

Maritime events under the International Health Regulations

MARINER



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Structure

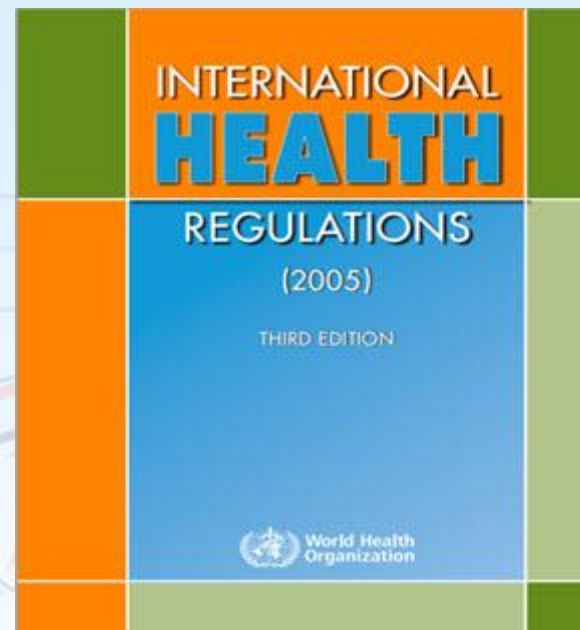
- What are the International Health Regulations?
- Their relevance to maritime events.
- Development of e-learning materials



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What are the International Health Regulations?

The revised International Health Regulations 2005 (IHR 2005) are a **legally-binding agreement** providing a unique public health framework in form of obligations and recommendations.



The stated purposes is:

"to prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are commensurate with and restricted to public health risks, and which avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade."



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History and current remit of IHR

- Developed to address the issue of global health (i.e. a health threat in one country can affect other areas)
- They were first introduced in 1969 to monitor and control for 6 infectious diseases (cholera, plague, yellow fever, relapsing fever and typhus).
- They were revised in 2005 following the SARS epidemic and now cover an ALL HAZARDS approach.
- States are required to notify a potentially wide range of events to WHO on the basis of defined criteria indicating that the event may constitute a **public health emergency of international concern**.
- WHO plays the coordinating role in IHR and, together with its partners, helps countries to build capacities.



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From infectious diseases to all hazards..

- They move from purely a list of diseases to a dynamic process of risk identification, assessment and management
- Covers chemicals and radiation as well as infectious diseases (an ALL HAZARDS approach)
- Emphasis on early detection, reporting and containment at source rather than border controls
- International health security is based on strong national public health infrastructure connected to a global alert and response system.

The All Hazards Approach



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Public Health Event of International Concern (PHEIC)

Is defined in the Regulations as an extraordinary public health event which constitutes a public health risk to other States through the international spread of disease, and may require a coordinated international response.

A PHEIC:

- Must constitute a public health risk to other States through the international spread of disease
- Must potentially require a coordinated international response
- PHEIC can only be declared by the Director-General of WHO.



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What is notifiable as a PHEIC?

Under IHR (2005) there are two basic categories of events which must be notified:

Group 1:

- Any event involving one or more cases of four specific diseases (Small pox, SARS, Human Influenza caused by a new subtype, poliomyelitis due to wildtype poliovirus)

Group 2:

- Events which have the ability to cause serious public health impact and to spread rapidly internationally.
- These can include chemical and radiation events.
- These used be assessed using the a decision instrument in Annex 2



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IHR risk assessment - the decision instrument

There are four essential and mandatory criteria

- I. Is the public health impact of the event serious? (yes/no)
- II. Is the event unusual or unexpected? (yes/no)
- III. Is there any significant risk of international spread? (yes/no)
- IV. Is there any significant risk of international travel or trade restrictions? (yes/no)

IHR National Focal Points are required to notify WHO of any event that meets at least two of the four decision criteria.

If the event does not meet the notification requirements, NFPs may wish to report the incident to the WHO



