Highlight of Each Chapter

Dr. Yin Myo Aye

1. Kingdom of Cambodia

The Communicable Disease Control Department in Ministry of Health, Cambodia started the event based surveillance system as hotlines which were disseminated to public hospitals, private clinics and the public. It became very successful because it acts as a gate keeper for early detection and identification of outbreaks. The system is complementary to the indicator based surveillance system, and facilitates reporting and communication of any abnormal events among private and public sectors.

2. People's Republic of China (Reporting System)

Since 1950s infectious diseases were reported by filling of reporting cards and mailing them to higher levels sequentially in China. Computer technology was introduced in infectious disease reporting information system during mid-1980s. It nicely replaced the old mailing reporting system which consumed time and more work load. It effectively shortened the reporting time from grassroots to the central level. As it is a real-time and consolidated data source, it has high sensitivity of detecting outbreaks with accurate and standardized data through rapid transmission.

3. State of Brunei Darussalam

The Public Health Emergency Operation Plan (PHEOP) was part of the efforts towards strengthening capacity and capability of the Department of Health Service in Brunei Darussalam. It provides a clear guidance to all public health personnel in planning, mitigating and responding to a public health emergency after a natural or technology disaster, or outbreaks of infectious diseases. The responsibilities on preparedness and response to a public health emergency are described in detailed such as the processes to establish a team and how to assign tasks to them.

4. People's Republic of China (CFETP)

Chinese Field Epidemiology Training Program (CFETP) was started in 2001. Since then, CFETP has recruited 98 officers in eight annual cohorts from 28 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities. CFETP officers have participated in hundreds of field investigations on emergency public health events, and conducted surveillance projects and epidemiologic studies. Since FETP programs are developing in many countries in the region, the system and successful stories of CFETP are nice experiences to share with other countries as it illustrated the difficulties they faced and how they overcame them.

5. Malaysia

Manual on infectious diseases outbreak rapid response and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for potential infectious diseases in Malaysia are very important documents because it acts as reference documents for all public health personnel by ensuring the practice of systematic surveillance and control. It is a flexible document and can be easily modified to meet the needs and resource capacity at various levels, and the changing public health priorities and diseases.

6. Union of Myanmar

Early Warning and Response System (EWARS) was set up in Myanmar just after cyclone Nargis in 2008. It is an integral part of existing public health surveillance and response system, and highly sensitive to all potential epidemics by triggering immediate response capacities for rapid investigation and management of outbreaks. Its informal component covers more on potential outbreaks while the formal components enable surveillance at community and individual health facilities. The combination of MOH data and NGO data provide a unique opportunity to detect clearer picture of alarming diseases.

7. Republic of Korea

The joint table-top exercise, CJK Flufighter United 2008, was conducted in Seoul, Korea in order to minimize the potential public health and socio-economic impact of the pandemic influenza by enhancing international cooperation and common efforts among the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea. It describes the nice collaboration among three countries with different health systems. The exercise was a useful method to understand the differences, share information, discuss the solutions and build up the systematic cooperation by portraying interesting working processes.

8. Republic of Singapore

The story depicts the importance of public health surveillance, response and communication through their experiences in SARS outbreak, with motivating surveillance activities, and management at hospitals, communities and border checkpoints. It also underlines the crucial role of risk communication in managing outbreaks.

Highlight of Each Chapter

9. **Kingdom of Thailand**

    Thailand motivates the need to identify key players, Surveillance and Rapid Response Teams (SRRTs), in containment of public health emergencies since more notifications and investigations can lead to better outbreak detection and containment. Interesting stories on outbreak containment of SRRTs inform the readers how to advocate, maintain budget support, provide training and coordinate a response.

10. **Republic of Indonesia**

    Re-emergence of polio infection in Indonesia, a disease that was eradicated 10 years ago, was successfully contained by conducting Global Polio Eradication Initiative. This is an attractive model of disease eradication with intensified efforts, collective leadership and typical multi-partners' leadership pattern which overcame the limited resources of cross-sectors.

11. **Socialist Republic of Vietnam**

    Rabies prevention and control program in Vietnam is a typical pattern of collaboration between human and animal sectors. It highlights the role of government support, inter-sectoral relationship, training, and having vaccination delivery points which strengthen the surveillance, control and effective management and communication.

12. **Lao People's Democratic Republic**

    Health education is one of the major pillars of public health in health promotion and prevention of emerging infectious diseases in the community. The concepts, methods and tools of health education are elaborated clearly in the article. Effectiveness of health education campaign was well documented through a survey with a high impact in the community.

13. **Republic of the Philippines**

    Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams (BHERTs) in Philippines are local government units at village levels. It is a nice model of community mobilization against emerging infectious diseases. Members of the community are on the frontline of the battle against infectious diseases, rather than being a victim to impending disease outbreaks. The teams worked brilliantly in control of SARS and avian influenza outbreaks. Hard experience could render stronger and better system.

GOOD PRACTICES in Responding to
Emerging Infectious Diseases: Experiences from the
ASEAN
Plus Three Countries

14. ASEAN Secretariat

ASEAN's pioneering initiative on multisector pandemic preparedness and response enhanced the regional preparedness and capacity through integrated approaches to prevention, surveillance and timely response to emerging infectious diseases by strengthening communication and information system, building regional capacity of Member States and addressing interconnected health challenges with a holistic approach.

Kingdom of Cambodia

Republic of Singapore

People's Republic of China

Kingdom of Thailand

State of Brunei Darussalam

Republic of Indonesia

Malaysia

Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Union of Myanmar

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Republic of Korea

Republic of the Philippines

GOOD PRACTICES in Responding to

Emerging Infectious Diseases: Experiences from the

A S E A N

Plus Three Countries