

Maladies Infectieuses Emergentes : le point de vue du COMEDS

Comité des Chefs des Services de Santé Militaires au sein de l'OTAN



OTAN 4 avril 1949

ORGANISATION for SECURITY and COOPERATION in EUROPE (OSCE) (56)

Andorra
Holy See
Liechtenstein
Monaco
San Marino

EURO-ATLANTIC COUNCIL (EAPC) (50)

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANISATION (NATO) (28)

| | | |
|---------|--------|---------------|
| Canada | Norway | United States |
| Iceland | Turkey | Albania |

EUROPEAN UNION (EU) (28)

Cyprus

| | | |
|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| Belgium | Germany | Poland |
| Bulgaria | Hungary | Portugal |
| Czech Rep | Italy | Romania |
| Denmark | Latvia | Slovakia |
| Estonia | Lithuania | Slovenia |
| France | Luxemburg | Spain |
| Greece | Netherlands | United Kingdom |
| Croatia | | |

PARTNERSHIP for PEACE (PfP) (22)

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Armenia | Serbia |
| Azerbaijan | Switzerland |
| Belarus | Tajikistan |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | |
| Turkmenistan | FYROM |
| Ukraine | Georgia |
| Uzbekistan | Montenegro |
| Kazakhstan | Russia |
| Kyrgyzstan | Moldova |

Austria
Finland
Ireland
Sweden
Mailta

MEDITERRANEAN DIALOGUE (MD) (7)

| | | | |
|---------|--------|------------|---------|
| Algeria | Israel | Mauritania | Tunisia |
| Egypt | Jordan | Morocco | |

ISTANBUL COOPERATION INITIATIVE (ICI) (6)

