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School on Modelling Tools and Capacity Building in Climate and Public Health

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Public Health Surveillance and Climate

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Public Health Surveillance and Climate

Spring School on Modelling tools and capacity building in climate and public health

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Objectives

- Briefly review public health surveillance
- Reminder about uses of surveillance data
- Relationship between climate and public health surveillance
- Encourage broader thinking about a link between surveillance and climate

Public Health Surveillance Definition

Public Health Surveillance is the ongoing systematic collection, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of health data.

 This is a mechanism that public health agencies use to monitor the health of their communities. Its purpose is to provide a factual basis from which agencies can appropriately set priorities, plan programs, and take action to promote and protect the public's health

Principles of Epidemiology, Second Edition, CDC, 1992.

Emerging Infectious Diseases: Time for Global Surveillance





Influenza 1918-1919

Purposes of Public Health Surveillance

- Assess public health status
- Trigger public health action
- Define public health priorities
- Comply with International Regulations (IHR)
- Evaluate programs

Public Health Surveillance

- Systematic
- Ongoing
- Collection
- Analysis
- Interpretation
- Dissemination information
- Link to public health practice policy

Surveillance is

Information for Action

"The reason for collecting, analyzing and disseminating information on a disease is to control that disease.

Collection and analysis should not be allowed to consume resources if action does not follow."

- William Foege et al., Int. J of Epidemiology 1976; 5:29-37

Process of Public Health Surveillance

- 1. Data collection
- 2. Data analysis
- 3. Data interpretation
- 4. Data dissemination
- 5. Link to action ..info

Types of Surveillance



Model for developing surveillance system



Data Sources

- Notifiable diseases
- Laboratories
- Vital records
- Registries
- Surveys
- Administrative data systems
- Other data sources

Types of Data on Surveillance Case Report Forms

Identifying information Demographic information Clinical information Exposure / risk factor information **Reporter information** Climate data?

- Temp, precipitation?

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Vector-borne

Malaria

Dengue fever Lyme disease **Rocky Mountain spotted** fever Encephalitis: St. Louis, Murray Valley, Western Equine **Rift Valley fever Ross River fever** Ehrlichiosis Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome Leishmaniasis African trypanosomiasis Tularemia Plague **Onchoceriasis** (river

blindness)

Notifiable Infectious Diseases

Water and Foodborne

Cholera Other non-cholera Vibrio spp. (i.e., V. vulnificus, V. parahaemolyticus) Leptospirosis **Schistosomiasis** Sea bather's eruption Giardiasis Cryptosporidiosis Human enteric viruses (Enteroviruses,.Norwalk and Norwalk-like viruses) Campylobacteriosis Cyclospora cayetanensis Salmonella enteritidis

Airborne (and others)

Meningococcal meningitis Coccidioidomycosis Respiratory syncytial virus (colds) Legionnaires' disease

Influenza

Combining Surveillance and Climate Data

Historical interest in Early Warning Systems

- 1990s new developments
- Data availability
- Epidemiological modeling
- Information technology
- Scientific evidence of climate change
- Public acceptance of human impact on climate
- Disasters such as Hurricane Katrina in US

"Linkages between climate and infectious diseases are often poorly understood, and research to understand the causal relationships is in its infancy" *EID*, *June* 2001

Climatic impact on infectious diseases

- Human behavior: indoors in winter and influenza
- Disease pathogens: temp increases affect reproduction
- Disease vectors: distribution and development

Other factors

- Population vulnerability
- Population movements
- Agricultural practices

New concept reflecting "wholistic" approach to broader ecology of disease determinants

- Earth science and health not seen as connected

Surveillance as "counting" mechanism

- Expectation about disease frequency

What can climate add

- Prediction, early intervention and control

- Vector-borne disease often the focus for climate related health
- Evidence base needs strengthening
- Disease where climate and surveillance research have been focused
 - Malaria
 - Dengue
 - West Nile Virus
 - St. Louis Encephalitis
 - Tick-borne diseases

Climate and Infectious Diseases

Diseases	Inter-annual variability	Sensitivity to climate	Climate variables	
Influenza	* * * * *	* *	(<t)< td=""><td></td></t)<>	
Meningitis	* * * *	* * *	>T, <h (="">R)</h>	
Leishmaniasis	* *	* * *	(>T,>R)	K
Loa loa	*	* * *	>R (<t)< td=""><td>1</td></t)<>	1
Cholera	* * * * *	* * * * *	(>T)	
Malaria	* * * * *	* * * * *	(>R,T,H)	- A
Dengue	* * * *	* * *	(> R , T , H)	

.... gathering cumulative evidence for early and focused response.



Malaria Early Warning Systems: the Rationale

INTEGRATED MALARIA SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL SYSTEM



INTEGRATED DENGUE AND MALARIA SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL SYSTEM



Challenges

Merge disciplines

– Public Health and climate science

Merging and finding data sources

- Disparate, disconnected sources
- Quality, long term surveillance

Interpretation of results CC Scenarios – local conditions

Summary

Using climate and health/surveillance data together is cutting edge of public health

Be clear about how climate does and does not affect disease incidence

Need for high quality surveillance data is critical

Need more robust systems that can be used to implement preventive disease control measures

"Good surveillance does not necessarily ensure the making of the right decisions, but it reduces the chances of [making the] wrong ones."

- Alex Langmuir, 1963

Thank you !

Q&A