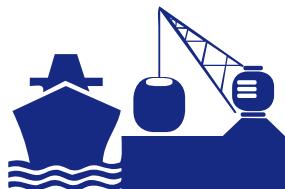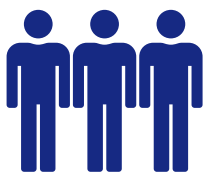# MANAGEMENT OF EVENTS ON BOARD SHIPS

ACUTE PUBLIC HEALTH EVENTS
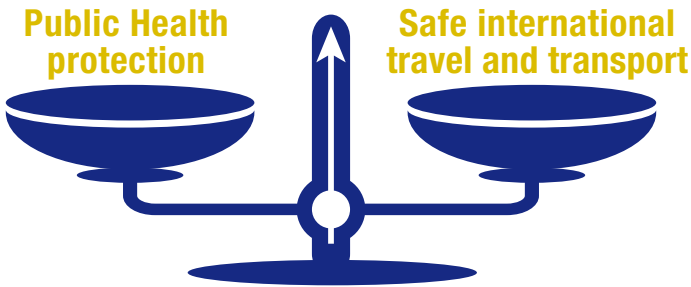
World Health Organization

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 garantee

Public Health protection

Safe international travel and transport

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATIONS

IHR 2005

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

World Health Organization

DETECT & MANAGE PUBLIC HEALTH EVENTS ON BOARD SHIPS

STEP 1 — NOTIFY PUBLIC HEALTH EVENTS TO COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

EVENT DETECTION

Previous port of call
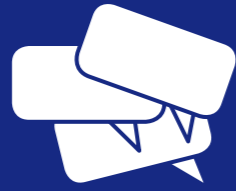
Informal channels

Ship Master

Ship inspection

World Health Organization

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

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

SPECIFIC CONTROL MEASURES are needed if

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

COMMUNICATION - MONITORING
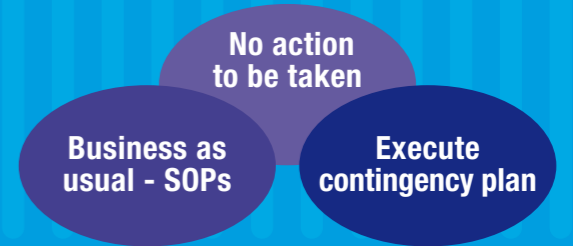
WHO provides States Parties, ports, and ship operators, with guidance to manage public health events on board ships: to better prevent spread of diseases, and to assist them in contingency planning and implementation of health measures.

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

www.who.int/ihr/en/
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