



A NOTE ABOUT ANTIVIRALS

Four different influenza antiviral medications: amantadine, rimantadine, oseltamivir, and zanamivir are approved by the FDA for the treatment and/or prevention of influenza. Influenza viruses may be resistant to one or more of these antivirals. For example, the influenza A (H5N1) viruses identified in humans in Asia in 2004 and 2005 were resistant to amantadine and rimantadine.

Pandemic influenza may come and go in communities in waves, each of which can last for 6 to 8 weeks at a time. If an influenza pandemic occurs, the virus will spread easily from person-to-person. While vaccines and antiviral medications are part of overall pandemic response planning, it also emphasizes simple hygiene habits.

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water (use an alcohol-based hand cleaner if soap and water are unavailable);
- Use a tissue to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze;
- Use your upper sleeve if you don't have a tissue; and
- Stay at home if you are sick.

Visit www.pandemicflu.gov for more safety information

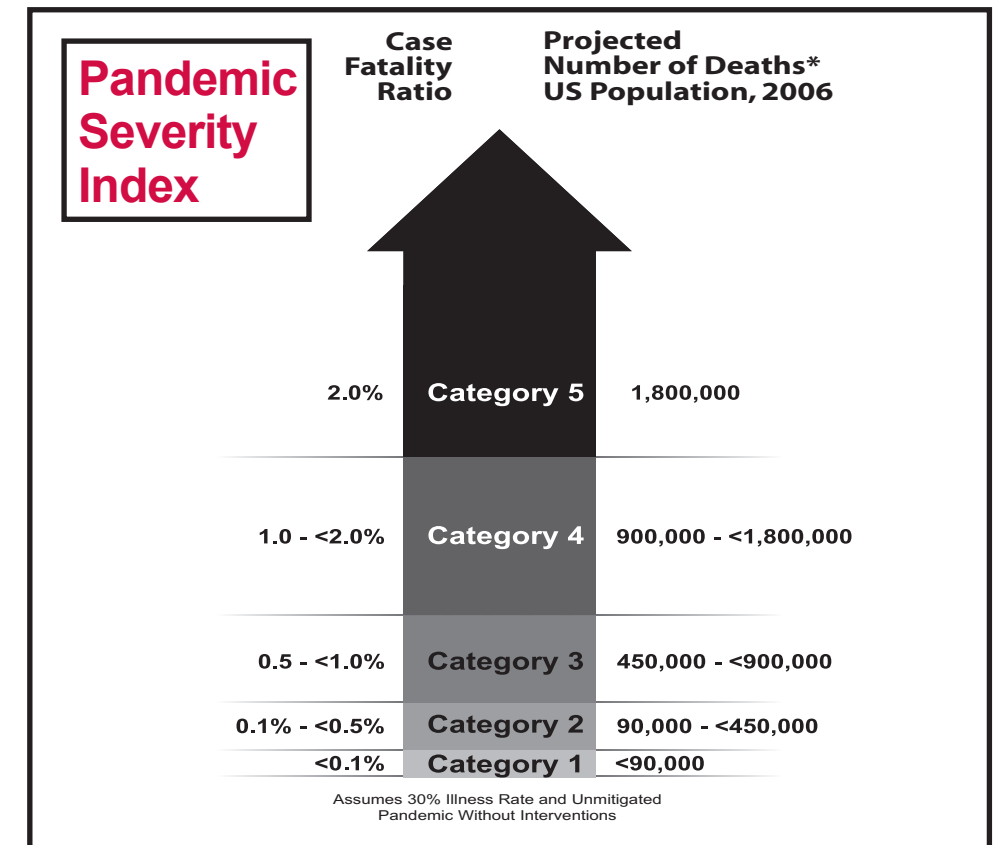


COMMUNITY MITIGATION STRATEGIES

How can you help people during the early phase of a pandemic when vaccine and antivirals are in extremely short supply? Initiate a community mitigation strategy that will slow the growth of cases in the community, decrease the epidemic peak and reduce the overall number of illness and deaths in the community. The four primary mitigation interventions are: 1) isolation of ill people and treatment (as appropriate), 2) voluntary home quarantine, 3) dismissal of students from school (public, private and colleges/universities), and 4) social distancing measures to reduce contact among adults in the community and the workplace (e.g., cancellation of large public events and implementing telecommuting work schedules). See www.pandemicflu.gov

CERC NINE-STEP PLAN

1. **Verify** situation.
2. Conduct **notification**.
3. **Activate** crisis plan.
4. **Organize** assignments.
5. **Prepare information**, obtain approvals.
6. **Release information** via pre-arranged channels.
7. **Obtain feedback**, conduct crisis evaluation.
8. Begin additional **public education** activities.
9. **Monitor** events.



For More Information about CERC: CERC_info@cdc.gov

To request CERC training tools: CERC_request@cdc.gov