read the 2017 Community M Yes No	litigation Guidelines?	
7. Have you incorporated the updated gurpreparedness plan? Completed	idelines into your pandemic influenza	
In progress		
O not know / Not sure		
Not started		
If you selected "not started," please explain your reason.		
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			24%
In addition to updating the NPI recommendations	the 2017 au	idolinos:	
 Summarize lessons learned from the 2009 Replace the Pandemic Severity Index with the Figure 3, page 12; Figure 4, page 13; Table Provide planning scenarios to put the NPI page 20; Table 9, page 31; Table 10, page 3 	H1N1 pande the Pandemi s 5 & 6, page recommenda	emic response c Severity Ass 29).	sessment Framework (PSAF) (described in
For each of the following new elements in the jurisdiction's pre-pandemic planning:	guidelines,	please indicat	e if you have used them in your
8. Lessons Learned from 2009 H	I1N1 Par	ndemic Re	sponse?
Yes. Indicate below in what ways you have us in your jurisdiction. No, but planning to use	sed them		no plans to use ow / Not sure
In what ways?			
9. Pandemic Severity Assessmer Yes. Indicate below in what ways you have us your jurisdiction. No, but planning to use In what ways?		O No, have	AF)? no plans to use ow / Not sure
10. Planning Scenarios?			
Yes. Indicate below in what ways you have u in your jurisdiction.	sed them	_	no plans to use ow / Not sure
No, but planning to use		O DO HOURI	ow / Not sure
In what ways?			
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In thinking about the plans your jurisdiction has in place to address pandemic influenza, please answer the following questions.						
11. For each of the following items related to pre-pandemic planning, please indicate your jurisdiction's progress/status:						
	Completed	In progress	Not started	Do not know	Not applicable	
Pandemic influenza preparedness plan or annex	0	0	0	0	•	
b. Operational plan for pandemic influenza response as an integral element of the overall state/local emergency response plan	0	0	0	0	0	
c. Integration of local, state, regional, and/or territorial plans across jurisdictional boundaries	0	•	•	•	•	
d. Communications plan for informing, engaging, and mobilizing the community during an influenza pandemic	0	0	0	0	0	
12. For any of the above for which you checked "completed," please let us know in what year?						
a. Pandemic influenza prepa	aredness plan or a	annex:				
b. Operational plan for pand	emic influenza re	sponse:				
c. Integration of local, state,	regional, and/or t	erritorial plans:				
d. Communications plan for mobilizing the community:	informing, engagi	ing, and				
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31%

III. FEASIBILITY AND ACCEPTABILITY OF IMPLEMENTING NPI RECOMMENDATIONS IN YOUR JURISDICTION

The 2017 Community Mitigation Guidelines include two categories of NPIs – those recommended at all times and those reserved for influenza pandemics. NPIs recommended at all times, and in all settings, include voluntary home isolation of ill persons; respiratory etiquette; hand hygiene; and environmental surface cleaning. As indicated in the 2017 guidelines, in the event of a Severe, very severe, or extreme influenza pandemic (as opposed to a mild or moderate pandemic), the following will apoly:

- · CDC will provide guidance around NPIs, but implementing them will be a state, territorial, and local responsibility.
- CDC might not recommend the implementation of NPIs uniformly across the nation at the same time.
- If epidemiologic data suggest sustained human-to-human transmission and indicate high transmissibility of the novel
 influenza virus combined with severe disease outcomes (high clinical severity), CDC might recommend the following
 NPIs reserved for use only during influenza pandemics:
 - · voluntary home quarantine of exposed household members;
 - · use of face masks in community settings when ill;
 - · preemptive, coordinated school closures or dismissals; and
 - · social distancing measures at schools, workplaces, and mass gatherings.

