Prevention of Spread of Infectious Diseases - Public Health on Cruise Ships

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Wide Scope of Public Health Issues

- Overall Ship Design & Construction
- Case/ Outbreak Prevention & Response Procedures (OPRP)
- Food Operations
- Potable Water
- Recreational Water Facilities - pools & spa pools etc.
- Housekeeping
- Child Areas - kids club etc.
- Garbage & Waste – sewage etc.
- Medical – infection control

Outbreak Prevention & Management

- Prevent introduction & spread
- Rapid identification of cases
- Containment
- Eradication

Examples of Food Safety Management

- Procedures & Systems – HACCP
- Safe Food Sources & Transport
- Menu Design – fresh cooked & food risk
- Checks & Inspections
- Temperature Control
- Cleaning & Disinfection
- Buffet Service – design, temperature & time

Examples of Housekeeping Measures

- Surveillance & Reporting – use of toilet paper, signs of illness
- Cleaning & Disinfection – order, methods, contact time
- Prevention of Cross Contamination
- Dedicated Team – for affected guests
- Checks - on methods housekeeping trolleys/equipment
- Testing of Disinfectant Solutions
- Laundry – temperature, separation etc.
- Records – trends & diligence

Examples of Potable Water & RWF Prevention Measures

- Check Water Sources – test and certificates etc
- Effective Chlorination & pH etc. – monitor, test & record
- Checks on Pool Operation – turnover, filters, water clarity, UV systems ,
- Pool Health Procedures – cleaning, checks, fecal accidents, signage etc.

Examples of Outbreak Prevention Measures

- Hand Wash Facilities & Additional Hand Sanitizers
- Cleaning & Disinfection – standard methods & targeted
- Staff Hygiene Precautions – toilets, cohort cases
- Room Service - avoid buffet use
- Dedicated Hit Squad
- Medical & Isolation Precautions