

Seoul Metropolitan Government (SMG)

**Responses to
Emerging Infectious Diseases**



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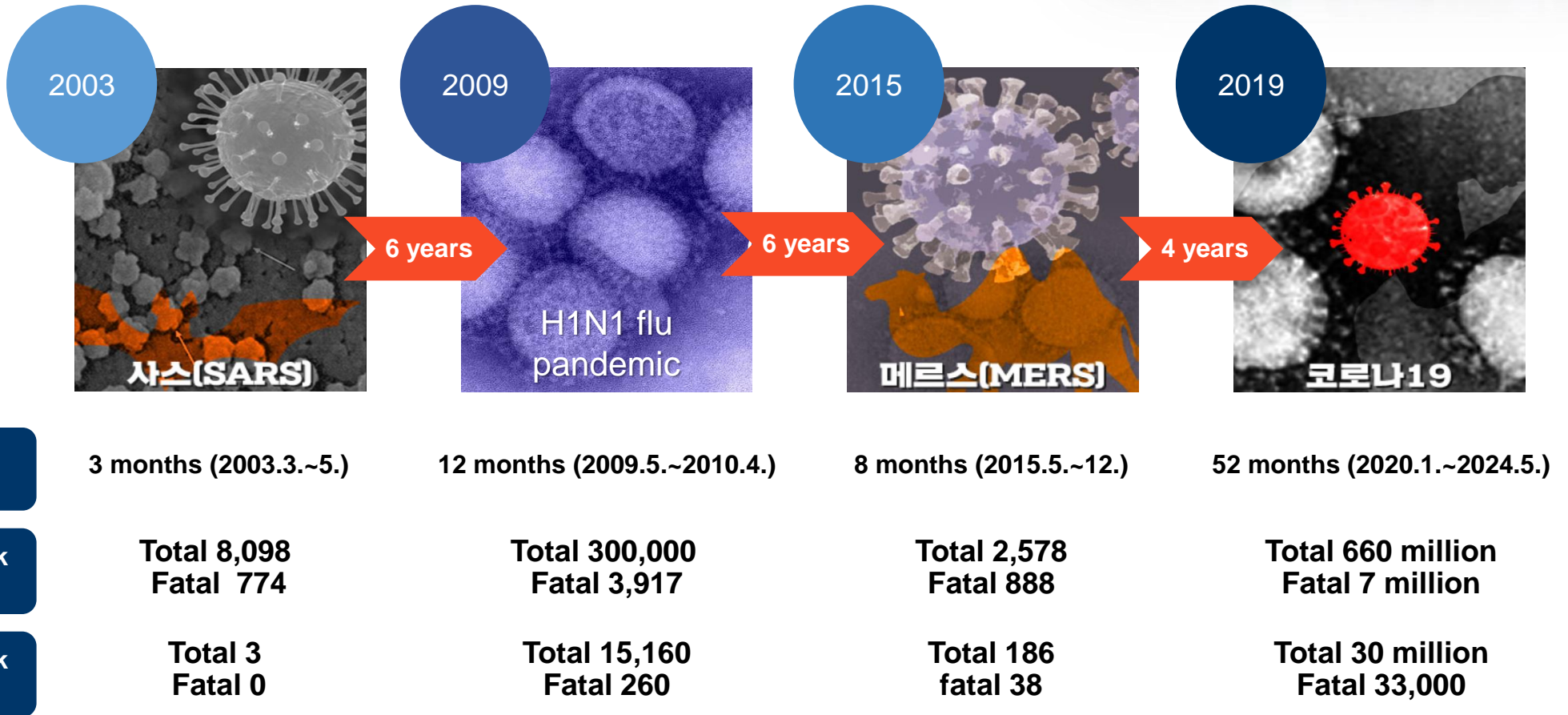
Emerging Infectious Disease
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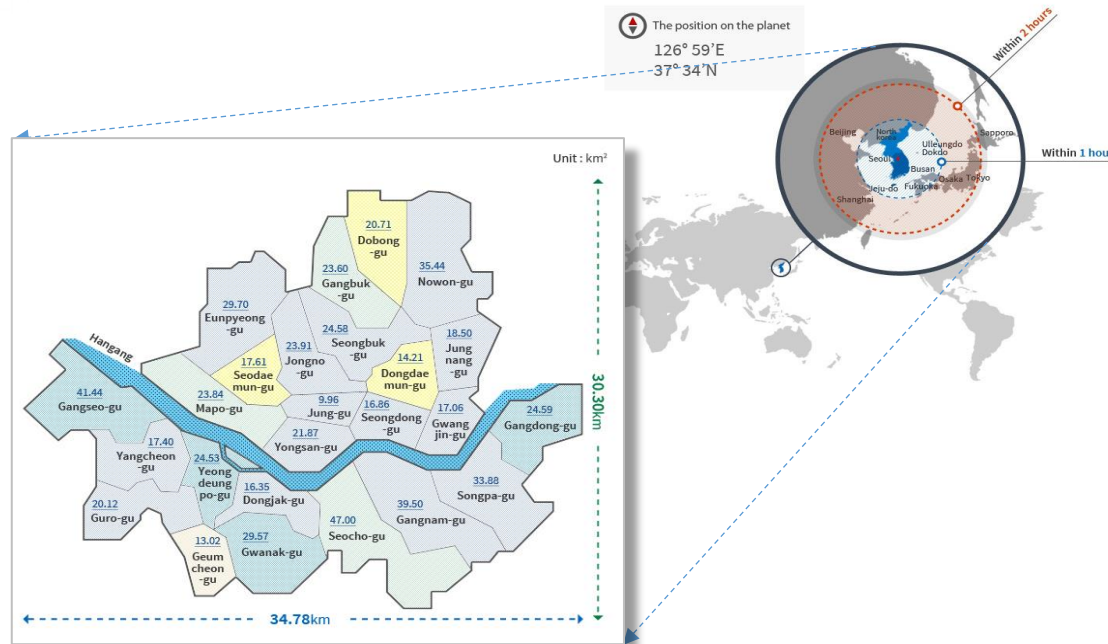
Global Threat of Emerging Infectious Diseases

