

# After Action Review

## Varicella outbreak at a shelter



**Date of  
emergence**  
**06 MAR 2023**

Date on which the  
suspected index case  
or first  
epidemiologically  
linked case first  
experienced symptoms

**Date of  
detection**  
**11 APR 2023**

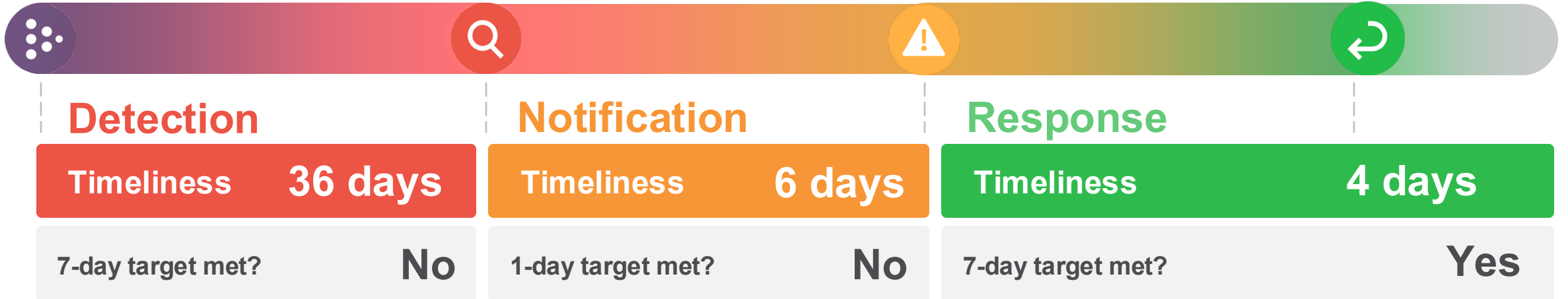
Date the event  
(suspected outbreak) is  
first recorded by any  
source or in any system –  
Date of second case  
report to school authority

**Date of  
notification**  
**17 APR 2023**

Date the event  
(suspected outbreak) is  
first reported to a public  
health authority  
responsible for action –  
Date OBM reported in  
surveillance system

**Date of early  
response completion**  
**21 APR 2023**

Date on which all applicable early  
response actions were completed  
  
Last early response action  
completed: Initiate appropriate risk  
communication and community  
engagement activities





Detection		Notification		Response	
Timeliness	36 days	Timeliness	6 days	Timeliness	4 days
7-day target met?	No	1-day target met?	No	7-day target met?	Yes
<b>Bottlenecks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Clinical surveillance focal point/capacity (rely on mandatory disease reporting as outlined by state – 5 day window for Varicella cases)</li><li>Delay in care-seeking by patient (migrant population, lack of awareness of need to seek HCP)</li><li>Low community knowledge and immunization coverage</li></ul> <b>Enablers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sensitivity of community detection (quick reporting from school partners, good awareness of reportable conditions)</li><li>Multiple reporting sources</li><li>Good coordination with shelter (limited by case arrival date)</li></ul>		<b>Bottlenecks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Case Investigation delays (case almost LTF)</li><li>Faxes – manual process and very time consuming, not checked over the weekend</li></ul> <b>Enablers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Medical Electronic Disease Surveillance Intelligence System – online real time reporting system to house case/outbreak report information</li></ul>		<b>Bottlenecks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Inadequate risk assessments/preparedness plans - outdated protocols</li><li>Incorrect specimen collection (HCP partners)</li><li>ASPHL does not process Varicella PCR/serology testing, we rely only on private labs.</li><li>Multi-agency coordination (many changing internal and external partners)</li><li>Limited clinical case management capacity – LHD was unable to facilitate vaccination</li><li>Risk communications or community engagement - difficulty with identifying exposed locations</li></ul> <b>Enablers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Capacity to conduct field investigation (after notification), bilingual staff, resource availability</li><li>Preestablished relationship with HCP to assist with clinical assessment of cases (El Rio)</li><li>Additional community partner as source of information: CBP Public Health</li></ul>	

## Varicella Outbreak in Migrant Shelter: Pima County, March/April 2023

# Immediate actions

Actions for immediate implementation (e.g., where resources are available or anticipated).

	<b>Proposed action</b>	<b>Bottleneck addressed</b>	<b>Responsible authority</b>
<b>1</b>	In person evaluation of cases/contact	Detection	Epidemiology
<b>2</b>	Pre-coordination for vaccination	Response	Epidemiology Clinical
<b>3</b>	Health Assessment upon admission to Shelter	Notification	Shelter?
<b>4</b>	Ask CBP PH to report as soon as a Varicella case is detected	Notification	PCHD
<b>5</b>	Coordination with PHEP – response role assignment	Response	Epi/PHEP

# Longer-term actions

Actions for longer-term planning and funding (e.g., through planning and budget cycles)

	Proposed action	Bottleneck addressed	Responsible authority
1	Contract local labs for PCR testing ASPHL cannot perform	Response	LHD/State/local labs
2	Alternative travel for infected or exposed individuals	Response	LHD/shelters
3	Coordinate EPI Staff working with/at CBP	Detection	LHD/CBP
4	Using simple report to notify of communicable diseases, replace faxes	Notification	LHD