

Influenza Strikes!

OVERVIEW:

The world is on the brink of a global influenza pandemic and the CDC implores communities to take extreme precaution this season, as the new strain appears to have a devastating impact. While the CDC offers basic preventative recommendations, communities across the nation are planning targeted efforts to minimize the risk factors most applicable to their population. Can your task force help protect the health of your community?

GOAL:

Help maintain the health of your community in preventing influenza by making clear, actionable, and evidence-based recommendations to minimize risk.

ROLE:

You are a task force of public health professionals, assigned to review the scientific literature and local data in order to offer recommendations on preventing influenza. Within your team, you have an epidemiologist, a health policy expert, a health behavior and health education specialist, and an environmental health scientist.

OBJECTIVE:

5.11: Use evidence from scientific studies to create a local plan for preventing the spread of influenza

DELIVERABLES:

- 1) Task Force Report:
 - a. Literature Review
 - b. Recommendations
- 2) Local Town Hall Presentation

ASSESSMENT:

Your report and town hall presentation will be graded on a rubric at the end of the case study.

Case Introduction:

Scenario: It seems like every time you flip on the television these days, there is a new public service announcement about the influenza pandemic, imploring people to get the flu vaccination.

Watch: "Influenza Public Service Announcements" page at CDC.gov
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/freeresources/media-psa.htm>



Background: Scientists have warned for years that the world was "overdue" for another deadly pandemic, like the 1918 Flu Pandemic, but this fall the CDC, WHO, and other health organizations are warning that the time may have come. No one knows for sure, but your community (like many others) is taking this threat very seriously.

Roles: As a part of a Special Task Force for Influenza Prevention, you are in charge of preventing a major outbreak in your local community. To begin, assign roles. You will work as a team to determine what these roles look like, but for now take brief notes on what you might contribute.

Team Member	Role	Description
	Environmental Health Scientist	
	Epidemiologist	
	Health Behavior & Education Specialist	
	Health Policy Expert	

Explore the Problem:

KNOW-NEED TO KNOW CHART:

Complete the Know-Need to Know chart below based on the following directions:

- **Know:** In this column, write any facts or information you already knew about influenza.
- **Need to Know:** In this column, write a list of QUESTIONS you have.

Know	Need to Know

RISK FACTORS:

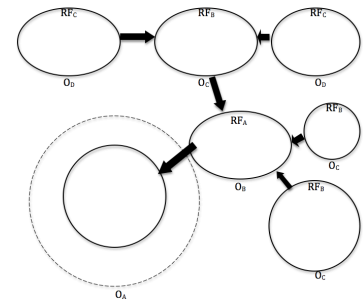
Using the www.flu.gov website, the CDC Influenza Pandemic Plan packet, and any other resources, take notes on possible risk factors for the flu in the table below.

Type of Risk Factor	Risk Factors
Predisposing	
Reinforcing	
Enabling	
Other Modifiable Risk Factors	
Other Unmodifiable Risk Factors	

IDENTIFYING NEEDS:

Factor Outcome Web:

Recall: A Factor-Outcome web is a tool used to show the relationship between risk or protective factors and associated outcomes, made by connecting variables with bubbles and arrows, pointed in the direction of hypothesized influence. (Lesson 3.11)



Create a Factor-Outcome web that connects factors and variables related to influenza. You may choose to organize this web in any way that makes the most sense to you; it should be a visual map to track your thinking!

Research:

LITERATURE REVIEW:

Each team member on the task force should choose a risk factor to focus on and locate one peer-reviewed, scholarly journal article describing a study related to that risk factor. Summarize the study in the table below.

Info Type:	Information:
<p>Source <i>(title, author, name of site, date, and URL below)</i></p>	
<p>Risk Factor</p>	
<p>Purpose of Study</p>	
<p>Methods</p>	
<p>Results</p>	
<p>Conclusion</p>	

IDENTIFY PRIORITIES:

What were the major findings from your literature review? Share your findings and record the key conclusions in the table below. Then work together to select the **two** most urgent risk factors to prioritize.

Major Research Findings:

Risk Factor	Literature Review Findings

Identify Solutions:

ACTION PLAN:

Prioritized Risk Factors:

Evidence for Risk Factors:

Recommendations:

Communicate:

OFFICIAL REPORT:

Prepare a 2-3 page written report that includes the following:

- **Introduction to Risk Factors**
- **Literature Review**
- **Recommendations**
- **Works Cited**

Each team member should contribute to the report equally. Be sure to cite all your sources appropriately to avoid plagiarism!

TOWN HALL PRESENTATION:

The community will be gathering at a local high school for a briefing from the local health department on the upcoming influenza threat. Prepare a 5 minute team oral presentation that includes the following:

- **Background on Influenza**
- **Explanation of Risk Factors**
- **Summary of research findings**
- **Recommendations**

Each team member should contribute to the presentation equally. Practice as a team to ensure you are professional, clear, concise, and engaging. Be sure to plan your opening and closing as well as transitions between team members.

Rubric:

Your survey, final report, and final presentation will be evaluated using the criteria below.

Obj. 5.12: Use evidence from scientific studies to support a local plan for preventing the spread of influenza				
	Needs Improvement	Emerging Mastery	Partial Mastery	Mastery
LITERATURE REVIEW	Missing or incomplete literature review	Did not access peer-reviewed scholarly journal source or credible source, not aligned to a risk factor for influenza; Did not adequately analyze the study to determine purpose and conclusions	Accessed peer-reviewed scholarly journal source or another credible sources summarizing a study, at least partially aligned to a risk factor for influenza; Analyzed the study to determine purpose and conclusions	Accessed peer-reviewed scholarly journal source, aligned to a risk factor for influenza; Accurately analyzed the study to determine purpose and conclusions
REPORT	Missing or underprepared report; Not concise, clear, & aligned; unprofessional.	Not concise, clear, aligned, or professional; missing some sections; major spelling/grammar issues; unequal contributions	Somewhat Concise, clear, & aligned; mostly professional; comprehensive (includes all sections but some may be weak or short); some spelling/grammar issues; all team members contributed, but some more than others.	Concise, clear, & aligned; professional; comprehensive (includes all sections); few or no spelling/grammar issues; all team members contributed.
PRESENTATION	Missing presentation or underprepared; Not concise, clear, & aligned; unprofessional.	Not concise, clear, & aligned; unprofessional opening, closing, & transitions; one or more team members did not contribute	Concise, clear, & aligned; professional at most points; fairly smooth opening, closing, & transitions; all team members contributed, but some more than others.	Concise, clear, & aligned; professional; smooth opening, closing, & transitions; all team members contributed.