Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)

Alaska Earthquake 2018

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Alaska Fun Facts

- ~733,000 population
  - 1 bear to every 21 people
- Bigger than Texas, California, and Montana combined
- Dog mushing is the state sport
- Juneau is the only state capital that isn’t accessible by road
- 3 million lakes, > 3,000 rivers and ~100,000 glaciers
- More volcanoes than any other state
- More coastline than the rest of the US combined (>34K miles)
- 17 of the 20 highest mountains in North America – Denali is 20,310 feet and the tallest in US
- >49,000 earthquakes a year
  - ~55,000 in 2018
ASPHL TB Lab

- Only Mycobacteriology Lab in the State
  - AFB smear & culture
  - TB NAAT/GeneXpert MTB/RIF
  - MTC and NTM identification
    - Probes, HPLC, and MALDI
  - First-line drugs, levofloxacin and Streptomycin susceptibilities (validating moxifloxacin)
- Responsible for all local and rural hospitals, clinics, and Public Health Centers (> 60 Submitters)
- Do not bill clients for services
- ~3 FTEs (1 FTE processes samples & performs GeneXpert MTB/RIF)
Alaska Earthquake
- November 30, 2018 @08:29
- 7.0 Magnitude; lasted ~30 seconds
- 7 miles north of Anchorage
- 5.7 Magnitude aftershock 6 min. later
- Over 3,000 aftershocks in first week

Magnitude 7.0, 7 miles NW of Elmendorf AFB
Magnitude 5.7, 8 miles SW of Iliamna Volcano
Magnitude 5.7, 5 miles NW of Anchorage
Magnitude 5.2, 10 miles NW of Elmendorf AFB
Magnitude 5.1, 15 miles N of Elmendorf AFB
Magnitude 5.0, 13 miles NW of Anchorage
Magnitude 5.0, 17 miles NW of Chugiak
Magnitude 4.9, 11 miles NW of Elmendorf AFB
Magnitude 4.9, 5 miles NW of Elmendorf AFB
Magnitude 4.8, 47 miles S of Tanaga Volcano
Alaska Earthquake

- Roads and bridges damaged
- Homes and businesses damaged; some condemned
- Several schools affected and closed
- Hometown of Eagle River hit hard
- >275 million in state and federal assistance
Lab Damage

- Pipes busted and water throughout
- Messy lab areas, displacement of computers, supplies, etc.
- Cracks throughout entire building
  - Worsening daily and new ones appearing regularly
- 3 out of 5 rooms from the BSL3 TB Suite compromised & out of service
  - Culture room (probes, susceptibilities, etc.)
  - 1 of 2 Processing rooms
  - Clean Prep

BSL3 TB Suite

= Compromised Room
COOP?

- What’s that?
- Very basic COOP in place, not specific to TB (WA, ID, OR)
- First time implementing COOP activities for TB testing
- Instructed to contact WA State Dept. of Health
- Use WA services with no monies exchanged
- Figure it out

*Chicken Run* animated movie by Pathé and Aardman Animations in partnership with DreamWorks Animation
COOP Experience
- Coordinated efforts with TB Lead Philip Dykema @WA PHL
- WA processed samples for 2 weeks
- WA performed all identification and susceptibilities for 6 months (6/2019)
- Issues/Barriers
  - Initially “broke” WA PHLs LIMS
  - Initial samples shipped was overwhelming
  - Odd sources/supplies
  - Report Tracking
    - Missing reports or multiples
  - WA TB Lab had new staff
    - Training in progress
- All results went through us

Meanwhile in Alaska…

Alaska State Public Health Laboratory
Lessons Learned

- Get to know your COOP lab prior to needing their services – check in!
- Discuss submission criteria
  - Test requisitions
  - Sample types
  - Billing?
- Exchange SOPs and learn algorithm
  - AFB Processing
  - TB NAAT (LDT, GeneXpert)
  - Notification protocols
  - LIMS – test it!
- Supplies?
  - Plates/MGITs/Alpha-Tec Reagents
  - Tubes, slides, tissue grinders, etc.
- Turn-around-times
  - Batching?
  - Negatives (6 weeks, 8 weeks?)

Never let your computer know that you're in a hurry.

Computers smell fear, and they WILL slow down if they sense that you're running out of time.
Thank You!

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