Bahrain, Qatar , Oman, Kuwait, UA Emirates, Saudi Arabia

Partners across the Globe and NN-TCN

New Zealand, Australia,.... , Singapore

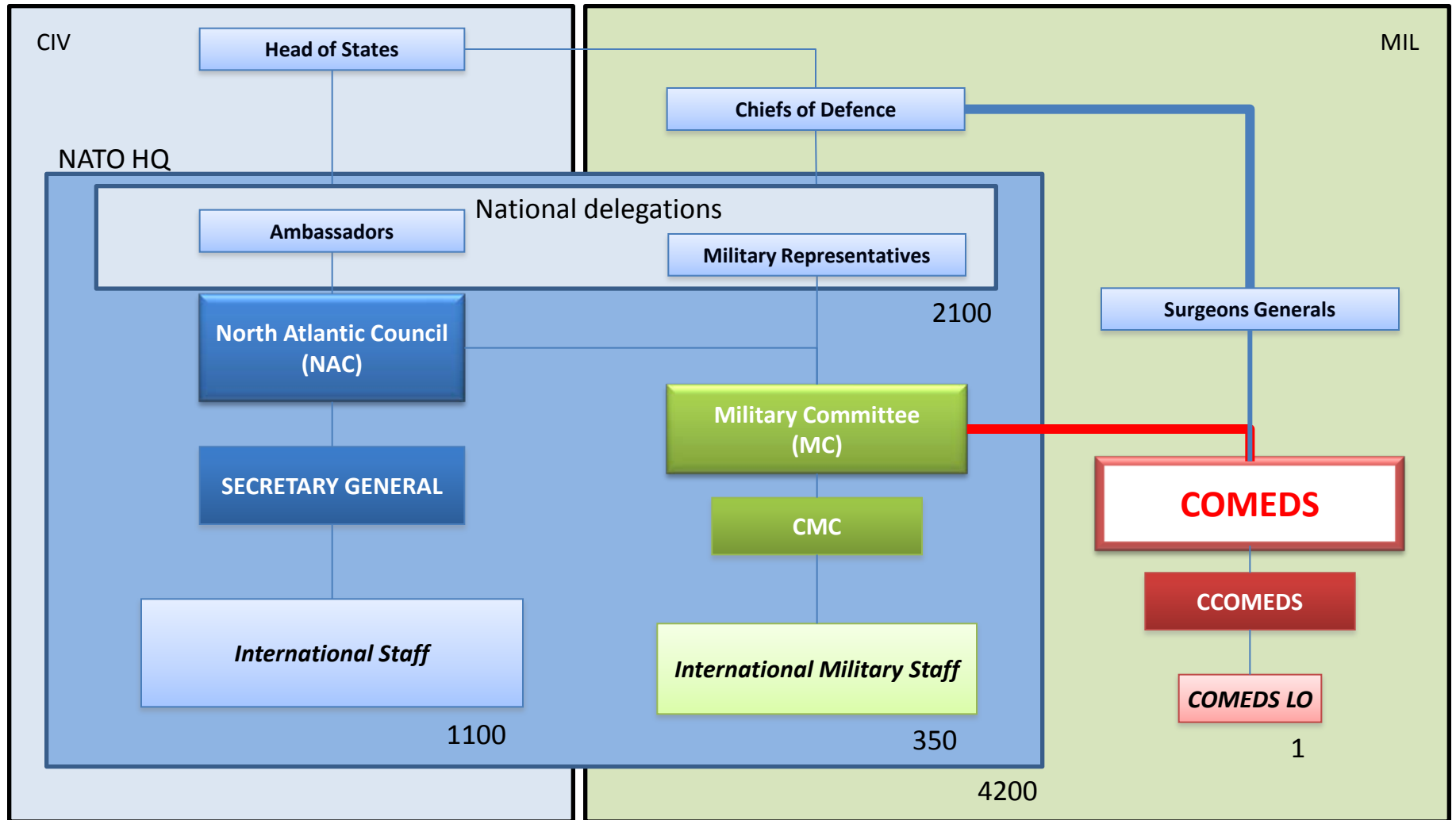


- 1970 Création de EUROMED
 - Au sein de l'EUROGROUP (Union Européenne Ouest)
 - 10 nations accompagnées d'observateurs (USA, CAN, FRA)
 - Intérêts communs des européens

- 1994 Création du COMEDS
 - Subordonné au Comité Militaire
 - Présidences

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| ■ BEL : 1994 – 2005 | MG van Hoof |
| ■ HUN : 2005 – 2006 | MG Sved |
| ■ DEU : 2006 – 2009 | LTG Nakath |
| ■ NLD : 2009 – 2012 | BG van der Meer |
| ■ FRA : 2012 – | LTG Nédellec |

Place du COMEDS



Mission

La mission du COMEDS est de **renforcer le dispositif global de santé militaire de l'Alliance** en:

- 2.1. **conseillant le Comité militaire** sur les questions médicales militaires intéressant l'OTAN
- 2.2. faisant office **d'organe de coordination** du Comité militaire pour l'ensemble des politiques, des doctrines, des concepts, des procédures, des techniques, des programmes et des initiatives médico-militaires au sein de l'OTAN;
- 2.3. participant au **processus de planification de défense** pour des questions médicales militaires.

Vision

“To be the most relevant military medical organisation guiding the provision of excellent, effective, and ethical full spectrum health services at best value to Allies.”

There is no other committee doing the standardisation
of the operational medical support in the world

