

# Crisis Standards of Care

June 24, 2010



# DCH Mission

## ACCESS



Access  
to affordable,  
quality health  
care in our  
communities

## RESPONSIBLE



Responsible  
health planning  
and use of  
health care  
resources

## HEALTHY



Healthy  
behaviors and  
improved  
health  
outcomes



# DCH Initiatives

## FY 2009 and FY 2010

### FY 2009

- Medicaid Transformation**
- Health Care Consumerism**
- Financial Integrity**
- Health Improvement**
- Solutions for the Uninsured**
- Medicaid Program Integrity**
- Workforce Development**
- PeachCare for Kids™ Program Stability**
- SHBP Evolution**
- Customer Service and Communication**

### FY 2010

- Medicaid Transformation**
- Health Care Consumerism**
- Financial & Program Integrity**
- Health Improvement**
- Solutions for the Uninsured**
- Workforce Development**
- PeachCare for Kids™ Program Stability**
- Customer Service**



# WORKSHOP PURPOSE

- To present the rationale for Crisis Standards of Care (CSC) plans during a high severity pandemic.
- To provide a **ROAD MAP** that can assist in your development of those plans.
- To describe the trigger for implementation of CSC plans.
- To seek your input on whether hospitals prefer any statewide protocols for mgt of critical resource shortages—and if so, which ones?



# H1N1 Experience—how does it play into need for CSC plans?

- Let's continue to **PLAN** while we process lessons learned!
- Critical Lesson Learned: **Severity** of pandemic drives responses!
- H1N1 pandemic (**low/mod** severity) has not necessitated Crisis Standards of Care in the US.
- But what will **future** pandemics necessitate?????



# REVISITING NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PANDEMIC RESPONSE

- **Situational awareness**—will H1N1 mutate?
- **Mass vaccinations**—is there sufficient herd immunity in the US for H1N1?
- **Community Mitigation**—will implementation of Non-pharmaceutical Interventions increase critical resource shortages?
- **Communications**—are pandemic fatigue and sense of “crying wolf” reducing effectiveness of communications efforts?



# WHY PLAN FOR CRISIS STANDARDS OF CARE (CSC) Now?

1. CSC is missing in our state, regional, and local pandemic plans.
2. **Duty to plan.**
3. We have partially dodged a bullet with H1N1 but the enemy can still shoot!
4. Optimal CSC plans require careful deliberation and much public engagement that would be difficult to obtain during the crisis.



# WHAT'S TO BE ACHIEVED WITH CSC PLANS

- GREATER ASSURANCE OF FAIR TREATMENT.
- GREATER CONSISTENCY FROM ONE PROVIDER/FACILITY TO ANOTHER.
- PLANS VETTED BY MANY AND POSSIBLY ENDORSED BY THE STATE.
- LESS PUBLIC FEAR AND PANIC.
- ***LOWERED LIABILITY!***



# ASSUMPTIONS

- Plan to be developed without considerations of individual's relative value to society.
- Plan must have flexibility.
- State will only provide a road map—not a template for your plan.
- The Department of Community Health supports this initiative for CSC planning because of responsibility for ESF-8



# ASSUMPTIONS CON'T

- Overarching ethical principle for plan: Greatest good for the Greatest number!
- Although community engagement in planning is essential, create draft of **internal hospital CSC plan** before moving into complexities of engagement with community partners.
- Existing ASPR funding to RCHs will financially support CSC planning initiatives.



# WHY NOT “TOP DOWN” PLANNING?

- Primary responsibility for ESF-8 belongs to Divisions of Public Health and Emergency Preparedness and Response within DCH.
- The DPH and DEPR structures in GA represent a hybrid between “Home Rule” and Centralized Control.
- Currently no authority for DCH to impose a CSC plan on hospitals!



# Other Lingerin, Challenging Questions



- Unpredictability of rate of vaccine dev't in eggs
- Reliance on foreign vaccine factories
- Hospital surge even in mild pandemic
- How to assure messaging reaches special communities



# Resources

- [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
  - U.S. public health guidelines
- [www.pandemicflu.gov](http://www.pandemicflu.gov)
  - HHS pandemic plan
- [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)
  - Global updates and official case reports
- [www.health.state.ga.us](http://www.health.state.ga.us)
- “U.S. Reaction to Swine Flu: Apt and Lucky”  
by Donald B. McNeil, Jr.



# Questions and Answers



PATRICK O'NEAL, M.D.

[jponeal@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:jponeal@dhr.state.ga.us)

404-463-5419

For more information: [www.health.state.ga.us](http://www.health.state.ga.us)



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY HEALTH

*Division of Emergency  
Preparedness & Response*