21st century



Global Threat of Emerging Infectious Diseases

Seoul as a global city



- Highest population density among OECD countries' major cities
- International hub of economics and politics, connecting Europe and Asia
- Having complex and multisectoral interactions with other cities

9,638,799 people



Rapid spread of emerging infectious diseases in Seoul is a likely scenario.

Seoul's response system for controlling outbreaks is ready!



1. Legal and administrative basis

- SMG Ordinance on Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases
 - : based on Korean laws, supports customized preparations for and management of infectious diseases, considering the characteristics of Seoul
 - the ordinance plays as a legal basis and ensures enforceability

서울특별시 감염병의 예방 및 관리에 관한 조례

[시행 2023. 10. 4.] [서울특별시조례 제8887호, 2023. 10. 4., 타법개정]

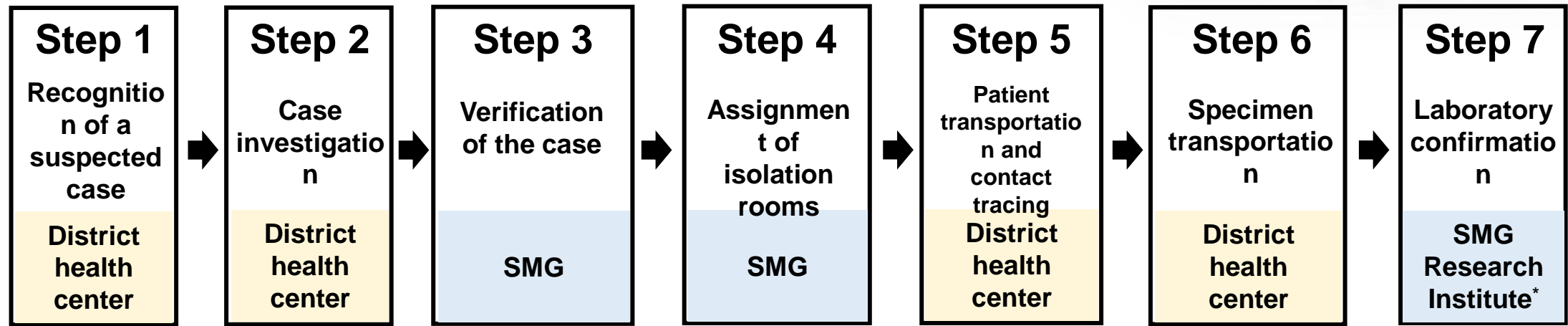
서울특별시(감염병관리과), 02-2133-7691

□ **제1조(목적)** 이 조례는 「감염병의 예방 및 관리에 관한 법률」 및 같은 법 시행령에 따라 시민의 건강에 위해(危害)가 되는 감염병의 발생과 유행을 방지하고, 그 예방 및 관리를 위하여 필요한 사항을 규정함으로써 시민의 건강 증진 및 유지에 이바지함을 목적으로 한다.