In the following sections, please rate the feasibility and acceptability of implementing the four NPIs listed above and describe the barriers to implementation in your jurisdiction. For this assessment, these definitions apply:

- Feasibility the extent (rated as "high," "moderately high," "moderately low," or "low") to which the NPI recommendation is capable of being implemented in a severe pandemic in your jurisdiction.
- Acceptability the extent (rated as "high," "moderately high," "moderately low," or "low") to which community
 stakeholders and partners are willing to comply with implementation of the NPI recommendation in a severe pandemic
 in your jurisdiction.
- Barriers Factors that may make difficult or impede the implementation of the NPI recommendation in a severe pandemic in your jurisdiction.
- Pandemic scenarios include "mild to moderate" like the 2009 H1N1 pandemic; "moderate to severe" like the 1968 H3N2
 pandemic; "severe" like the 1967 H2N2 pandemic; and "very severe to extreme" like the 1918 H1N1 pandemic (see
 Table 9, page 31).

A. VOLUNTARY HOME QUARANTINE

Please read this CDC NPI recommendation and then respond to the questions that follow.

(See page 14: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/m/pdfs/rr6601.pdf)

Voluntary home quarantine: CDC might recommend voluntary home quarantine of exposed household members as a personal protective measure during severe, very severe, or extreme influenza pandemics in combination with other personal protective measures such as respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene. If a member of the household is symptomatic with confirmed or probable pandemic influenza, then all members of the household should stay home for up to 3 days (the estimated incubation period for seasonal influenza) starting from their initial contact with the ill person, to monitor for influenza symptoms.

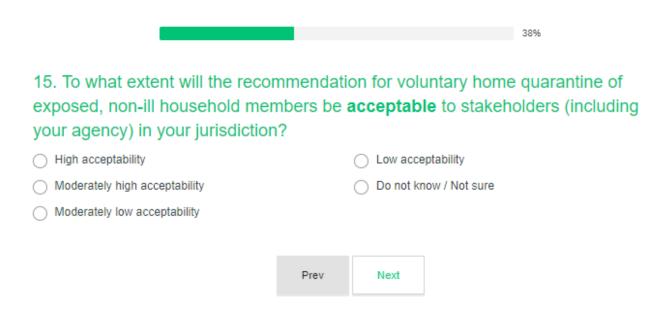
Note: Voluntary home quarantine is most practical when implemented very early in a pandemic and on a limited geographic scale, once there is evidence of the emergence of pandemic influenza in the community. Voluntary home quarantine of exposed household members might help reduce the chance of transmitting the influenza virus to others outside of the household at school and at work.

13. To what extent will the recommendation for voluntary home quarantine of exposed, non-ill household members be feasible to implement in your jurisdiction?

High feasibility		0	Low feasib	oility	
Moderately high feasibility		0	Do not kno	w / Not sure	
Moderately low feasibility					
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Attachment D: Instrument Web Version - Survey Monkey

			34%
14. Please explain your reason selected in the previous questic feasibility in your jurisdiction.			* '
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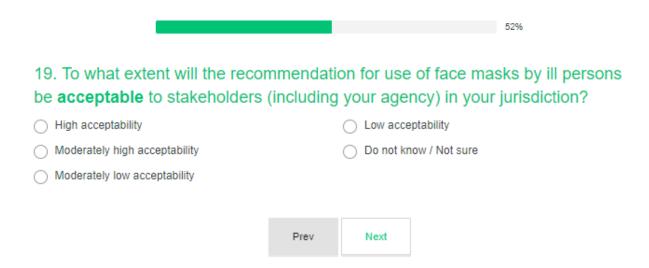