Responsabilités

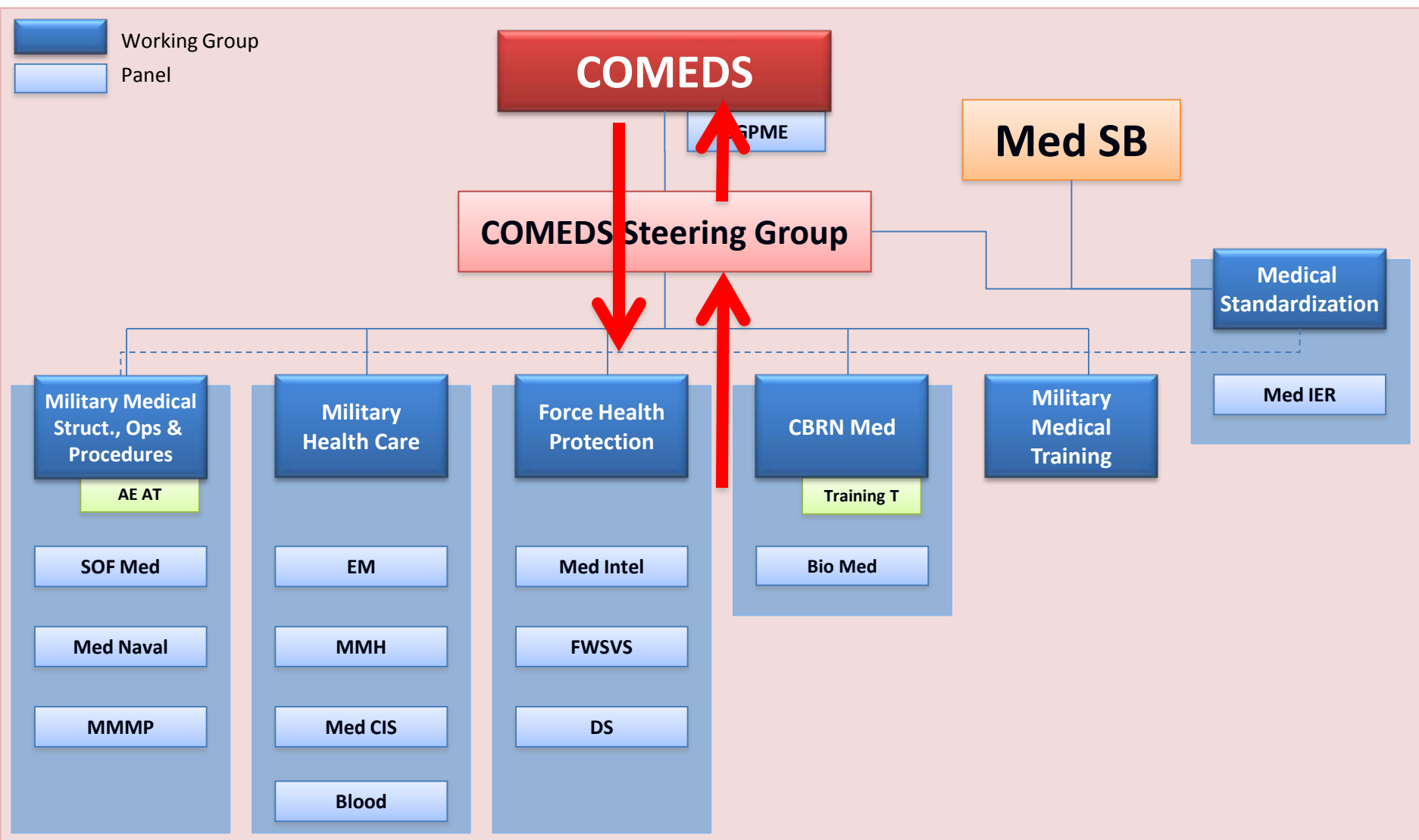
... le COMEDS est un forum proactif qui permet d'entamer **et d'harmoniser** l'élaboration et la mise en oeuvre de politiques, de doctrines, de concepts, de procédures, de techniques, de programmes et d'initiatives médico-militaires au sein de l'OTAN, grâce à la **coopération** entre les pays membres, l'Etat-major des Commandements stratégiques (SC), et d'autres commandements à tout niveau traitant de questions de santé.

