

Clinical Outreach & Communication Activity (COCA) Conference April 28, 2008

3 hours

Focus of the conference were legal issues governing –

1. The meaning of declaring an emergency declaration and who can do it
2. Various aspects of disaster Assistance and Federal Acts that delineate coverage
3. Deployment of personnel including volunteers to assist
4. Legal protections available from the government and the states
5. Stockpile deployment- FDA authorized this yesterday
6. Emergency use of investigational drugs- this will also cover use of non-approved but needed testing methods and medications- legal protection is granted to drug companies etc.
7. Quarantine and isolation laws were reviewed.
8. Definitions:
  - “Isolation refers to the separation of persons who have a specific infectious illness from those who are healthy and the restriction of their movement to stop the spread of that illness. . .”
  - “Quarantine refers to the separation and restriction of movement of persons who, while not yet ill, have been exposed to an infectious agent and therefore may become infectious.”
9. There is the legal right to put this in place as pandemic flu is listed on the qualifying list of diseases under Executive Order
10. The remainder reviewed legal rights of persons placed on isolation/quarantine.
11. Much of this was the same as we went through with SARS

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