GREG WALDEN, OREGON
CHAIRMAN

FRANK PALLONE, JR., NEW JERSEY
RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515–6115
Majority (202) 225–2927
Minority (202) 225–3641

July 12, 2018

Dr. Anne Schuchat
Principal Deputy Director
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Schuchat:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on June 15, 2018, to testify at the hearing entitled "The State of U.S. Public Health Biopreparedness: Responding to Biological Attacks, Pandemics, and Emerging Disease Outbreaks."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Thursday, July 26, 2018. Your responses should be mailed to Ali Fulling, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Ali.Fulling@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Gregg Harper

Gregg Harper
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

cc: The Honorable Diana DeGette, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Attachment

Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Gregg Harper

1. Have there been any laboratory-acquired infections or potential exposures to pathogens at CDC labs during this past year? If so, what was the nature of the exposure or infection, and were any hospitalizations required as a result?

2. How serious of a pandemic threat does the CDC view the 5th wave H7N9 influenza strain, currently circulating in China? If a pandemic were to occur, how severely would it impact public health?

3. What are the present challenges that are preventing the broader utilization of cell-based influenza vaccines, and what steps can be taken to become less reliant on egg-based vaccines? What are the advantages of utilizing cell-based influenza vaccines over egg-based ones?

4. Is there currently an approved anthrax vaccine that can be administered to children? If so, what are the dosing guidelines for pediatric administration? If not, are there any pediatric anthrax vaccines currently under development, and what is the status of this development?

5. Were any FY 2017 funds for the non- procurement costs of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) used for any CDC expenses outside of the SNS program? If so, please identify the type and amount of these expenses.

6. How many laboratories currently make up the Laboratory Response Network (LRN)?

7. How much funding is there for the LRN in FY 2018?

The Honorable Michael C. Burgess

1. Dr. Schuchat, in your written testimony you mentioned CDC's use of electronic data systems to monitor population health information. How does CDC use and disseminate this data such that it can coordinate a timely response? Is the data platform that CDC uses integrated or interoperable with other biosurveillance platforms?

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.

1. How does CDC ensure that its laboratories are gathering data from as many sources as possible?

    a. Do you need additional resources to help you analyze this data more effectively?

2. Please provide an update on CDC's concerns about the growth of antibiotic resistant bacteria?

3. In the case of an emergent biological threat, how does CDC's Emergency Operations Center coordinate the response at the front lines, such as at the state and local level?

4. Please describe how CDC uses its Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement Program to help states and local municipalities identify and address gaps in preparedness. Is there anything you need from Congress to make sure this program works as intended?

5. What are the biggest challenges to successfully deploying countermeasures at the state and local level? How is CDC addressing these challenges?