



# Quick Facts

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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## CALIFORNIA'S PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS

The California Department of Health Services (CDHS) is aggressively preparing for an influenza pandemic, working with multiple state, federal and local agencies to enhance response activities and reduce a pandemic's impact.

### Key Achievements:

- 1. Medical Care Surge Capacity:** Gov. Schwarzenegger's 2006/2007 enacted budget allocates \$214 million to improve pandemic response capacity of hospitals, clinics and emergency response agencies.
  - This includes funding for medical supplies and equipment for more than 20,000 hospital beds, 2,400 ventilators, 50 million masks for health care workers and three mobile field hospitals.
- 2. Emergency Planning:** CDHS updated its *Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Plan* to reduce pandemic-related morbidity, mortality and social and economic disruption.
  - Consistent with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Pandemic Influenza Plan, the CDHS plan incorporates public input and will be finalized this fall. The plan is posted at [www.dhs.ca.gov](http://www.dhs.ca.gov).
- 3. Disease Surveillance and Laboratory Testing:** CDHS strengthened disease surveillance by expanding data collection and tracking. State and local public health laboratories improved their capacity to quickly identify influenza strains.
  - Laboratory infrastructures and connectivity are improved, and more labs are now able to quickly identify novel influenza strains.
- 4. Medical Stockpile:** CDHS is securing more than 9.1 million courses of Tamiflu and Relenza antivirals to treat those who become ill during a pandemic.
  - California's stockpile provides immediate resources until additional supplies arrive from the federal Strategic National Stockpile (SNS).
  - CDHS exercises and improves receipt and distribution capacities.
- 5. Communications:** CDHS strengthened communications systems between state and local partners.
  - CDHS improved its state-of-the-art Joint Emergency Operations Center and Internet-based California Health Alert Network to provide 24-hour emergency communications capacity with state and local partners.
- 6. Multi-Agency, Community and Business Outreach:** CDHS works with multiple community agencies to expand preparedness efforts across the state, including continuity of government and business operations.