

Mission:

To protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Joseph A. Ladapo, MD, PhD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

Health Advisory
FIFA World Cup 2026 – Public Health Preparedness Recommendations
May 2026

SUMMARY POINTS

- Healthcare facilities should review and update their emergency response and disaster preparedness plans in advance of the FIFA World Cup events.
- There may be more travelers than usual visiting Miami-Dade, which could significantly increase the risk of importing and spreading infectious diseases.
- Clinicians should review reportable conditions requiring immediate notification to the FDOH including any outbreaks, unusual presentations, or disease clusters.

FIFA World Cup Match Schedule — Miami-Dade County (June 15–July 18, 2026)

Mass gatherings may significantly increase the risk of introducing and spreading infectious diseases and can place substantial demand on health care services. Health care facilities are encouraged to prepare for circumstances that may lead to increased illness, natural disasters, or other events of public health importance. The Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County (FDOH-Miami-Dade) recommends that all health care facilities review their emergency response and disaster preparedness plans before FIFA events commence.

Below are the scheduled matches taking place in Miami-Dade County:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| • June 15: Saudi Arabia vs. Uruguay | • July 3: TBD |
| • June 21: Uruguay vs. Cape Verde | • July 11: TBD |
| • June 24: Brazil vs. Scotland | • July 18: TBD |
| • June 27: Portugal vs. Colombia | |

Disease Reporting

FDOH-Miami-Dade reviews data daily from multiple sources to support the early detection of disease clusters. However, FDOH-Miami-Dade relies on clinicians to promptly report all conditions requiring immediate notification, including disease clusters, outbreaks, unusual clinical presentations, and any indicators of potential biological terrorism.

- [Practitioner List-Reportable Diseases](#)
- **Report a Disease (24/7):** 305-470-5660

Laboratory Screening and Specimen Submission

Clinical and hospital laboratories are reminded to follow all reportable disease testing and specimen submission requirements during the FIFA World Cup event. Questions regarding testing guidance, specimen submission, or packaging requirements should be directed to the Florida Bureau of Public Health Laboratories or the Miami-Dade County Health Department.

The Florida Bureau of Public Health Laboratories (BPHL) is prepared to support testing for high-priority pathogens during the 2026 FIFA World Cup period. Direct consultation is available for clinicians needing guidance on specimen collection or packaging.

- [Laboratory List-Reportable Diseases](#)
- **Public Health Laboratories - Miami:**
Phone: 305-324-2432
Fax: 305-325-2560



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Travel Associated Illnesses of Concern by Country of Origin — Miami-Dade County, 2026

Country	Diseases
Cape Verde	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chikungunya Dengue Hepatitis A Measles▲ <i>Shigella</i> infection¹ Tuberculosis Typhoid Fever and Paratyphoid Fever Zika
Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chikungunya Dengue Hepatitis A Malaria Measles▲ Tuberculosis Chagas disease Typhoid Fever and Paratyphoid Fever Zika
Colombia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chikungunya Dengue▲ Hepatitis A Malaria Measles▲ Tuberculosis Chagas disease Typhoid Fever and Paratyphoid Fever Yellow Fever▲▲ Zika
Saudi Arabia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever Dengue Hepatitis A Leishmaniasis Malaria Measles▲ Meningococcal disease² MERS-CoV Rift Valley Fever Tuberculosis Typhoid Fever and Paratyphoid Fever
Uruguay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hantavirus Hepatitis A Measles▲ Tuberculosis Typhoid Fever and Paratyphoid Fever
Portugal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis A Measles▲ Tuberculosis
Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hepatitis A Measles▲ Meningococcal disease³ Polio▲▲ Tick Borne Encephalitis Tuberculosis

Location Specific Alerts:

¹Be alert for travelers returning from **Santa Maria or Boa Vista**, due to increased reports of ***Shigella* infection**.

²Travelers returning from Saudi Arabia after **Hajj (May 25–30, 2026) or Umrah** may have been exposed to **meningococcal disease**.

³Maintain awareness for **MenB meningococcal disease** in travelers returning from **Kent, England**.

CDC Travelers' Health Notices:

▲ Level 1: Practice Usual Precautions

▲▲ Level 2: Practice Enhanced Precautions

(Updated as of April, 2026)



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Priority Infectious Diseases for FIFA World Cup Surveillance — Miami-Dade County, 2026

Disease	Symptoms	Resources
Chagas Disease	Fever, malaise (acute), cardiomyopathy, rash, diarrhea, vomiting, Romaña's sign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Chagas Disease Chagas Disease CDC • Site Index Parasites - American Trypanosomiasis CDC
Chikungunya	Fever, arthralgia, dengue-like symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Chikungunya Chikungunya Virus CDC • Site Index Chikungunya Virus CDC
Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever	Fever, jaundice, back and joint pain, red eyes, red spots on roof of mouth, bleeding, photophobia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever CCHF CDC
Dengue	High fever, headache, rash, thrombocytopenia bleeding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Dengue Dengue CDC • Site Index Dengue CDC
Hantavirus	Fever, muscle aches, dizziness, chills, vomiting, diarrhea, hypotension, acute shock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Hantavirus Hantavirus CDC • Site Index Hantavirus CDC
Hepatitis A	Fever, malaise, dark urine, acholic stool, jaundice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hepatitis A Basics Hepatitis A CDC • Site Index Hepatitis A CDC
Leishmaniasis	Fever, anemia, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, papules, ulcers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Leishmaniasis Leishmaniasis CDC • Site Index Leishmaniasis CDC
Malaria	Cyclical fever, chills, sweats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Malaria Malaria CDC • Site Index Malaria CDC
Measles	Fever, Koplik spots, descending rash, cough, conjunctivitis, coryza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Measles Measles (Rubeola) CDC • Site Index Measles (Rubeola) CDC
Meningococcal disease	Fever, stiff neck, headache, photophobia, vomiting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Meningococcal Disease Meningococcal CDC • Site Index Meningococcal CDC
Middle East Respiratory Syndrome	Fever, dyspnea, chills, non-productive cough	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) MERS CDC • Site Index MERS CDC
Polio	Fever, sore throat, nausea, tiredness, headache, stomach pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Polio in the United States Polio CDC • Site Index Polio CDC



