



Public Health in the Maritime Domain

Stefanie White, MPH
CDC Maritime Activity
Quarantine & Border Health Services Branch

Maritime Safety and Security: Whole of Africa Maritime Dialogue
Clarifying the Architecture of Maritime Security in Africa
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National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

Division of Global Migration and Quarantine

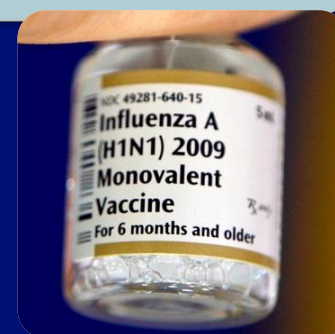


Quarantine and Border Health Services Branch Mission

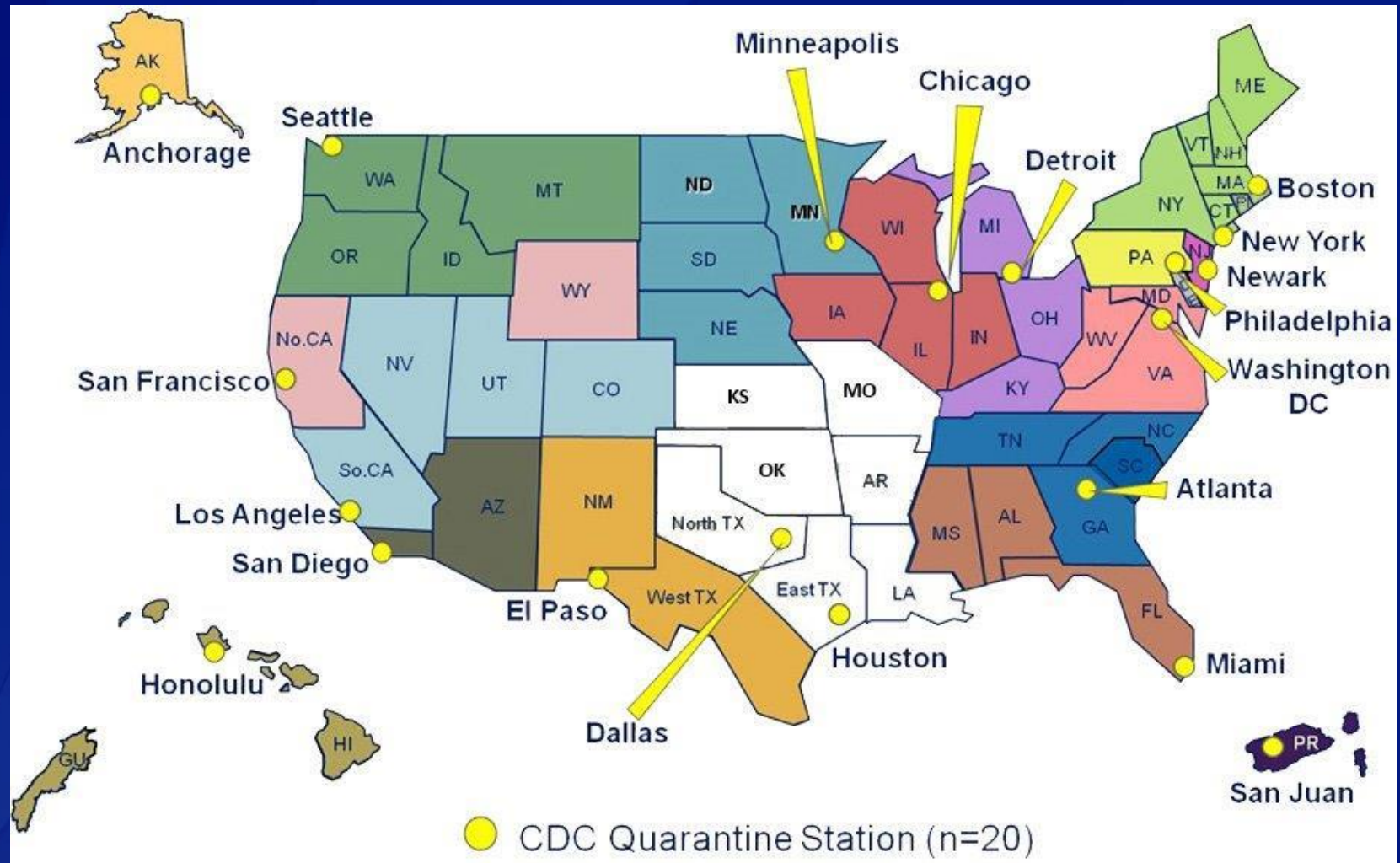
Protect US communities from global disease threats

QBHSB supports this mission by

- *Preventing* the introduction and spread of communicable diseases
- *Enhancing* federal, state, territorial, and industry partnerships
- *Enforcing* public health regulations
- *Supporting* public health at international borders



