

recovery efforts associated with any pandemic and especially with highly lethal flu viruses.

- The NJ Department of Human Services has plans for mental health services in the case of a pandemic influenza outbreak.

## **Special Populations**

- A number of religious and ethnic groups have specific directives about how bodies are managed after death, and such needs must be considered as a part of pandemic planning. Different religious groups, and others with specific cultural requirements, have specific directives for the treatment of bodies and for funerals. The wishes of the family will provide guidance; however, if no family is available local religious or ethnic communities can be contacted for information.
- As a result of these special requirements, some religious groups maintain facilities such as small morgues, crematoriums, and other facilities, which are generally operated by volunteers. Religious groups should be contacted to ensure these facilities and volunteers are prepared to deal with pandemic issues. Religious leaders should be involved in planning for funeral management, bereavement counseling, and communications, particularly in ethnic communities with large numbers of people who do not speak the official languages.

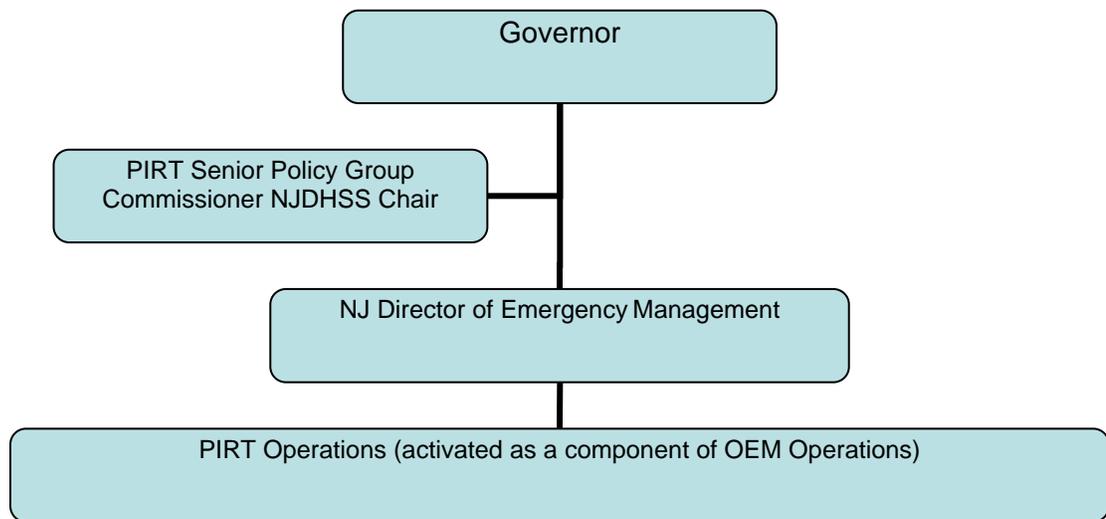
## **7.6. Personal Protective Equipment**

During a Public Health Emergency, the NJDHSS Occupational Health Service (OHS) with assistance from the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJDLWD), Division of Public Safety and Occupational Safety and Health will provide technical assistance, advice and support for evaluating occupational exposures to response and recovery workers.

## **8.0 Organization**

### **8.1. General**

8.2. In response to an Influenza Pandemic outbreak, New Jersey will staff the PIRT. The PIRT will include a Policy Group headed by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services or his/her designee with a direct report to the Office of the Governor, and an Operations Group that will report to the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (Figure 9).



**Figure 9 Pandemic Influenza Response Team Organization**

### **8.3. PIRT Policy Group**

8.3.1. The NJDHSS Commissioner of Health and Senior Services will head the PIRT Policy Group. This group is responsible for providing the Governor and the Operations Group with guidelines for implementing the State Pandemic Influenza Response Plan based on assessment of the developing situation, discussion and consultation with governmental and private agencies as to the manifestations of the pandemic, incorporation of statutory and regulatory requirements, and infusion of ethical and moral responsibilities.

