

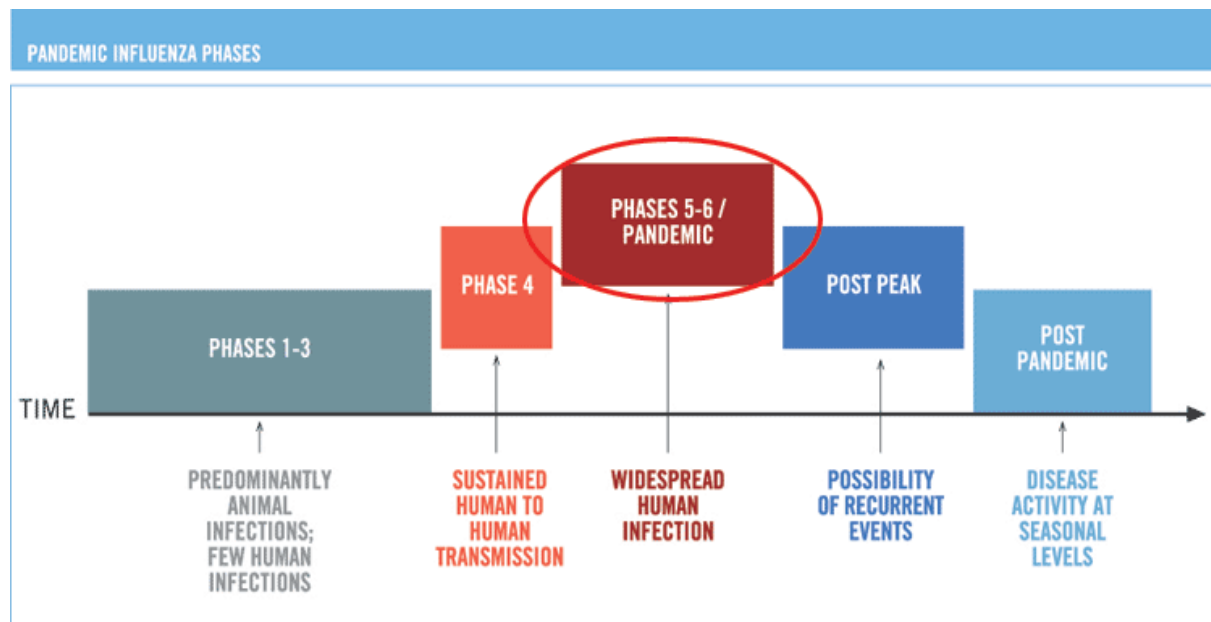


KEMENTERIAN KESIHATAN MALAYSIA

30 April 2009

CURRENT WHO PHASE OF PANDEMIC ALERT SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC ACTIONS

THE CURRENT WHO PHASE OF PANDEMIC ALERT IS 5.



PANDEMIC PHASE DESCRIPTION

PHASE	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
Phase 1	No viruses circulating among animals have been reported to cause infections in humans.	Preparedness – capacity development & response planning activities
Phase 2	Animal influenza virus circulating among domesticated or wild animals is known to have caused infection in humans, and is therefore considered a potential pandemic threat.	

PHASE	DESCRIPTION	ACTION
Phase 3	An animal or human-animal influenza reassortant virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks. Limited human-to-human transmission may occur under some circumstances, for example, when there is close contact between an infected person and an unprotected caregiver. However, limited transmission under such restricted circumstances does not indicate that the virus has gained the level of transmissibility among humans necessary to cause a pandemic.	
Phase 4	Characterized by verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza reassortant virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks." The ability to cause sustained disease outbreaks in a community marks a significant upwards shift in the risk for a pandemic. Any country that suspects or has verified such an event should urgently consult with WHO so that the situation can be jointly assessed and a decision made by the affected country if implementation of a rapid pandemic containment operation is warranted. Phase 4 indicates a significant increase in risk of a pandemic but does not necessarily mean that a pandemic is a forgone conclusion.	Response & mitigation efforts
Phase 5	Characterized by human-to-human spread of the virus into at least two countries in one WHO region. While most countries will not be affected at this stage, the declaration of Phase 5 is a strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of the planned mitigation measures is short.	
Phase 6	Characterized by community level outbreaks in at least one other country in a different WHO region in addition to the criteria defined in Phase 5. Designation of this phase will indicate that a global pandemic is under way.	

Adapted from WHO website http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/phase/en/index.html

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