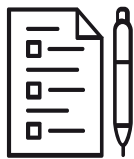
□ **제2조(정의)** 이 조례에서 사용하는 용어의 뜻은 다음과 같다.

1. "감염병"이란 「감염병의 예방 및 관리에 관한 법률」 (이하 "법"이라 한다) 제2조제1호에 따른 감염병을 말한다.
2. "감염병환자"란 법 제2조제13호에 따른 사람을 말한다.

2. 24/7 service



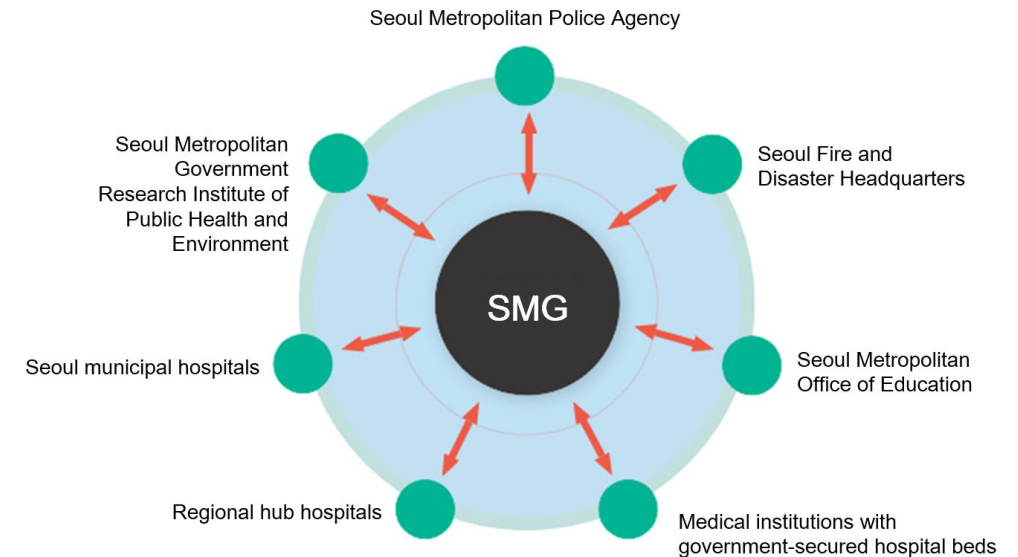
*Seoul Metropolitan Government Research Institute of Public Health and Environment



Rapid identification of suspected cases → Epidemiologists at the SMG review the result of case investigation → Patients with suspected infections are placed in isolation rooms → Early specimen collection and treatment initiation for patients with confirmed infections

3. Collaboration between multiple organizations

- Regular working group meetings: infectious disease preparedness
 - ✓ **Inter-organizational networking** for outbreak management
 - ✓ Preparing **communication protocols** and engagement plan



4. Management of beds and supplies

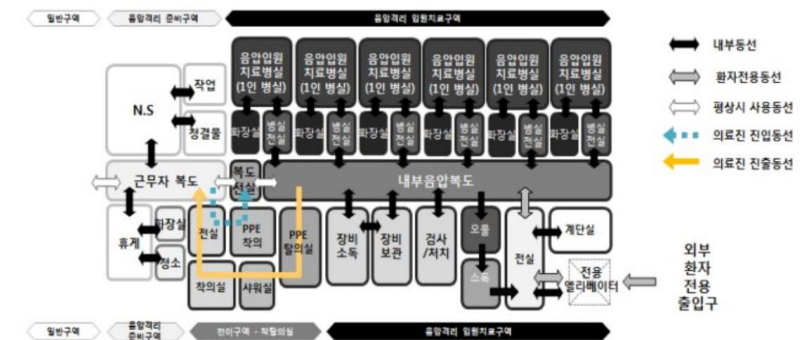
- Dedicated infectious disease treatment beds

Government-secured hospital beds
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 hospitals : 95 beds

Regional hub hospitals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 hospitals : 20 beds

Emergency beds
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 hospitals : 103 beds

