

Minutes of NESAAASA Seminar on Emergency Vaccination of Livestock

White River Junction, Vermont

8:30 AM to 4:00 PM, Thursday, May 28, 2015

Participants:

- Members of the New England State Animal Agricultural Security Alliance
 - New England State Animal Health Officials
 - District USDA-APHIS Veterinary Service
- Richard Horwitz, Contract Consultant to RI and VT
- Academic partners from the University of Vermont
 - John Barlow, Assistant Professor of Animal Science, University of Vermont
 - Post-doctoral researchers: Tatjana Sitt, Mital Pandya, Robert Mugabi
- New England Emergency Management Agency/Homeland Security partners
- Cliff Wyllie, V.P. of Bio-Pharma Healthcare Services, Cavalier Logistics
- Lee Myers, National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS) liaison (by phone)

Participant priorities for clarification and discussion during the seminar

- Resources, roles, and logistics in deployment
 - Staff
 - Incident management team
 - Just-in-time training
 - Security (e.g., composting)
 - Public Information
 - Delivery and administration of vaccine
 - (Note: By some state regulations, only accredited vets may have custody of vaccine or administer it, though oversight or delegation of authority may be permissible and desirable in an emergency.)
 - Receiving, security, and storage of vaccine and supplies
 - Materiel
 - Storage, staging, and dispatch facilities
 - Livestock handling equipment (e.g., when needed on-farm)
- Politics
 - Capacity of state to claim resources
 - Payment
 - Federal vs. state responsibility
 - Producer responsibility
- Triggers
 - For activating EOC
 - For request and administration of vaccination (e.g., response vs. prophylactic)

Presentations and discussion:

- “Foot and Mouth Disease Control: A Vaccine Perspective,” including preliminary results of clinical trial of Novel Ad5-FMD Vaccine – John Barlow with Mital Pandya, Tatjana Sitt, and Robert Mugabi
- “Preparing for FMD Vaccination,” including recommendations for planning and models from California (CDFA) and the National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS) – Rich Horwitz
- “Cavalier Bio-Pharma Logistics Capabilities Overview” – Cliff Wyllie

Notes on participant questions and conference-call response from Lee Myers:

- 1) **Timing:** Would there have to be an established national policy on emergency vaccination before states could request vaccine from NVS (e.g., in recent experience with HPAI)?

Response: This is more a policy decision than a NVS prerogative. All requests are subject to approval by the CVO (the Chief Veterinary Officer), who would likely require a state-level vaccine plan that NVS has accepted. NVS can only deliver countermeasures following approval of their use. Generally, the Logistics officer in Incident Command will look for prior approval by the CVO. If the leadership gives permission, NVS will ship it. Note recent precedents but also note: **Since HPAI vaccine is commercially available, it is no longer stockpiled.**

- 2) **Funding:** In its request for NVS countermeasures (via ICS213) – potentially before federal funding is officially available – could a state first designate itself the funding source and then change the source to federal (e.g., Commodity Credit Corporation) later, once such federal funding is approved?

Response: Yes, it is possible, though again this is a policy matter. Probably conversation has to occur at a higher level (National Incident Coordinator). There is, however, good reason to suspect that, when CCC funds become available, they will be available to reimburse state. In any case, it is probably better to make a request as soon as the countermeasures are likely to be required, rather than wait to act until CCC available.

Follow-up question: Would there need to approval of CCC in advance of designating CCC as the source of funding?

Response: Practically speaking, the designation of the funding source is apt to require deliberation only if you are the first state. Later, CCC can be checked. APHIS funding is available for incidents in programs (where a budget line already exists, as for LPAI or BTB vs. in emergencies). State funding is appropriate for a more state-specific emergency.

Follow-up question: Is there any vaccine to be paid for by producers that would be available from NVS?

Response: There are no known prior discussions about this. There have been discussions of cost-sharing on FMD vaccine. HPAI vaccine is available commercially.

- 3) **Return of NVS equipment and supplies:** Is there a NVS policy on return of (a) durable equipment and (b) perishable supplies, such as vaccine?

Response: Return policy and procedure is covered in the new template for state NVS plans. See plan template, p. 30 and under responsibilities of the Warehouse Team and the Ordering Team. Returnable status is also specified in the NVS Catalogue and in the orders. Generally, items that are unused or unopened should be returned. Disposable items (e.g., gloves and booties) are not mandated to be returned, though policy is that they should be. More accountable items that NVS tracks and wants back are expensive

equipment (e.g., CO2 carts, foaming units, powered respirators, mobile refrigeration units.) Gather materials to return, and NVS will come pick them up at no charge.

- 4) **NVS template for state NVS plans:** What is the status of the latest template?

