

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE:	Public Health Officer (PHO)
REPORTS TO:	Onboard: Master
<p>○ <u>BASIC PURPOSE:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drives shipboard commitment to the highest public health standards in the areas of Disease Surveillance, Monitoring, Prevention and Control, Food Safety, Potable & Recreational Water Safety, and Integrated Pest Management through organized audits, training and effective communication. • Serves as the company's public health representative onboard the vessel. Additional projects may be assigned by the shoreside Public Health Department. 	
<p>HIS/HER RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:</p> <p>Disease Prevention and Control:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oversees the implementation of shipboard Outbreak Prevention and Response activities at all response levels including the immediate response to cases of COVID-19, AGE, and other communicable diseases. 2. Participates as a member of the onboard Outbreak Management Team (OMT) and coordinates the implementation of OMT decisions. 3. Oversees the correct and safe storage, par levels, condition and use of all infection control related PPE, disinfectants, tools and related equipment. Oversees the implementation of all shipboard public health and infection control procedures including, but not limited to, hotel services for isolated/quarantined cabins, PPE use, and disinfection protocols. 4. Assists in investigating illness including contact tracing and identifying potential exposure routes, points, or events. 5. Monitors the public health and infection control protocols and measures related to individuals in quarantine and/or isolation. 6. Coordinates drills and exercises on the company's Outbreak Prevention and Outbreak Response Plan to ensure all crew are adequately trained, equipped, and prepared to successfully respond to outbreaks of communicable diseases in timely manner. 7. Assists the Medical Team in responding to local health authorities' requests for public health information, data, or investigations. 8. Provides reports to shipboard and shoreside leadership outlining illness status and operational updates routinely and daily during elevated illness response levels. <p>Public Health Compliance:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oversees the implementation of shipboard Public Health procedures and compliance with the Global HESS Public Health policies. 2. Oversees facilities and equipment cleanliness & maintenance issues to ensure compliance with applicable public health standards. Works with the Technical Department onboard to identify and prioritize relevant repair and maintenance activities and refit planning. 3. Measures and reviews chemical and microbiological parameters within potable water and recreational water facilities to ensure compliance with applicable public health standards. Works with both the Hotel and Technical Departments onboard to implement corrective actions and/or close the facilities when values are out of range. 4. Reviews the PW and RWF systems records, to ensure compliance with public health standards. 	

5. Effectively communicates with both shipboard and shoreside management to facilitate the correct interpretation and application of public health policies and procedures.
6. Accompanies internal and external public health inspectors during inspections.
7. Reviews all internal and external inspection reports to identify trends and avoid repeat deficiencies.
8. Escalates issues of non-compliance and/or public health gaps to management both onboard and ashore.
9. Follows up daily to ensure open items are corrected and appropriate actions taken as soon as possible.
10. Reviews the public health standards and operating procedures on company approved shore excursions and company owned private destinations as part of illness investigation, reported non-compliance by crew or guests, or upon request from shoreside or shipboard management.
11. Accompanies and facilitates third party vendor public health services, including but not limited to water samplers and sampling events.

Public Health Audits:

1. Conducts internal audits of shipboard public health programs and activities to verify compliance with applicable requirements.
2. Delivers information on public health observations based on trends and audit results to shipboard management to address in their operations.
3. Conducts daily public health monitoring rounds of targeted areas and operations to ensure compliance with company policy and to evaluate public health gaps and risks onboard.
4. Conducts a minimum of one public health unannounced inspection of an area per week.
5. Provides disciplinary recommendations on reported Public Health violations
6. Engages crew with feedback and coaching.
7. Provides public health audit reports to onboard and shoreside management.

Public Health Training:

1. Delivers public health training onboard applicable to specific training needs.
2. Conducts ad hoc training of shore excursion operators and private destination employees based on gap analyses or at the direction of the shoreside Public Health Department.
3. Uses trend and gap analyses to determine public health training needs.
4. Employs a variety of techniques to evaluate and improve the efficacy of public health training.
5. Works with the shoreside Public Health Department to improve and standardize public health training content.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM):

1. Oversees the IPM program, implementation and compliance onboard the vessel.
2. Ensures departmental inspections are conducted and recorded appropriately.
3. Coordinates all pest control activities and applies appropriate pest control method(s) for targeted pests.
4. Ensures the inventory of pesticides, IPM equipment, and PPE is stocked and fully functional.
5. Complies with all regulations regarding the safe and secure storage, use, and disposal of approved pesticides and related chemicals as well as used containers
6. Accompanies pest control applicator or service providers during routine and emergency applications / services.

POSITION REQUIREMENT AND DESIRED SKILLS:

- Bachelor's degree in public health, environmental health, the biological sciences or closely related fields preferred.
- One year of shipboard experience or two years of full-time shoreside experience in implementing, overseeing, or auditing public health programs.
- Excellent knowledge and familiarity with the US CDC Vessel Sanitation Program (USPH) is a plus.
- Ability to deliver effective training.
- Exceptional communication and interpersonal skills.
- Effective communication with all levels of management.
- Excellent computer software skills required (Word; Excel; Power Point; Outlook etc.)
- Ability to speak and write English fluently.
- Ability to lead with perspective in a culturally diverse and dynamic environment.
- Ability to influence teams in a positive and productive manner by inspiring and developing individuals and effectively managing processes.