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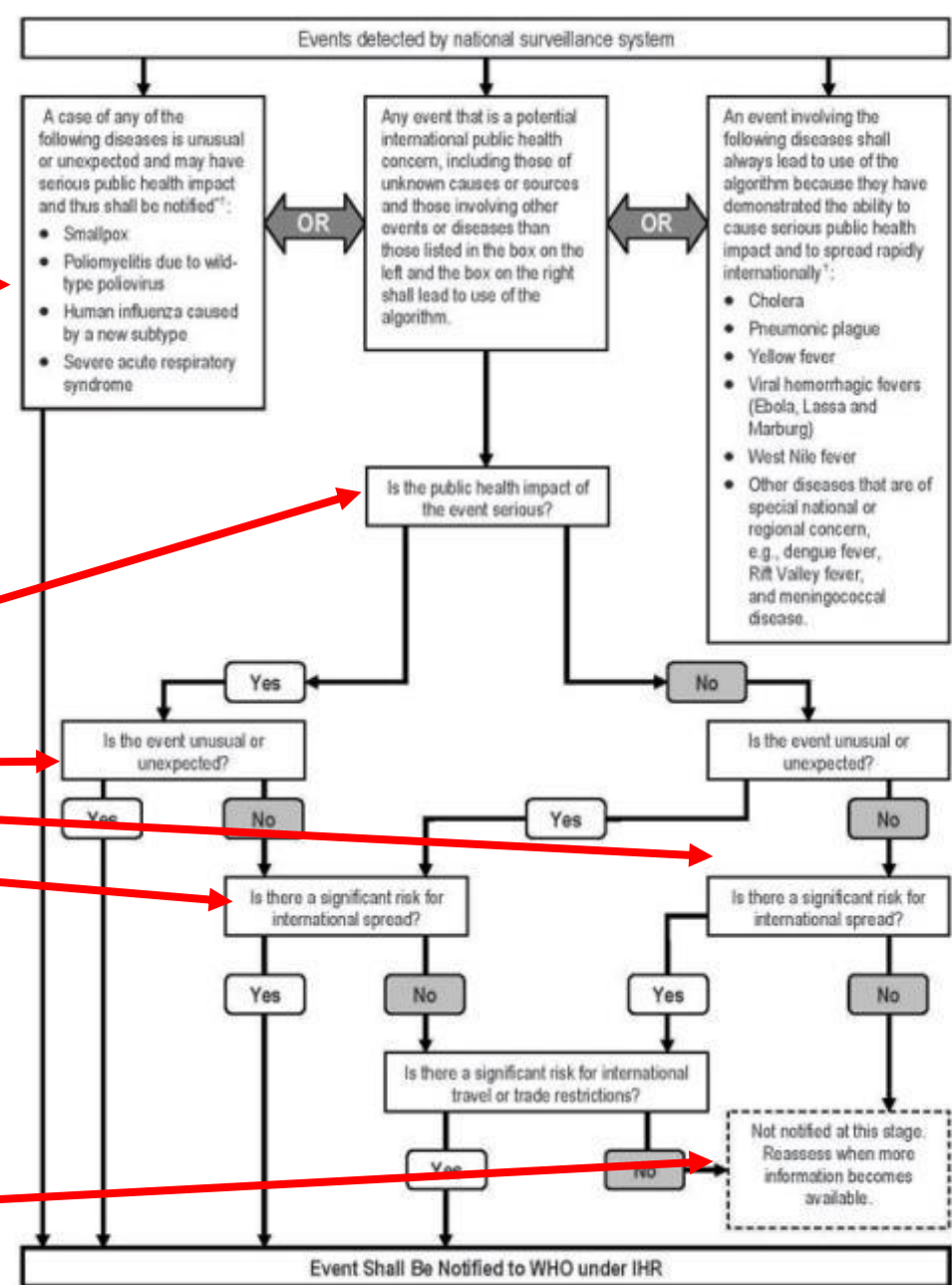
Annex 2 - flowchart

4 diseases that require immediate notification

Criteria

- I. public health impact serious?
- II. unusual or unexpected?
- III. risk of international spread?
- IV. risk of travel/trade restriction?

The risk assessment should be reviewed and updated if there is insufficient information.



Would a maritime event require assessment under IHR?

I. Is the public health impact serious?

- Spread of toxic or hazardous materials (potentially) contaminating a population or large area? e.g. Oil spill, HNS.
- Large number of cases of ill- health? e.g. airborne release of chemicals from a ship.
- Is there a significant on-going public health risk? e.g. On-going coast contamination and clean-up issues.

II. Is the event unusual or unexpected?

- Is the event unusual for the area? e.g. has it occurred before, is the country able to deal with the event?
- Unusual of unknown source or chemical? e.g. has the chemical been identified?
- More cases of ill health than expected? e.g. reports of ill health putting a strain on the health service?



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Would a maritime event meet IHR?

III. Is there any significant risk of international spread?

- Potential for cross border spread or movement? e.g. oil or HNS pollution event that is (or can) affect other countries.

IV. Is there any significant risk of international travel or trade restrictions?

- Spread of contamination into commercially important food chains that may be exported? e.g. HNS affecting fisheries, shellfish harvesting?
- Ban on import or export of contaminated food or goods? e.g. fish, shellfish etc.
- Spread of contamination into areas that would require international trade or travel bans? e.g. pollution affecting tourist areas such as beaches



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IHR e-learning

The aim is:

“To develop understanding of the key elements of IHR with particular relevance to the risk assessment of maritime events thereby increasing the protection of public health and the environment.”

