REGIONAL SURVEILLANCE: PACIFIC PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE NETWORK (PPHSN)

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PPHSN Institutional Framework

- Voluntary network of countries and organizations
- Established in 1996 by SPC and WHO
- Dedicated to the promotion of public health surveillance and appropriate response to the health challenges of 22 PICTs in a sustainable way

PPHSN SERVICES

- Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System: for outbreak detection
- Pacific Network: for alert and communication
- Laboratory Network: for verification and identification
- Epidemiology Network: for preparedness and response
- Pacific Infection Control Network: for infection control
- Strengthening Health Interventions in the Pacific (Data for Decision Making): for capacity building
What is disease surveillance?

“PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE IS THE ONGOING SYSTEMATIC COLLECTION, ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION, AND DISSEMINATION OF HEALTH DATA.”
Steve Thacker, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Weekly epidemic intelligence

Why we do surveillance?

Examples of recent emerging diseases

Zika Virus

Chikungunya
49 newly reported dengue fever outbreaks and circulation were recorded in the region between January 2012 and August 21st 2018.

In 2012, the four serotypes of dengue fever virus (DENV-1, DENV-2, DENV-3 and DENV-4) were circulating in the Pacific for the first time in a given calendar year since 1971. This occurred again in 2016 and 2017.
ILI AND INFLUENZA ALERTS IN THE PACIFIC, 2018 (AS OF 27 AUGUST)

Legend
- Case reported as increasing or peaking
- Case reported as decreasing or viral circulation is ongoing
- Case is reported and viral circulation is reported to be over

Compiled by the Research, Evidence and Information Programme, Public Health Division, Pacific Community (SPC) on 31 May 2018. Based on data and information collected from different sources through SPC Regional Epidemic Intelligence System.
Guiding principles

“TO PREVENT, PROTECT AGAINST, CONTROL AND PROVIDE A PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO THE INTERNATIONAL SPREAD OF DISEASE IN WAYS THAT ARE COMMENSURATE WITH AND RESTRICTED TO PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS, AND WHICH AVOID UNNECESSARY INTERFERENCE WITH INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC AND TRADE” – IHR(2005), ARTICLE 2

Way forward

- Strengthen spatial epidemiology and integrate vector and environment data with health data
- Support systems strengthening for animal and environmental health via combined capacity building initiatives eg. DDM, laboratory courses such as IATA certification training
- Including a One Health or Planetary Health service to the PPHSN

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Thank you
Vinaka vakalevu