Consensus

... **autorité de coordination** et **Procédure de silence** des questions médicales militaires intéressant l'OTAN et est responsable de la **coordination** et de la **coordination de la formulation de recommandations de principe et d'avis coordonnés concernant des questions médicales militaires** dans les domaines suivants:

- 4.1. aspects stratégiques du **soutien médical militaire opérationnel**;
- 4.2. **interopérabilité** médicale militaire;
- 4.3. **coopération** sur les questions liées à la santé.

Organisation du travail





Organisation du travail

Groupes de travail et panels.

Réunion Steering Group et Plénière deux fois par an.

Minutes publiées et soumises à procédure de silence.

Publication des textes. (STANAG)

Chaque nation est responsable de la mise en œuvre de ces recommandations.



Rôle du COMEDS dans les MIE

Recueillir avis d'experts

Formuler des recommandations

Proposer une conduite et / ou une organisation

Faire valider par les nations par la voie du Comité Militaire

Diffuser les différents éléments.



2011 Virus Influenza

Based on lessons identified and learned from the pandemic H1N1 influenza developed in 2009/2010 and the potential serious health threat of H1N1 and emerging new influenza types to NATO military personnel and to Host Nation population both in NATO territory and on areas of operation, the Military Health Care Working Group of COMEDS was tasked by the chairman of COMEDS to update the COMEDS Policy Statement on Avian Influenza (Reference A). A policy statement which was coordinated with the former Joint Medical Committee (JMC)/IS and the Food and Agriculture Planning Committee (FAPC)/IS, now Public Health Food and Water Group/IS and endorsed by COMEDS in consensus. The task was to provide a policy statement on epidemics and pandemics of known as well as emerging influenza types.



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COMMITTEE OF THE CHIEFS OF MILITARY MEDICAL SERVICES IN NATO

COMITE DES CHEFS DES SERVICES DE SANTE MILITAIRES AU SEIN DE L'OTAN

COMEDS-006-06
27 Feb 2006

CHAIRMAN MILITARY COMMITTEE

COMEDS POSITION ON AVIAN INFLUENZA

| | | | |
|--------|-----------|---------------|---|
| DATE | 15 MAR | COPIES | 1 |
| O/CMC | * OK, MAJ | | |
| O/DCMC | | | |
| O/DIMS | | | |
| MA1 | * OK MAJ | Sec1 | |
| MA2 | | Sec2 | |
| MA3 | | AA | |
| ADC | | PA | |
| CSO | | CPT | |
| SA'S | | COPY TO: DIMS | |

General Henault,

Please find the Committee of Chiefs of Military Medical Services in NATO (COMEDS) policy statement on the Avian Influenza, which is in Enclosure.

Based on the situation development and growing public concerns caused by Avian Influenza.

ENCLOSURE 2 TO
(DRAFT) MCM-0070-2011



2011 Virus Influenza

Based on lessons identified and learned from the pandemic H1N1 influenza developed in 2009/2010 and the potential serious health threat of H1N1 and emerging new influenza types to NATO military personnel and to Host Nation population both in NATO territory and on areas of operation, the Military Health Care Working Group of COMEDS was tasked by the chairman of COMEDS to update the COMEDS Policy Statement on Avian Influenza (Reference A). A **policy statement** which was **coordinated** with the former Joint Medical Committee (JMC)/IS and the Food and Agriculture Planning Committee (FAPC)/IS, now Public Health Food and Water Group/IS and **endorsed by COMEDS in consensus**. The task was to provide a policy statement on epidemics and pandemics of known as well as emerging influenza types.



COMMITTEE OF THE CHIEFS OF
MILITARY MEDICAL SERVICES IN NATO

COMITE DES CHEFS DES SERVICES DE
SANTE MILITAIRES AU SEIN DE L'OTAN

06 May 2011

COMEDS (LO)L(2011)0013

COMEDS STATEMENT ON INFLUENZA-LIKE EPIDEMICS AND PANDEMICS

The Committee of the Chiefs of Military Medical Services in NATO (COMEDS) believes that Influenza of any type, especially if confirmed human-to-human transmission occurs and epidemic or pandemic influenza develops, is a potentially serious health threat to NATO military personnel. Additionally, NATO nations, like all other nations, are vulnerable to the rapid spread of a virulent infectious disease due to rapid movement of people and commerce in the modern world.