			41%
16. Please explain your reason response selected in the previous high acceptability in your jurisdictions.	us questic		
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١	ttachment D: Instrument web version – Survey Monkey	
		45%
	B. USE OF FACE MASKS BY ILL PERSONS	
	Please read this CDC NPI recommendation and then respond to the questions that follo (See pages 14-15: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/rr/pdfs/rr6601.pdf)	w.
	Use of face masks by ill persons: CDC might recommend the use of face masks by ill person measure during severe, very severe, or extreme influenza pandemics when crowded commun (e.g., when adults and children with influenza symptoms seek medical attention) or when ill person others (e.g., when symptomatic persons share common spaces with other household member women care for and nurse their infants).	ity settings cannot be avoided rsons are in close contact with
	Note: Disposable surgical, medical, and dental procedure masks are used widely in health car to respiratory infections. Some evidence indicates that face mask use by ill persons at home o others from infection.	
	17. To what extent will the recommendation for use of face mas	sks by ill persons

be feasible to implement in your j			, ,	
High feasibility				
Moderately high feasibility				
Moderately low feasibility				
O Low feasibility				
O not know / Not sure				
	Down	North		

			48%				
18. Please explain your reason for the Moderately low or Low feasibility response selected in the previous question <u>and</u> describe the barriers preventing high feasibility in your jurisdiction.							
	Prev	Next					



			55%
20. Please explain your reason response selected in the previous high acceptability in your jurisdictions.	us questic		the state of the s
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C. SCHOOL CLOSURES AND DISMISSALS

Please read this CDC NPI recommendation and then respond to the questions that follow. (See pages 16-17: https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/rr/pdfs/rr6601.pdf)

School closures and dismissals: CDC might recommend the use of preemptive, coordinated school closures and dismissals during severe, very severe, or extreme influenza pandemics. This recommendation is in accord with the conclusions of the <u>US Community Preventive Services Task Force</u>, which makes the following recommendations:

- . The task force recommends preemptive, coordinated school dismissals during a severe influenza pandemic.
- The task force found insufficient evidence to recommend for or against preemptive, coordinated school dismissals
 during a mild or moderate influenza pandemic. In these instances, jurisdictions should make decisions that balance
 local benefits and potential harms.

Note: School closure means closing a school and sending all the students and staff members home, whereas during a school dismissal, a school might stay open for staff members while the children stay home. Preemptive, coordinated school closures and dismissals might be implemented for childcare facilities, K-12 schools, and institutions of higher education during the earliest stages of a pandemic, before many students and staff members become ill. Community preparedness ahead of a pandemic is essential to determine who needs to weigh-in on closing local schools (e.g., local childcare licensing organization, board of education), and to address potential secondary consequences of school closures that could affect their feasibility and acceptance (e.g., loss of ancillary school services such as free/subsidized school meals, school-based healthcare, and after-school services for children with disabilities).

Childcare Facilities

21.	To what e	extent wi	II the re	ecommendati	on for	temporary	childcare	facility	closures
or (dismissals	be feas	ible to	implement in	your	jurisdiction	?		

High feasibility		O Low feas	ibility
Moderately high feasibility		O Do not kr	now / Not sure
Moderately low feasibility			
	Prev	Next	

			62%
22. Please explain your reason selected in the previous question feasibility in your jurisdiction.			
	Prev	Next	

23. To what extent will the recommendation for temporary childcare facility closures or dismissals be acceptable to stakeholders (including your agency) in your jurisdiction?