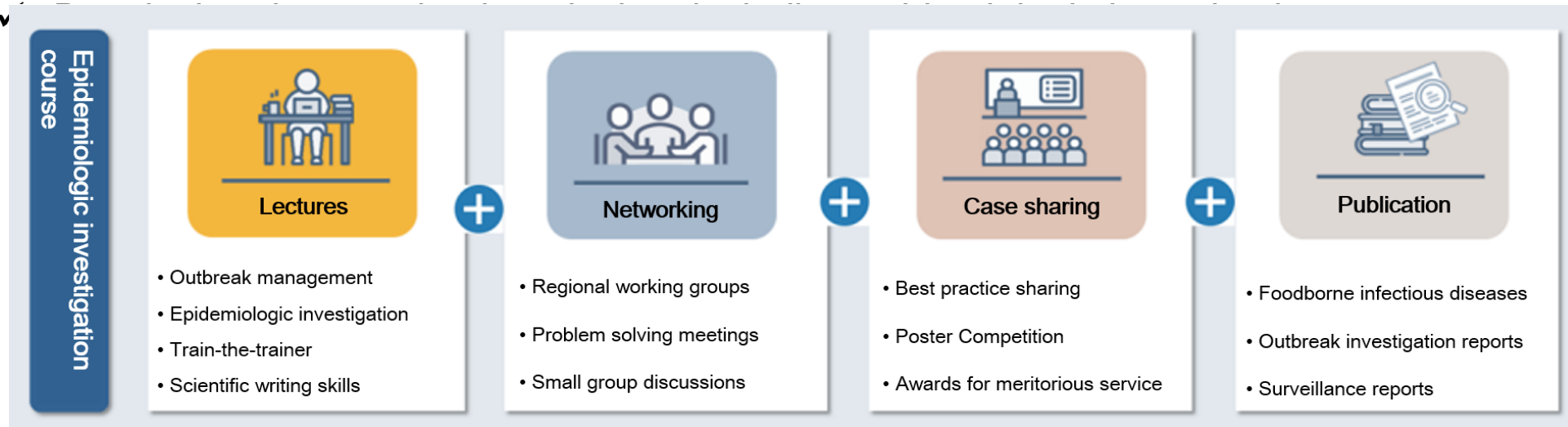
- IPC (infection prevention and control) supplies management : stockpile, distribution, quality assurance, etc.



[Floor plan for isolation rooms]

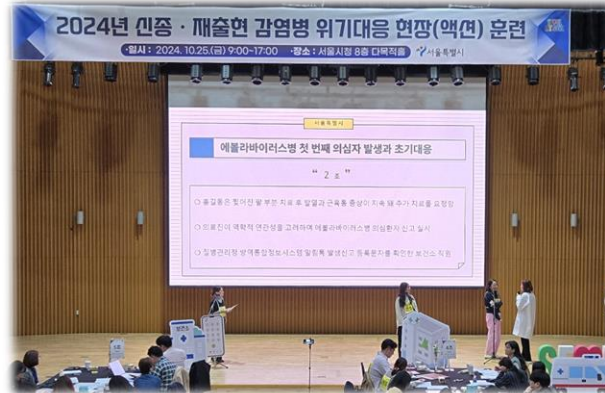
5. Capability building

- **Training for health professionals** (epidemiologists, public health officers and workers)
 - ✓ To maintain the appropriate staffing level for unexpected outbreaks
 - ✓ Responsive training and education system for city government and district staff



5. Capability building

- **Outbreak management trainings**
 - ✓ For emerging infectious diseases like MERS and Ebola
 - ✓ Table top exercise involving detailed scenarios
 - ✓ Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) use



6. Implementation of COVID-19 screening centers

○ Innovative screening centers for mass testing

Drive-through screening station

Ensuring safe and quick testing



Walk-through screening station

Implemented for overseas arrivals



WSJ (2020.4.2.)