Three short e-learning modules are being developed.

- Module 1 – Introduction to IHR
- Module 2 – Applying IHR risk assessment criteria to maritime events
- Module 3 – Interactive case study

Will link to other training materials being developed on IHR for the WHO



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IHR e-learning - screenshot

- Materials under development and will be converted to e-learning materials by Cardiff Metropolitan University
- Intention is to host on Moodle and link to the exercise tool and MARINER webpage

The screenshot shows the Moodle interface for the 'International Health Regulations: Chemical Risk Assessment and Notification' course. The top navigation bar includes the Cardiff Metropolitan University logo, the user's name 'Andrew Kibble', and links for 'Home', 'My courses', and 'Calendar'. The breadcrumb trail indicates the path: 'Home / Cardiff School of Health Sciences (CSHS) / Public Health / IHR'. A 'Turn editing on' button is visible in the top right.

Navigation:

- Home
- Dashboard
- Current course
 - IHR
 - Participants
 - Badges
 - My courses

Administration:

- Course administration
 - Turn editing on
 - Edit settings
 - Users
 - Unenrol me from IHR
 - Filters
 - Reports
 - Grades
 - Gradebook setup
 - Badges
 - Import
 - Question bank
- Switch role to...

Course Content:

International Health Regulations: Chemical Risk Assessment and Notification

What are the International Health Regulations?

International Health Regulations (IHR) 2005

"In today's connected world, health security is a global issue. We must all protect ourselves, and each other, from threats like infectious diseases, chemical and radiological events. That is why 196 countries have agreed to work together to prevent and respond to public health crises. The agreement is called the **International Health Regulations**, or IHR (2005), and WHO plays the coordinating role. Through the IHR, WHO keeps countries informed about public health risks, and works with partners to help countries build capacity to detect, report and respond to public health events."

World Health Organisation

News forum

Course Modules:

- About: About this elearning course
- Module 1: Introduction & Background to IHR
- Module 2: Chemical Risk Assessment under IHR
- Module 3: Interactive Case Studies

Footer:

Moodle Docs for this page
You are logged in as Andrew Kibble (Log out)
Home

Log in

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Password

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If you have been sent a Username and Password previously please use them to access the site. If you experience any difficulties with your Username ("ST1234567") and Password contact the Cardiff Met IT Help desk at ITHelpdesk@cardiffmet.ac.uk (or [click here](#)) or phone +44 2920 41 7000 (office hours), stating the issue, that it was with the MetConnect site, your Username, and your preferred email address for communication. **We understand in your enthusiasm to learn more about your programme you may be tempted to create a new account before receiving your password. If you do, it will not be associated with the learning materials for your programme of study. If you have created an account with your official Username and your email address we need you to contact the IT Help Desk as soon as possible, as this may cause a delay in your MetConnect registration.**

If you are a Post Graduate student looking for Career support and advice from our Alumni office use your Cardiff Met Username and last Password (your account will be valid for at least one year after graduation). You may have been sent a special password for MetConnect around graduation time.

If you are interested in a range of free courses available on this site you need to take a minute to create a new account for yourself (Self-Enrolment). Some of the courses may also have a one-time "enrolment key", which will be sent to you later (Guest access with enrolment key).

Initially use the Guest access to MetConnect to find a course, then follow the steps below:

1. Fill out the [New Account](#) form with your details.
2. An email will be immediately sent to your email address.
3. Read your email, and click on the web link it contains.
4. Your account will be confirmed and you will be logged in.
5. They may be a delay in issuing access ("enrolment key") to some modules but for now select the course you want to participate in.
6. If you are prompted for an "enrolment key" - use the one that your teacher has given you. This will "enrol" you in the course.
7. You can now access the full course. From now on you will only need to enter your personal Username and Password (in the form on this page) to log in and access any course you have enrolled in.

[Create new account](#)

You are not logged in.
[Home](#)

IHR e-learning – interactive case study

E-learning will contain an interactive case study.

Offer an opportunity to apply the IHR risk assessment criteria to a maritime incident.

Case study will be an oil/HNS spill with potential cross border implications.

Maritime Case Study – MV Nautilus

Subheader

1 2 3 4 10 11

Tab 3 Incident Day 2

Oil Spill

The Coast Guard reports that the ship is breaking apart. Reports suggest 50% of the hold tanks have been ruptured and the tanker has already lost approximately 15,000 tonnes of cargo.

At 12pm on 10 November the ship broke in two and sank in approximately 1000 metres of water. Booms have been deployed but high seas mean that considerable quantities of waste oil and chemicals have been released.



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Thank You

Diolch yn Fawr



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