Anticipating emerging infectious disease epidemics

1-2 December 2015
Geneva, Switzerland
Session 6
Preventing the spread of infectious diseases in a global village
Session 6

13:30-15:00

Preventing the spread of infectious diseases in a global village

Professor Ilona Kickbusch

*Director, Global Health Programme and Adjunct Professor, Interdisciplinary Programmes, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland*

Senior advisor to the Regional Directors of the WHO EURO and EMRO and involved in development of Health 2020 European health policy framework.

Member of the independent Ebola interim assessment panel of the WHO

Serves on executive board of the Careum Foundation and expert panel to the Federal Councillor on the implementation of the Swiss Health Strategy 2020.

Worked with WHO at various levels and as professor at Yale University

Published widely and a member of advisory boards in both academic and health policy. Areas of work relate to Global Health Governance, Health Security, Public Health, Health Promotion, Health Literacy and Health in All Policies. She has a strong commitment to women's rights.
Session 6

Topic 1

Evolution of health security concepts

Prof Ali S Khan

Dean - College of Public Health, University of Nebraska Medical Centre, USA
# The Evolution of Global Health Security

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International Sanitary Regulations</td>
<td>International Health Regulations</td>
<td>International Health Security Framework</td>
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<tr>
<td>List-based. Cholera, plague, yellow fever (smallpox, typhus, relapsing fever).</td>
<td>PHEIC (emerging infections including bioterrorism)</td>
<td>All public health emergencies, including climate change, emerging infections, antimicrobial resistance, &amp; synthetic biology</td>
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<td>Quarantines, limit restrictions to trade and travel</td>
<td>Improved Reporting &amp; Building National Capacity</td>
<td>Prevention &amp; Preparedness at National Level</td>
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<td>Physical Infrastructure (trade routes)</td>
<td>Post-Industrial Infrastructure (electricity, electronics)</td>
<td>Knowledge Infrastructure</td>
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<td>Disjointed response</td>
<td>Revolutionary international law and global governance but still fragmented</td>
<td>Integrated</td>
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<td>Country-based response</td>
<td>Multilateral response</td>
<td>Shared Information Response (Global Response Teams, Global Fund for Health Security)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surprise</td>
<td>Expect (managing certainty)</td>
<td>Predict and Prevent (managing uncertainty)</td>
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<td>Official government reporting</td>
<td>Non-state actors (organizations &amp; media)</td>
<td>Everybody</td>
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<td>No reporting of capability to meet the regulations</td>
<td>Self-assessments</td>
<td>Global Health Security Preparedness Index</td>
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<td>French government. 14 International Sanitary Conferences</td>
<td>WHA (health centric) &amp; WHO</td>
<td>UN Under-Secretary for Health Security (multi-sectoral)</td>
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• Key to success is aligning incentives of victims, exposed and a fearful public by building trust and investing in community supports. This means not only food, water, early diagnostics, available treatment and prevention; but also psychosocial support in culturally relevant manner through empowerment.

• We must recognize the limited times when compulsory measures of isolation and quarantine are necessary and not fear to use them sparingly and in time-limited fashion. The use of public health measures must delicately balance a fearful public without stigmatizing victims while justifiably controlling transmission through restrictive means.

• Transparent communication prior and during implementation is paramount in building support and trust for such a complex task.
Session 6

Managing epidemics in urban settings

Dr Hayley MacGregor
Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK
Dr Dirk Glaesser
Director for the Sustainable Development Programme, WTO, Spain

- Travel and tourism is a growingly important economic and societal activity. Many countries are using it as a priority tool for economic development.
- The sector is heavily depending on an intact environment, whether this is natural, cultural, social or human or animal health environment thus, can be easily affected by negative events.
- Close cooperation with WHO and other key actors is critical to provide timely information and to promote safe travelling behavior, while ensuring uniformity in information sharing, developing practical response strategies, and providing recommendations for the tourism and travel sector.
Political authorities face three challenges:

1. How to apply in the 21st century traditional public health measures in a complex, mobile and selfish society in crisis?
2. How to talk about risk and uncertainty given the approach adopted by new media sources such as internet?
3. How to guarantee fair access to resources in case of a crisis in democratic societies?

Political choices are described for preparation of societies and health system changes.

Ten key actions are highlighted to fight threats associated with emerging infectious diseases.
Some questions for the audience

- What are the key drivers of epidemics in today’s interconnected global ecosystem and the evolving social habitat?
- How can we better engage with today’s societies for preparedness and response to epidemics?
- What public health measures should we adapt and how do we move from a biomedical approach to a holistic one?