COMEDS recommends to maintain awareness and to proceed with a vigilant but prudent course of action by NAC and MC, based on a consolidated civilian-military medical input by COMEDS, should an influenza-like health crisis emerge. Basic research and epidemiological surveillance related to the disease is the proper domain of civilian medical authorities, such as the World Health Organization, and national centers of excellence. It is proper for military medical services to share epidemiological data with civilian medical authorities, and collaborate on health research according to national law and policy.

However, COMEDS does not believe it is proper for NATO to take a leading role in these efforts. COMEDS advocates four courses of action in support of national plans:

- Ensure military medical authorities share data with, and have comprehensive access to, civilian epidemiological surveillance information centers and clarify their relationship within national influenza pandemic plans.
- Recommend NATO nations fully implement existing national strategies to control the spread of influenza.
- Encourage civilian health authorities in member nations to improve production and rapid fielding of vaccines against emerging disease threats in general, including known and emerging types of Influenza.
- Recommend NATO member nations consider the needs of their military forces in allocating antiviral medications and personnel protective equipment (PPE) in national response plans.

COMEDS does not support the development of separate NATO STANAGs for individual types of Influenza, and believes that effective implementation of existing STANAGs is adequate. Additionally, deployment health surveillance guidance in STANAG 2535 (06 OCT 2010) will provide further policy foundation for member nations.

(for)
Brigadier General Rob van der Meer, MD
Chairman COMEDS



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DRAFT

ENCLOSURE 1 TO
IMSWM-0164-2011



NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE
COMITE MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD



(Draft)MCM-0070-2011

June 2011

SECRETARY GENERAL, NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANISATION

COMEDS STATEMENT ON INFLUEZA-LIKE EPIDEMICS AND PANDEMICS

Reference:

A. COMEDS006-06, COMEDS Position on Avian Influenza, 27 FEB 2006

1. Based on lessons identified and learned from the pandemic H1N1 influenza developed in 2009/2010 and the potential serious health threat of H1N1 and emerging new influenza types to NATO military personnel and to Host Nation population both in NATO territory and on areas of operation, the Military Health Care Working Group of COMEDS was tasked by the chairman of COMEDS to update the COMEDS Policy Statement on Avian Influenza (Reference A). A policy statement which was coordinated with the former Joint Medical Committee (JMC)/IS and the Food and Agriculture Planning Committee (FAPC)/IS, now Public Health Food and Water Group/IS and endorsed by COMEDS in consensus. The task was to provide a policy statement on epidemics and pandemics of known as well as emerging influenza types.

2. The MC agrees with the enclosed COMEDS Statement on Influenza-like Epidemics and Pandemics, and forwards it for MAC notation.

3. This document clears IMSWM-0164-2011, xx June 2011.

FOR THE MILITARY COMMITTEE:

J. BORNEMANN
Lieutenant General, DEUAR
Director General
International Military Staff

Enclosure:

1. COMEDS(LO)L(2011)0013, COMEDS Statement on Influenza-like Epidemics and Pandemics, 6 May 2011

DRAFT
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INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF
ETAT-MAJOR MILITAIRE INTERNATIONAL



**SILENCE PROCEDURE
EXPIRES AT 1200 HRS
FRIDAY 17 JUN 2011**

IMSWM-0164-2011

8 June 2011

ALL MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES

**MILITARY IMPLICATIONS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE ROLE OF NATIONS IN
PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF INFLUENZA LIKE EPIDEMICS AND
PANDEMICS**

References:

- A. COMEDS-006-06 COMEDS Position on Avian Influenza, 27 Feb 2006
- B. COMEDS(Chair)L(2011)0002, COMEDS Policy Statement on Influenza-like Epidemics and Pandemics 06 May 2011

