Preparedness, response and resilience plan for diseases with epidemic potential in Tunisia

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Forces & opportunity of the Health System

- The Strategic Center for Health Operations SHOC-Room (2009, H1N1 epidemic)
- Primary Health Department
- The National Observatory of New and Emerging Diseases (2005)

All these institutions are coordinating their intervention

- Prepare the response to threats and large-scale crises, natural or provoked
Response to threats and large-scale crises

- Ensure the real-time collection of health alerts
- Ensure the exchange of information and coordination with other departments when managing a crisis,
- Provide communication tools
- Provide tools for monitoring
- Event Based Surveillance
- A tool for exchanging information by weekly conference calls between the 24 health regions and ONMNE (EpiTec)
- An international monitoring system (monthly online bulletin, January 2016)
Tunisian response to the Covid-19 epidemic
Ministère de la Santé
Observatoire National des Maladies Nouvelles et Emergentes

Bulletin de veille internationale de l’ONMNE

A la date du 22/01/2020

NOUVEAU CORONAVIRUS « 2019-nCoV »
Objective of the Tunisian Response to the COVID-19 Epidemic

To curb the spread of Covid-19 within the population in order to minimize the potential health impact and reducing infection, illness and death.
Planning principles

- Strong leadership and coordination of the response
- Activation of the response and resilience plan for diseases with epidemic potential in Tunisia
- Dynamic risk assessments of potential health and other impacts, using the best available scientific advice and evidence to inform decision making
- Working with the WHO, the African Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and China CDC
- Adopt the “Early Warning and Response System” (EWAR)
1. Early case detection
2. Déclaration précoce des cas (confirmation de laboratoire)
3. Early detection & contact-tracing
4. Isolating patients with suspected COVID-19
5. Early treatment
1. Isolation of all positive cases
2. Quarantine of subjects at risk
3. Containment measures
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transmission Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Interventions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Imported</td>
<td>Feb 28-</td>
<td>all cases being reported by country have been acquired outside of the country.</td>
<td>Declaration, Case isolation, Contact tracing, Voluntary home quarantine Borders control</td>
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<td></td>
<td>March 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>March 10-</td>
<td>the source of infection is within the country</td>
<td>Voluntary home Quarantine Social distancing Closure of schools and Universities Curefew March 17 General containment March 22</td>
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<td>April 14</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Since April</td>
<td>Large outbreaks of local transmission, large numbers of cases from sentinel lab surveillance, multiple unrelated clusters in several areas of the country</td>
<td>+ Mandatory isolation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Epidemic Situation, April 19</td>
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<td>----------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Screening</strong></td>
<td>17287</td>
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</table>
| **Total cases** | 879  
7,44/100 000 |
| **Sex Ratio** | 1 |
| **Health workers** | 95 |
| **Deaths** | 37 |
| **Fatality** | 4,2 |
| **Morality Ratio** | 0,31/100 000 |
| **Hospitalisation** | 129, ICU= 34 |
Epidemic trend of confirmed cases COVID-19-TUNISIA
Incidence rate per 100 000
Health System Challenges

- Health care challenges
  - Screening strategy
  - PHC integration
  - Medical care: ICU
- Health care for general population: NCD, MCH, Mental Health, Emergency
- Health providers needs: accurate information protection, psychological needs
- After containment risk management
Economical & Social Challenges

- Tunisia is facing the deepest recession since its independence in 1956.
- Macroeconomic imbalances and a very high external as well as public debt.
- Contain the spread of the virus, mitigate the human, social, and economic needs amid an unprecedented vulnerability and to ensure the sustainability of the external debt.
- These measures involve raising health spending, strengthening social safety nets, and supporting small- and medium-sized firms hit by the crisis and employing a large share of the population.
Thank you