

DC 03/07  
IMM 02/07

TO ALL BOARD CHAIRS

c.c. Clerks in Prisons and Immigration Removal Centres  
National Council  
National Tutors

15 February 2007

Dear Chair

**a) GUIDANCE FOR IMB MEMBERS IN THE EVENT OF A FLU PANDEMIC**

Attached are some general guidance notes for IMBs to aid contingency preparation in the event of a flu pandemic reaching England and Wales. Chairs are asked to discuss this possibility with Governors/Directors/Centre Managers and prepare a simple contingency plan for the Board which is agreed by all members at a Board meeting. Any further information about the imminent possibility of an outbreak will be passed on to Boards without delay. There is no cause for concern at this time.

**b) LETTER TO HEALTHCARE MANAGERS RE IMB ROLE**

In response to many concerns raised by Boards about the lack of understanding of the IMB role by some healthcare staff following the commissioning process, the Director of Prison Health kindly agreed to clarify the position by writing to all Healthcare Managers. The attached copy letter from Prison Health is for your information. It is very much hoped that this will increase acceptance of our mandatory remit and enable us to carry out our monitoring duties in healthcare more effectively and without hindrance.

Yours sincerely

**Norman McLean**  
Head of the IMB Secretariat

**Sheila Royle**  
NC member with responsibility for  
Healthcare and Mental Health Issues