1. In March 2011, the chairman of COMEDS tasked the Military Health Care Working Group of COMEDS to review the COMEDS Policy Statement on Avian Influenza (Reference A).
2. The review: "COMEDS STATEMENT ON INFLUENZA-LIKE EPIDEMICS AND PANDEMICS" was forwarded to Chairman Military Committee (Reference B).
3. Nations are invited to consider the draft MCM-0070-2011 at Enclosure 1. Endorsement will be assumed unless the action officer is notified to the contrary by 1200hrs, Friday 17Jun 2011.

[Signature]
A. BORNEIMANN
Lieutenant General, DEUAR
Director General
International Military Staff

Enclosure

1. (Draft) MCM-0070-2011, COMEDS Statement on Influenza-Like Epidemics and Pandemics

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Action Officer LtCol B.T. Henriksen, L&R, (9888)

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IMS Control Nr: O11002484



2015 Ebola



NATO/EAPC UNCLASSIFIED

COMMITTEE OF THE CHIEFS OF MILITARY
MEDICAL SERVICES IN NATOCOMITE DES CHEFS DES SERVICES DE SANTE
MILITAIRES AU SEIN DE L'OTAN

28 AUG 2014

COMEDS(CHAIR/JL(2014)0022

Chairman of the

- Force Health Protection Working Group (FHP WG)
- Military Health Care Working Group (MHC WG)
- Military Medical Structures, Operations and Procedures Working Group (MMSOP WG)
- CBRN Medical Working Group (CBRN Med WG)
- Bio Medical Advisory Council (BioMed AC)
- Medical Materiel and Military Pharmacy Expert Panel (MMMP EP)

COMEDS Statement on EBOLAReference

A. MC0335 – COMEDS TOR

1. An epidemic of Ebola virus disease (EVD) is ongoing in West Africa where encountered many difficulties in its attempt to control the spread of Ebola. As of August 2014, according to the World Health Organization (WHO) the total number of probable and confirmed cases in the current outbreak of EVD in the four countries as reported by the respective Ministries of Health of Guinea, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone is 3 069, with 1 552 deaths, despite significant reporting in some intense transmission areas.

2. The outbreak continues to accelerate. More than 40% of the total number of cases has occurred within the past 21 days. The overall case fatality rate is high. The international community is involved and, today, the WHO issued its roadmap to stop Ebola transmission in affected countries within 6-9 months and limit international spread.

3. As the COMEDS is the Alliance's senior military medical body on medical matters, I would like to report to the Military Committee, on behalf of COMEDS, a Statement showing which measures the NATO members should pay attention to (capabilities, organisation, prevention, protection, etc.).

4. FHP WG is in lead. MHC WG, MMSOP WG, CBRN Med WG, BioMed AC, MMMP EP, in their respective areas, are tasked to fully support the FHP WG. The FHP WG chairman is authorized to task these groups on this issue.

COMEDS Liaison Officer – International Military Staff – NATO Headquarters
Boulevard Léopold III, B-1110 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
E-mail: halbert.edouard@hq.nato.int - Tel: +32.2.707.3953 - Mob: +33.6.32.58.95.8

coordination with ACO MEDAD and the MILMED COE/DHSC is required. Your proposal is expected by Friday 5th of September.

5. In addition, I ask the FHP WG supported by the other groups to provide military medical guidelines for the COMEDS members on EVD (Prevention, Evacuation, Treatment, Education and Training). I would highly appreciate to receive your guidelines by 19 September.

6. For any questions, please contact COL Edouard HALBERT (FRA), COMEDS Liaison Officer at the NATO HQ halbert.edouard@hq.nato.int.

