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Non Pharmaceutical Intervention (NPI) Planning Guidance
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- Initial planning efforts should use an "all hazard" approach unless the situation dictates otherwise.
- Assemble the "right" people together for a planning session. All facets of your organization, i.e., clinical, administrative, facilities, etc. should be represented.

Key Terms Defined for Planning Purposes

- NPI – People or communities taking active measures to help slow the spread of illness or reduce the adverse impacts of public health emergencies.
- NPI Category – a division of ways having shared characteristics that help slow the spread of illness.
- NPI Strategy – a plan of action or policy designed to slow the spread of illness.
- NPI Activity – the actions taken to slow the spread of illness.
- Triggers – an event or situation that causes people or communities to consider the implementation of an NPI activity.

Initial Planning Focus

- This initial planning effort should be a brainstorming effort. It should be structured and facilitated as to not waste an employee's time.
- Review the NPI Category definitions provided by the health department's preparedness coordinator.
- Identify NPI Strategies and supporting activities for each NPI category.
- This can be done by breaking into small groups and assigning a category for each to focus upon, or by the entire group working together. Note, the ladder option can be more time consuming, and I recommend breaking into small groups and then each briefing their ideas and those ideas being refined at a later time.
- Continue to refine your strategies and activities until you feel you have the 70-90% solutions. This may take several revisions of your work.

Next Steps

- Determine a trigger/reason for an NPI activity to be implemented. This is undoubtedly the toughest part of developing an NPI Plan. You do not want to implement NPI activities too early, and yet you do not want to implement them too late. This can be very subjective, and some organizations may choose not to create triggers, but implementation NPI decision as a situation evolves.
- For larger organizations that have the ability to track absenteeism and verify the reason for absences, contact the TCHD Preparedness Coordinator, Nina Saeli, at 607-274-6681 or nsaeli@tompkins-co.org to see if a matrix that measures Population Based Case Expectation at Various Transmissibility Levels could be created and use to assist in determining 'trigger'.

Final Steps

- Integrate your NPI plan into your larger emergency response plan as a new chapter, section, annex, etc…
- Train your employees on the new additions to your plan.
- When possible, incorporate NPI activities into your annual trainings and exercises.