

The WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMRO) is a high priority area for the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic. The Region is home to 1.2 billion people, with a high population density and a high level of international travel. The Region is also home to a high level of biodiversity, which may increase the risk of zoonotic transmission of the virus. The Region is also home to a high level of poverty, which may increase the risk of malnutrition and other health problems that could increase the severity of the pandemic.

The WHO EMRO has developed a 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic preparedness plan for the Region. The plan is based on the WHO 2005 Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework. The plan is divided into four main components: 1) Surveillance and early detection; 2) Risk assessment; 3) Response; and 4) Recovery. The plan also includes a list of key actions and a timeline for implementation. The plan is intended to guide the development of national and regional preparedness plans and to ensure that the Region is ready to respond to a 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic.

The WHO EMRO is committed to working with its member states to develop and implement a 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic preparedness plan for the Region. The WHO EMRO will provide technical assistance and support to member states in developing and implementing their preparedness plans. The WHO EMRO will also coordinate the Region's response to a 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic.

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