G. NÉDELLEC (FRA), MD, PhD
Lieutenant General, FRA Defence Health Service
Chairman COMEDS



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COMMITTEE OF THE CHIEFS OF MILITARY
MEDICAL SERVICES IN NATO

COMITE DES CHEFS DES SERVICES DE SANTE
MILITAIRES AU SEIN DE L'OTAN



11 SEPT 2014

COMEDS(CHAIR)L(2014)0025

COMEDS STATEMENT ON COMMUNICABLE DISEASE OUTBREAKS

References

A. MC 0335 – COMEDS Terms of Reference, April 2009

1. The current Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) epidemic has strained under-resourced systems in the West African region, and World Health Organisation expects the outbreak to continue for 6-9 months. This reminds the Alliance of the need to be prepared to address existing or emerging bio defence threats up to Bio Safety Level (BSL) 4 which may pose a risk to NATO members, and overall global stability and security.

2. Whilst the Prague Summit (2002) addressed terrorism and WMD, the recommendations did not consider the specific challenges associated with naturally occurring epidemics. This should include laboratory diagnostic capabilities up to BSL 4, specific outbreak investigation capabilities, medical evacuation transport, isolation/quarantine facilities, expert medical care to EVD patients and appropriate infection prevention and control.

3. NATO must be prepared to provide a coordinated and unified response to the current EVD threat in addition to any future communicable disease threat in a domestic or international theatre of operations.

4. NATO should also anticipate requests for assistance from the broader international community including but not limited to International Organisations and Non-Governmental Organisations.

5. To enhance readiness, expand CBRN responsiveness and improve consequence management in NATO to communicable disease threats, the COMEDS recommends the following measures:

5.1. Identify current deployable and domestic capabilities (CIV and MIL), taking into account capacity and sustainability.

5.2. Support a new Smart Defence project regarding responsiveness to biological outbreaks by pooling, sharing and coordinating these capabilities.

5.3. Share medical information, health surveillance data and lessons learned to maintain and improve situational awareness.

5.4. Enhance preparedness and cooperation of member nations' medical capabilities regarding outbreak response by implementing the Connected Forces Initiative.

5.5. Realign planning and funding priorities in accordance with NDPP, to focus on developing an efficient, effective and sustainable response to future infectious disease outbreaks and bio threats up to BSL 4.

6. The COMEDS is working on detailed guidelines for Ebola management, expected to be released in October.

G. NÉDELLEC, MD, PhD
Lieutenant General, FRA Defence Health Service
Chairman COMEDS

2014 Ebola

Rupture de silence:

« les crises sanitaires liées aux agents naturels ne sont pas du domaine d'action de l'OTAN. »

RECOMMANDATIONS NON ADOPTÉES



NATO/EAPC UNCLASSIFIED
COMMITTEE OF THE CHIEFS OF MILITARY
MEDICAL SERVICES IN NATO
COMITE DES CHEFS DES SERVICES DE SANTE
MILITAIRES AU SEIN DE L'OTAN



25 SEPT 2014

COMEDS(CHAIR)L(2014)00XX

Military Medical Guidelines for Ebola Virus Disease

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1. Introduction
2. Medical information and intelligence assessment
3. Health surveillance for NATO personnel
4. Infection prevention, control and hygiene
5. Clinical assessment and biological diagnosis
6. Treatment and patient management
7. Patient evacuation and transportation of samples
8. Management of human remains
9. Public health investigation and management
10. Medical treatment facilities security and management
11. Communication (external & internal)
12. Education, training and lessons learned
13. Legal and ethical considerations

Propositions St

Nouvelles recomn

Décision du CO

Pas de nouvelle p

ction massive?



Le COMEDS a rempli sa mission

La mission du COMEDS est de **renforcer le dispositif global de santé militaire de l'Alliance** en:

- 2.1. **conseillant le Comité militaire** sur les questions médicales militaires intéressant l'OTAN
- 2.2. faisant office **d'organe de coordination** du Comité militaire pour l'ensemble des politiques, des doctrines, des concepts, des procédures, des techniques, des programmes et des initiatives médico-militaires au sein de l'OTAN;
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