

# Group 1: Need for special surveillance approaches

<p>What (if any) special disease surveillance approaches should be taken in communities where animal and human remains are surfacing from the permafrost?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Subclinical surveillance or other type of surveillance? Need to get some of the other techniques that illustrate changing conditions</li><li>• Need to have good background surveillance (baseline)</li><li>• Technology availability (biological archives)</li><li>• Need to get into One Health surveillance (opportunity to expand to humans and animals)</li><li>• Is the goal to increase local capacity? Link surveillance and health outreach capacity (sentinel work)</li><li>• Every community has an individual risk profile, needs to be location-specific, with consent of the community</li></ul>
<p>Should syndromic surveillance systems be put in place?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• With limited resources, try to do real-time surveillance in specific locations</li><li>• Need to factor in timeliness, happens in real-time</li><li>• LEO Network could be a platform for this</li><li>• What would this look like for people? Pneumonia as an example</li><li>• Can be done with health care providers that can indicate a potential health problem in the community</li><li>• In AK, EMS run data, can be searched</li><li>• Use Google data as a resource? Google Flu Trends example, new digital epidemiology team to start incorporating phone data</li><li>• Amazon is doing the same thing, important to get them looking at the right issues</li><li>• Sweden has a patient handbook for online searching, data can be used from that as well</li><li>• Military liaison to connect with local communities? Concerns about maintaining relationships and communications with indigenous people (requires sensitivity)</li><li>• Co-production of research with local communities; needs to be planned from the start with community participation</li><li>• Needs to be useful to communities and that needs to be made clear</li><li>• What are the triggers for this work?</li><li>• Do not conflate research projects with public health surveillance</li><li>• Need surveillance for the animals sake as well (communities want to know if the animals are doing well)</li><li>• Wildlife biology needs to be brought into this discussion</li><li>• There are existing networks and mechanisms for collaboration, but we could do better</li><li>• Would like to have a session at the One Health conference to pull together all of the different networks and facilitate understanding of the different organizations and networks that are working in this space</li></ul>

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<b>Should there be some kind of sentinel disease surveillance system?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>One Health concept is important here too (not just people, animals too)</b></li><li>• <b>Arctic Fox example: circumpolar, cross large distances, scavengers</b></li><li>• <b>Fish can be used as well</b></li></ul>
Should certain diagnostic approaches be used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Having case definitions would be helpful</li><li>• Some kind of survey should take place to establish a baseline</li><li>• Tools for communities to easily use? Could help build health capacity within the communities (requires funding)</li><li>• What could local communities do if they experience and unusual or unknown condition? A system may be needed to rapidly collect and analyze samples in local communities, for their health as well as the broader global health response network</li><li>• Some communities are isolated, it can be challenging to get timely access to that information</li><li>• Diagnostic tests for diseases of concern needs to be considered</li></ul>

## Group 2: Current surveillance approaches in the Arctic

<p>What is the current status of wildlife and human health surveillance in the Arctic?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Varies across countries –</li><li>• Humans – most countries in the arctic have state/country wide surveillance programs looking for infectious diseases. In the US, states pick their own reportable diseases.</li><li>• Finland has good system for both humans and wildlife – less transport issues and related to food quality surveillance.</li><li>• Wildlife surveillance network? Most countries/locations don't have them (e.g., Greenland). Very isolated and closed networks. Need to decide what tests to order, who to send to, etc. – but at the end of the day – no money.</li><li>• Often strict lines between animal and human programs – won't test across lines.</li><li>• Depends on location – in AK, there are good wildlife surveillance programs and communication between animal and human health programs. Canada works through researchers and government agencies (no reportable animal diseases in Northwest Territories).</li></ul>
<p>What approaches are now used around the arctic?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research projects are funded for their specific purpose, and wildlife surveillance programs might be able to piggyback off of their resources – but not a designated, funded, long term, routine, systematic, etc. program.</li><li>• Different programs for different pathogens – some only go through government labs and can take a long time. Geographic distances are problem.</li><li>• One example, in Canada – concerns about brucellosis – have to test animals and freeze them until get the lab tests back. But the meat is shared widely so may be hard to track.</li></ul>
<p>Would these systems be able to rapidly detect emergence of new human pathogen? Or Animal or plant pathogen?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Are the research programs at Universities able to test for emerging pathogens? Maybe. Also need connections to and partnerships with other laboratories.</li><li>• Need better animal/human interface programs to more readily detect new human pathogens.</li><li>• If it's new to science, no – but unusual presentation could be detected quickly for human health in AK. In Greenland – authorities would know something wrong quick and call Denmark.</li></ul>

# Group 3: Need for international standards around surveillance

<p>Should be standard ways for reporting infectious diseases in the Arctic? Would that be feasible?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yes, and the procedures we already have should be harmonized on an international level. Harmonization on which diseases are reportable from the labs.</li><li>• Diagnostic laboratories could be the best way</li><li>• Issue of emerging infections that rely on surveillance systems, and they need to also involve the Russian Arctic – forecast what might be important in the future. Need to be able to watch geographically and with wildlife in order to be preparing</li><li>• Should there be standard ways for selecting what a reportable disease is?</li><li>• Issue of borders and reporting</li><li>• Having a One Health approach for looking at trends</li></ul>
<p>How would such reporting relate to reporting obligations in the International Health Regulations obligations?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Need to harmonize; different diseases are reported differently in different countries</li><li>• Why not report them all?</li></ul>
<p>Should countries be reporting this information publicly and/or in some special way? Some kind of shared database?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We have emerging infections. The biggest driver for human health is global environmental change. If we want to cover emerging infections, we must have a One Health perspective.</li><li>• Want human data harmonized with wildlife surveillance and landscape surveillance.</li><li>• How should countries be sharing reports and with whom? One Health community should be included.</li><li>• Communication at the right time and in the right way – if it's been published, or in a fact sheet or bulletin, very accessible</li><li>• CDC, ECDC, Russian public health authority Rospotrebadzhnор, collaborate and have access to all of this information</li><li>• Examples: Health Now and ProMed</li><li>• Someone needs to regularly supervise this</li></ul>

## Group 4: Microbiologic/diagnostics approaches for surveillance in the Arctic to have the earliest possible warning of diseases that emerge from the permafrost

Whole genome sequencing?  
Metagenomics? What is gold standard?

- Fundamental challenge of determining viability of microorganisms in general
- Distinction between what's there and what's viable and what's infectious
- Genetic marker of pathogenicity?
- Standardized approaches and informatics output around the purpose of surveillance will be key
- Need standardization in collection and decontamination of samples in the Arctic
- Whole genome sequencing shows promise to discover what cause could conceivably be; could use targeted approach for this as well, depending on sample quality
- Need to build relationships and trust with communities (this has to happen first)