High acceptability

Do not know / Not sure

Moderately low acceptability

Prev Next

			69%
24. Please explain your reason response selected in the previous high acceptability in your jurisdictions.	us questic		
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_					
				72%	
K-12 Schools					
mplementation of preemptive			smissals during an ev	olving influenza	pandemic might
Objective 1: To gain tim very early stage of its ci Objective 2: To slow do and thereby allow time demand for health care Objective 3: To allow time	ne for an initial irculation in hu wn the spread for the local he services (clos	assessment of transmi umans (closures for up to f of the pandemic virus in ealth care system to pre- sures up to 6 weeks).	to 2 weeks). in areas that are begin epare additional resou	nning to experie	nce local outbreak ding to increased
Please refer to these objective	es when resp	anding to the following	questions.		
25. To what extent of dismissals be feasi public health object your jurisdiction.	ble to imp	plement in your	jurisdiction in	order to ac	complish the
	High	Moderately high	Moderately low	Low	Do not know / N sure
a. Objective 1: Up to 2 weeks	0	0	0	0	0
b. Objective 2: Up to 6 weeks	0	0	0	0	0
c. Objective 3: Up to 6 months	0	0	0	0	•
26. Please list the number of the objective(s) for which "moderately low" or "low" feasibility was selected and describe the reasons/barriers. 27. To what extent will the recommendation for preemptive K-12 school closures or dismissals be acceptable to stakeholders (including your agency) in your jurisdiction in order to accomplish the public health objectives regarding school closures. Please rate the acceptability for your jurisdiction.					
dismissals be acce jurisdiction in order	ptable to to accom te the acc	stakeholders (i plish the public ceptability for y	ncluding your a health objectiv our jurisdiction	agency) in ves regardi 1.	your ing school Do not know / N
dismissals be acce jurisdiction in order closures. Please ra a. Objective 1: Up to 2	ptable to to accom	stakeholders (i plish the public	ncluding your a health objectiv	agency) in ves regardi	your ing school
dismissals be acce iurisdiction in order closures. Please rai	ptable to to accom te the acc	stakeholders (i pplish the public ceptability for y Moderately high	ncluding your a health objectiv our jurisdiction	agency) in ves regardi 1.	your ing school Do not know / N sure
dismissals be acce jurisdiction in order closures. Please ra a. Objective 1: Up to 2 weeks b. Objective 2: Up to 6	ptable to to accom te the acc	stakeholders (i pplish the public ceptability for y Moderately high	ncluding your a health objectiv our jurisdiction	agency) in ves regardi 1.	your ing school Do not know / N sure

			78%
Institutions of Higher Education (IHE: College	es and Unive	rsities)	
29. To what extent will the recondismissals be feasible in your ju			nporary IHE closures or
High feasibility		O Low feas	sibility
Moderately high feasibility		O Do not ki	now / Not sure
Moderately low feasibility			
	Prev	Next	

			79%	
30. Please explain your reason selected in the previous question feasibility in your jurisdiction.				
	Prev	Next		

			83%	
31. To what extent will the recordismissals be acceptable to station?				
High acceptability		O Low acce	eptability	
Moderately high acceptability	O not know / Not sure			
Moderately low acceptability				
	Prev	Next		

			86%
32. Please explain your reason response selected in the previo high acceptability in your jurisdi	us questio		
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				90%	
D. SOCIAL DISTANCING	AT SCHOOLS, V	WORKPLACES, AND	MASS GATHERINGS		
Please read this CDC NP (See pages 17-18: https://v				t follow.	
Social distancing measure might recommend the simulations of the community settings (e.g., signal pandemics while minimizing following:	ultaneous use of schools, workplan	multiple social distances, and mass gatheri	ing measures to help r ngs) during severe, ver	educe the spre y severe, or ex	ad of influenz treme influen
pandemic, this recom Persons in communit	plies to apparen mended minima y settings who si influenza should	tly healthy persons wi al distance between pe how symptoms consis	thout symptoms. In the ople might be increase	event of a very d. who might be i	severe or ex
Note: The choice of social		sure depends on the s	everity of the pandemic	. Examples inc	lude:
 For workplaces, offer staggering work hour For mass gatherings large events. 	S.				
33. To what exten					
33. To what exten	jurisdiction	1? Please rate	the feasibility	for your jur	risdiction Do not kn
33. To what exten implement in your					risdiction Do not kn
33. To what exten implement in your	jurisdiction	1? Please rate	the feasibility	for your jur	risdiction
33. To what exten implement in your a. Schools b. Workplaces C. Mass gatherings	High	Moderately high	Moderately low	Low	Do not kn
a. Schools b. Workplaces C. Mass gatherings 34. Please list the was selected and 35. To what exten stakeholders (incl	specific sedescribe the	Moderately high o etting(s) for whither reasons/barrocommendation agency) in your	Moderately low O Ch "moderately riers.	for your jur	Do not kn Su C C C Ow" feasil
a. Schools b. Workplaces C. Mass gatherings 34. Please list the was selected and 35. To what exten stakeholders (incl	specific se describe the twill the reuding your jurisdi	Moderately high O etting(s) for whith the reasons/barriagency) in your ction.	Moderately low O Ch "moderately riers. for social dista	for your jur	Do not kn Su Ow" feasil acceptable the
33. To what exten implement in your a. Schools b. Workplaces	specific sedescribe the	Moderately high o etting(s) for whither reasons/barrocommendation agency) in your	Moderately low O Ch "moderately riers.	for your jur	Do not kn Su C C Dow" feasil acceptable the
a. Schools b. Workplaces C. Mass gatherings 34. Please list the was selected and 35. To what exten stakeholders (included)	specific se describe the twill the reuding your jurisdi	Moderately high etting(s) for whith the reasons/barrocommendation agency) in your ction.	Moderately low Ch "moderately riers. for social distair jurisdiction? F	for your jur	Do not kn Su Ow" feasil acceptable the
a. Schools b. Workplaces C. Mass gatherings 34. Please list the was selected and 35. To what exten stakeholders (incl acceptability for gas a. Schools	specific se describe the uding your jurisdi	Moderately high O etting(s) for whith the reasons/bard commendation agency) in your ction. Moderately high	Moderately low Ch "moderately riers. for social distair jurisdiction? F	for your jur	Do not kn