“

Governments and scientists in European countries support the Korean approach

이미지 출처: 미국 워싱턴포스트 보도 화면

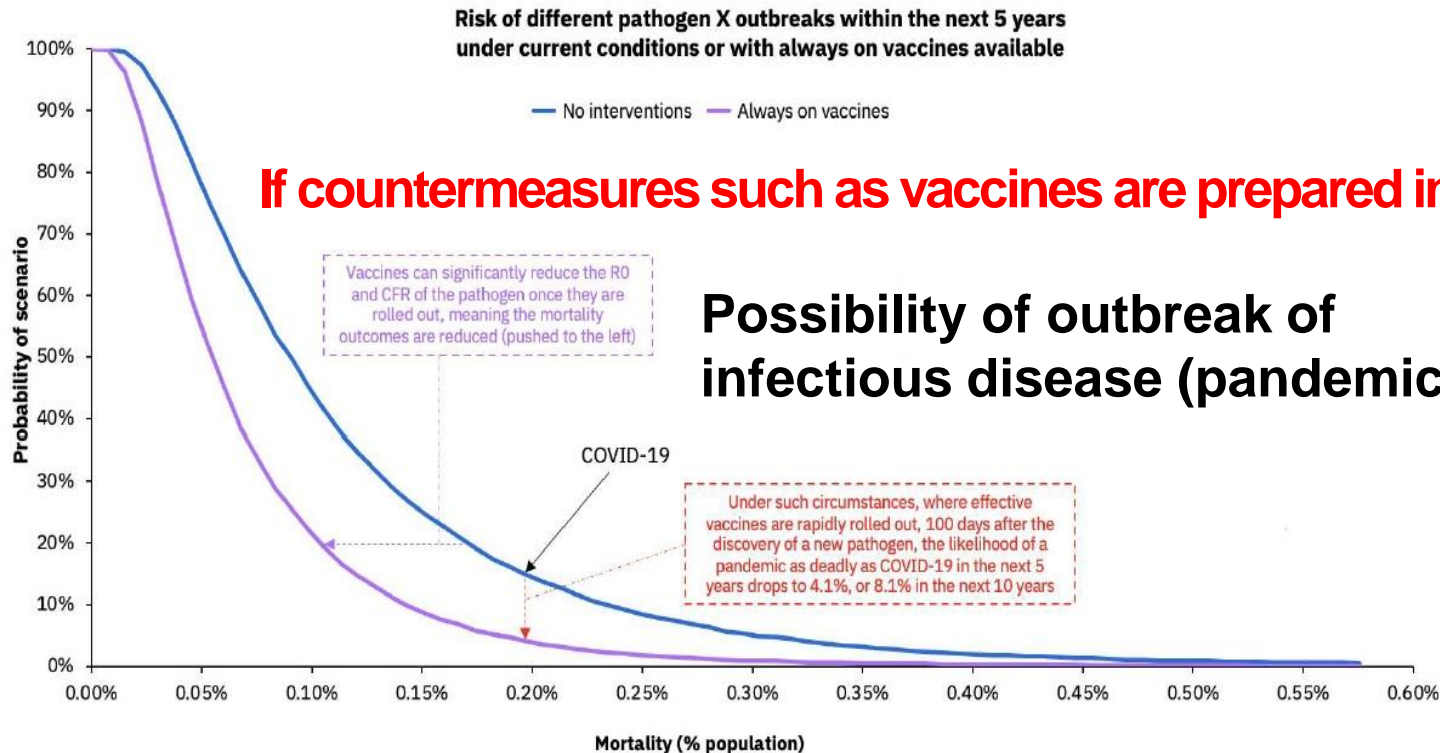


- Mobile screening centers for COVID-19, as a renowned best practice, were firstly adopted by the SMG and were benchmarked by other local governments
- Diverse types of screening centers were recognized as a best practice by media including CNN and benchmarked by other countries

Preparing for the Next Pandemic

The possibility of an infectious disease (pandemic) with an initial COVID-19-like fatality rate

Within 5 years **14.9%** Within 10 years **27.5%**



decrease

within 5 years **4.1%**
within 10 years **8.1%**



Development of “Seoul-type” process-based manual

1 Lessons learned

Reflection of experiences from major events during COVID-19

2 Task-based

Guide to task-based countermeasures and best practices

3 Scenario-based

Detailed procedures for representative scenarios



※ Revision of outbreak response process in 9 areas

①Governance and system, ②Case management and contact tracing, ③Testing (e.g., screening centers, self-testing), ④Epidemiologic investigation including outbreak management, ⑤Treatment (e.g., bed management, home treatment, community treatment centers), ⑥Management of fatal cases, ⑦Vaccination, ⑧IPC supplies, ⑨Prevention (e.g., social distancing, awareness campaign)



Development of “Seoul-type” process-based manual

- Update of outbreak management manual is ongoing to reflect lessons learned from COVID-19
- Capability building through customized training curriculum is pursued

→ Seoul will be better prepared for the next pandemic



SEOUL MY SOUL

Thank you