#### **8.3.2. The PIRT Policy Group includes:**

- Commissioner, NJDHSS
- NJ State Epidemiologist
- NJ Attorney General
- Director, OHSP
- Chief Counsel, Office of the Governor
- Health Liaison, Office of the Governor
- PIO Office of the Governor
- State Director of Emergency Management
- Commissioner, Department of Human Services
- Secretary, Department of Agriculture
- NJ State Treasurer
- NJ Department of Education
- Board of Public Utilities
- Adjutant General

- Public Advocate
- Other members as deemed necessary by the Governor or NJDHSS
- IAC Sector Representative

## **Commissioner**

Note 1: Anticipating the absence of certain PIRT Policy Group members as a result of the pandemic, each principle will designate a primary and secondary alternate Appendix A.

Note 2: Issues posed to the PIRT Policy Group will require executive decisions and require either the agency's senior executive officer, or a representative authorized to act in place of the senior executive officer.

8.3.3. The PIRT Policy Group will meet as necessary during the course of an Influenza Pandemic.

8.3.4. The NJDHSS Commissioner is responsible for reporting PIRT Policy Group recommendations to the Governor; the State Director of Emergency Management is responsible for providing the PIRT Operations Group with operational guidance based on PIRT Policy Group decisions.

## **8.4. PIRT Operations Command**

**8.4.1.** Consistent with the State Emergency Operations Plan and the National Incident Management System, the PIRT Operations Command will provide staff to the State Emergency Management Unified Command and Operations and Planning Sections. (Figure 9) Appendix B is the complete Table of Organization for the PIRT Operations Group.

### **8.4.2. PIRT Operations Focus Areas**

#### **8.4.2.1. Logistics Section**

- \* Overall responsibility for administrative and logistical support
- Tracking and movement support of supplies
- Monitor of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies (through linkage to NJDHSS pharmaceutical distribution systems) procurement, re-supply of meds/supplies.

#### **8.4.2.2. Planning Section**

- \* Primary responsibility for Continuity of Government Operations
- EMAC requests
- Development of staffing requirements

#### **8.4.2.3. Operations Section**

- \*Response to Continuity of Operation interruptions.
- \*Medical and pharmaceutical deployment (through linkage to the NJDHSS Health Command Center).

- Monitor absenteeism within State Government.
- Deployment, re-deployment, devolution, consolidation.

#### **8.4.2.4. Finance Section**

- Determination of costs associated with EMAC requests.
- Tracking of costs associated with the health response to the Pandemic.
- Tracking of costs associated with logistic support to the Pandemic.
- Tracking of reimbursable costs based on emergency declarations.
- Liaison with Treasury.

Note: \*denotes critical task

## **9.0 Command/Control/Communications**

### **9.1. Unified Command and Control**

9.1.1. As the Governor’s agent for statewide emergency management command and control the State Director of Emergency Management operating through the State Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is New Jersey’s lead agency for coordinating emergency response operations. Consistent with this role, OEM will coordinate the implementation of the Pandemic Influenza Response Plan. State agencies will assign staff to the State Emergency Operations Center which will serve as the coordination center for pandemic emergency operations. Those agencies operating agency specific operation centers will ensure connectivity with the state EOC.

9.1.2. NJOEM will conduct state command and control operations consistent with state Regional Operation Intelligence Center levels of activations (**See Figure 9**). The State EOC will enact full operations no later than Phase 5 of Figure 5 unless otherwise directed by the Governor.

9.1.3. NJOEM will activate a Joint Information Center (JIC) to serve as the coordinating center for all public information. The Office of the Governor will serve as the lead agency for the JIC.

9.1.4. Through coordination with the Office of the Governor and other state agencies, OEM will ensure the availability of staff to support the PIRT command structure.

9.1.5. The New Jersey Director of Emergency Management will designate the Operational Commander for the Pandemic Influenza response.

9.1.6. The Operational Commander will designate the OEM Operations Chief and PIRT Section Chiefs.

9.1.7. Section Chiefs, in coordination with the Operations Chief, will select Branch leaders for the PIRT.

9.1.8. Branch Chiefs are responsible for lower level organizational structures

### **9.2. Integration of Federal Assets**