ir. Does your ju	risdiction have the f	following influe	nza surveilland	e data?
	Yes, in near real-time	es, but not in near real-	No	Do not know/Not su
a. Number of patient visits to outpatient health care providers for influenza-like illness (ILI) in jurisdiction	•	•	•	•
b. Estimated weekly level of geographic spread of influenza activity reported by local health department(s)	0	0	0	0
c. Proportion of respiratory specimens that test positive for influenza virus in jurisdiction	•	•	•	•
d. Absenteeism rates in jurisdiction due to ILI in childcare facilities, K-12 schools, or IHEs (reflects number of ILI cases)	0	0	0	0
e. Number of laboratory-confirmed influeriza cases among students, teachers, and staff in jurisdiction	•	•	•	0
f. Number of influenza- associated hospitalizations in jurisdiction	0	0	0	0
g. Total number of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza in jurisdiction	•	0	•	•
n. Number of influenza-associated deaths among those <18 years old in jurisdiction	0	0	0	0

Please rate the usefulness of these influenza surveillance indicators for eciding <u>when</u> to trigger the activation of NPIs in your jurisdiction.							
	Extremely useful	Very useful	Moderately useful	Slightly useful	Not at all useful	Do not know/Not sure	Not applicabl (Do not haw near real-tim data)
a. Number of patient visits to outpatient health care providers for influenza-like illness (ILI) in jurisdiction	0	•	•	•	•	•	0
b. Estimated weekly level of geographic spread of influenza activity reported by local health department(s)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
c. Proportion of respiratory specimens that test positive for influenza virus in jurisdiction	0	•	•	•	0	•	•
d. Absenteeism rates in jurisdiction due to ILI in childcare facilities, K-12 schools, or IHEs (reflects number of ILI cases)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
e. Number of laboratory-confirmed influenza cases among students, teachers, and staff in jurisdiction	0	0	•	•	0	0	•
f. Number of influenza- associated hospitalizations in jurisdiction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
g. Total number of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza in jurisdiction	0	0	0	•	•	•	0
h. Number of influenza- associated deaths among those <18 years old in jurisdiction	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40. If you rated an Not at all useful, p	olease lis	t the surve	eillance i	ndicator(s)	and exp	olain why.	
NPIs in your juris		iner ingge	is not iis	teu nere in	at you n	ngni use i	o activat
12. Please use th would like to shar NPIs in your jurise	e on the						
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Thank you for responding to this assessment. We appreciate your time and valuable input.

Prev Submit