CDC Quarantine Station Jurisdictions



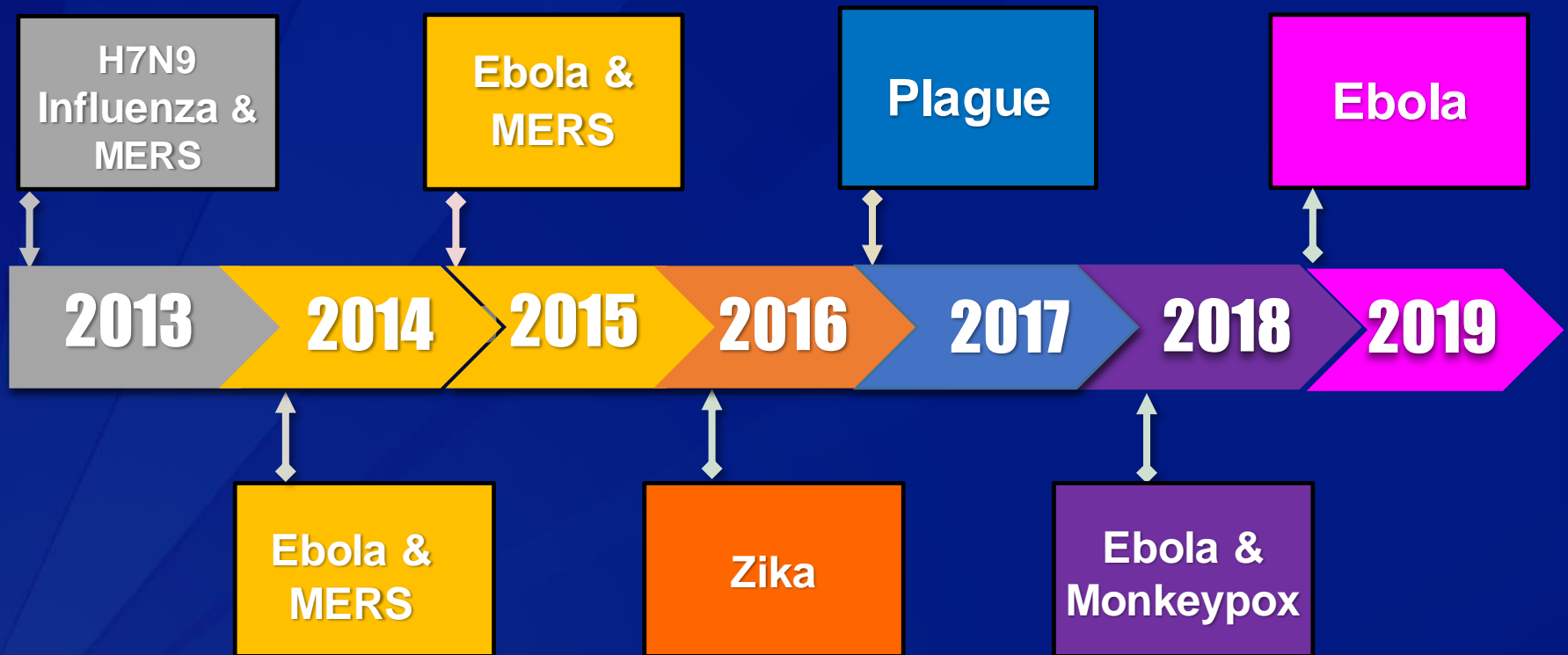
CDC Partners

Partners are critical in CDC efforts to detect and control communicable disease threats at US ports and in globally mobile populations.



CDC Border Health Responses

Safeguarding America From Public Health Threats



International Health Regulations (IHR)

- International legal instrument
- Binding 196 countries across globe
- Prevent and respond to acute public health risks with cross-border potential
- Require countries to report
 - disease outbreaks
 - public health events



Maritime Declaration of Health

- Ship and crew information
- Previous itinerary or ports of call
- Details on deaths or illnesses on board
- Control measures taken

Article 37 Maritime Declaration of Health

1. The master of a ship, before arrival at its first port of call in the territory of a State Party, shall ascertain the state of health on board, and, except when that State Party does not require it, the master shall, on arrival, or in advance of the vessel's arrival if the vessel is so equipped and the State Party requires such advance delivery, complete and deliver to the competent authority for that port a Maritime Declaration of Health which shall be countersigned by the ship's surgeon, if one is carried.
2. The master of a ship, or the ship's surgeon if one is carried, shall supply any information required by the competent authority as to health conditions on board during an international voyage.

Example of Disease Transmission



- Measles outbreaks globally, including Philippines
- Measles symptoms 7–14 days after exposure
- Infectious period 4 days before–4 days after rash



- Master joins container vessel in the Philippines April 15



- Master develops high fever on April 23 while docked in Mozambique



- Master develops rash on April 28
- Master disembarked in Namibia where diagnosed with measles

Identifying Public Health Threats

- Type of ship
 - Passenger, cargo, fishing
- Main imports and exports
 - Identify countries routinely importing/exporting
- Nearby international airports
 - Crew members joining ship



Is your port prepared to respond to a public health threat?

- Routine use of reporting tools
 - Maritime Declaration of Health (MDH)
 - Regulatory requirement to report
- Disease response plans
 - Health screenings at port entry
 - Vector surveillance and control
- Laws and regulations
 - Federal vs. local
- Port medical resources
 - Private ambulances, seafarers' clinics



Laws and
Regulations



Resources

- “Handbook for management of public health events on board ships”
 - <https://www.who.int/ihr/publications/9789241549462/en/>
- Ports, Airports and Ground Crossings Network (PAGNet)
 - <https://extranet.who.int/pagnet/>
- CDC’s Travelers’ Health
 - www.cdc.gov/travel
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
 - www.imo.org

Contact Information

maritimeadmin@cdc.gov

For more information please contact Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30333
Telephone, 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)/TTY: 1-888-232-6348
E-mail: cdcinfo@cdc.gov Web: www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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