MANAGEMENT OF EVENTS ON SHIPS

ACUTE PUBLIC HEALTH EVENTS
Ports play a key role in managing Public Health Events and preventing international spread of diseases.

A wide variety of risks on board ships

A potential gateway for international epidemics

A need for a balanced response to guarantee Public Health protection and Safe international travel and transport.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATIONS

Authorities and stakeholders have to manage events on board ships to limit impact on ports, and avoid international spread of diseases.
**EVENT DETECTION**

- Previous port of call
- Informal channels
- Ship Master
- Ship inspection

**Communications**

- World Health Organization

**HEALTH MEASURES**

**STANDARD PROCEDURES**
- Quarantine and isolation
- Hand hygiene
- Personal protective equipment
- Handling of patient medical care equipment
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Vector control

**SPECIFIC CONTROL MEASURES**
- Specific symptoms: sign of infection, Gastro-Intestinal or Influenza Like Illness symptoms
- Unusual illness
- Death
- Cluster/Outbreak

**COMMUNICATION - MONITORING**

**STEP 1**
- Event Detection
- Notifying Public Health Events to Competent Authorities

**STEP 2**
- Verification & Primary Response
  - Confirm occurrence of event & collect information
  - Ascertain immediate arrangements (evacuation, ambulance, health care...)

**STEP 3**
- Risk Assessment
  - Event description
  - Primary overview
  - Impact assessment
  - Containment capability

**STEP 4**
- Decision Making
  - No action to be taken
  - Business as usual - SOPs
  - Execute contingency plan

**STEP 5**
- Health Measures
  - Standard Procedures
  - Specific Control Measures

**GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH EVENTS ON BOARD SHIPS**
WHO provides States Parties, ports, and ship operators, with guidance to manage public health events on board ships: to better prevent spread of diseases, and to assist them in contingency planning and implementation of health measures.

This guidance is a "toolbox" from which countries can select the most relevant elements to address their own needs.

To download the complete guidance including the guide “Handbook for the management of public health events on board ships”

www.who.int/ihr/publications/ports_airports/en/

For more information

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