Response: The new template (April 2015) is available as of last night [April 27, 2015]. A copy will be sent to Drs. Horwitz and Haas, who can circulate it among the New England SAHOs. Appendices and forms have already been updated (they are updated every 2 years) and posted on the NVS website, with the planning guide and template soon also to be uploaded.

- 5) **Confidentiality of NVS support for state NVS plans:** What, if any, information from NVS can be shared with state Emergency Management or Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) planning partners? How might they access online NVS support for planning?

Response: Send a request for access to the generic NVS inbox. Feel free to share things with SNS, e.g., request access by email.

Note: if you want a password to the NVS website soon, email Lee Myers by COB tomorrow with that request. Since she will be out of the office for two weeks starting Monday [May 30, 2014], any requests that come in during that period may receive a delayed response.

- 6) **Timing:** How long prior to the time that state resources are exhausted should requests for assistance be directed to NVS?

Response: It is wise to request NVS countermeasures before state resources are exhausted. There are instructive examples from the HPAI response. (E.g., human resources may be exhausted before physical assets or vice versa. In some cases, a state has no assets; so, they will pull the trigger instantly.) It is best to first inventory resources to find out how long needs can be filled, well before resources run out.

- 7) **SNS Coordination:** If a state's SNS coordinator is willing to incorporate NVS considerations into the state's SNS plan, does a separate NVS Plan have to be written?

Response: No, a separate plan does not have to be written; NVS info can be combined with SNS into one state response plan.

- 8) **State NVS Plan submission requirements:** Must state NVS Plans be submitted to the liaison, Lee Meyers?

Response: You do not have to submit a plan, but you can, and NVS encourages this so that it is kept on file. NVS just needs to know the status of the state plans. From a national perspective, NVS needs to know which states have a plan and the date(s) of the most recent update(s) .

- 9) **Access to NVS support for state NVS plans:** On this call, can we get user names and passwords for accessing planning support pages on the NVS website?

Response: No. NVS needs to identify a designated state planner with access to NVS website and to restrict uncontrolled republication (e.g., to avoid getting plans on public sites, with difficulty of getting them off.)

- 10) **State and regional requests of NVS:** If New England were to establish a regional warehouse to receive, store, or dispatch animal-disease emergency supplies to individual states, how would procedures for requesting countermeasures from NVS be affected?

Response: If a multi-state outbreak, makes sense and NVS would try to work with it. In a regional outbreak, there would be a blended, regional IMT. Even if there were separate state teams, there would need to be a regional logistics team. There would likely be a funding code for each state. So, you'd need to have a single code for multiple states. You could put that in your plan as one option. The management structure would have to be worked out. It would likely need to be supported by an area command approach through the Logistics Section of the Incident Management Team (IMT) in order to ensure that resource dispersal was handled in a coordinated manner.

Note: NVS is learning, too. E.g., in response to HPAI, NVS learned that, so far, no state has actually set up a warehouse as planned. In whatever way you can make it work, NVS will support it. E.g., the template for a state NVS plan is just a resource that you are welcome to adapt.

Next steps

- Disseminate new template for state NVS planning
- States gain access to NVS planning support
- State planning (e.g., SAHO meet with SNS coordinator, identify warehouse with inventory management, consider identifying third-party logistics providers)
- Future discussions of regional preparation in monthly conference calls

Additional on-line resources for planning emergency vaccination, recommended by Rich Horwitz:

- Webinar by Danelle Bickett-Wendell on the new (2015 draft) Biosecurity Performance Standards from the national Secure Milk Supply (SMS) project
35-minute recording of presentation with slides, plus 25 minutes of Q&A:
<https://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p2j3klankfv/>
- Webinar by James A. Roth on "FMD Vaccination: Preparedness, Availability, and Limitations"
42-minute YouTube video recording:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eDRa_BW-rU8
Slides:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/downloads/sacah/SACAH_FMD_Vacc_Preparedness_Presentation_6-2014.pdf
- FAD PreP Ready Reference Guides, from USDA APHIS:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/aphis/ourfocus/animalhealth!/ut/p/a0/04_Sj9CPyKssy0xPLMnMz0vMAfGjzOK9_D2MDJ0MjDzdgy1dDTz9wtx8LXzMjf09TPQLsh0VAZdihlg!/?urile=wcm%3apath%3a%2Faphis_content_library%2Fsa_our_focus%2Fsa_animal_health%2Fsa_emergency_management%2Fct_fadprep_readyreferenceguides
- National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS), from USDA APHIS:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/wps/portal/banner/help?urile=wcm%3apath%3a%2FAPHIS_Content_Library%2FSA_Our_Focus%2FSA_Animal_Health%2FSA_Emergency_Management%2FSA_NVS