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Priority Infectious Diseases for FIFA World Cup Surveillance — Miami-Dade County, 2026 (Continued)

Disease	Symptoms	Resources
Rift Valley Fever	Blurred vision, sores on the eyes, vision loss, encephalitis, headaches, bleeding, jaundice, vomiting, hematochezia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Rift Valley Fever (RVF) RVF CDC
Tick Borne Encephalitis	Biphasic illness with fever, headache, myalgia, followed by neurologic symptoms such as meningitis or encephalitis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Tick-borne Encephalitis Tick-borne Encephalitis Virus CDC • Site Index Tick-borne Encephalitis Virus CDC
Tuberculosis	Chronic cough, Hemoptysis, night sweats, weight loss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuberculosis: Causes and How It Spreads Tuberculosis (TB) CDC • Site Index Tuberculosis (TB) CDC
Typhoid Fever and Paratyphoid Fever	Prolonged fever, abdominal pain, diarrhea or constipation, rash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Typhoid Fever and Paratyphoid Fever Typhoid Fever CDC
Yellow Fever	Jaundice, fever, bleeding, hematemesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Yellow Fever Yellow Fever Virus CDC • Site Index Yellow Fever Virus CDC
Zika	Fever, rash, arthralgia, conjunctivitis, microcephaly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About Zika Zika Virus CDC • Site Index Zika Virus CDC



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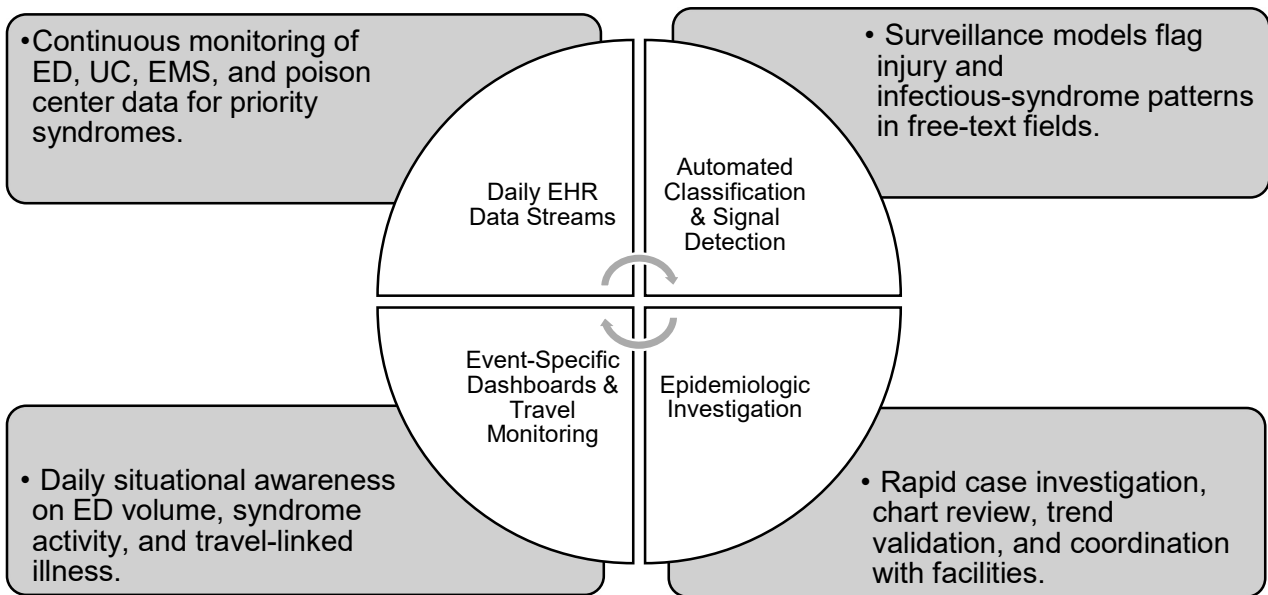
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Syndromic Surveillance Activities

FDOH-Miami-Dade is conducting enhanced syndromic surveillance throughout the FIFA World Cup period to rapidly identify unusual patterns of illness, travel-associated infections, and potential public health threats. Surveillance analysts are monitoring multiple real-time data streams, applying automated classification tools, and performing daily epidemiologic reviews to support early situational awareness.

Core activities include:

- Daily monitoring of electronic health record (EHR) data from emergency departments, urgent care centers, EMS, and poison control data for signals consistent with priority syndromes (e.g., febrile rash, respiratory illness, gastrointestinal illness, meningitis/encephalitis, heat-related illness, injury).
- Automated text-classification models to identify injury and infectious-syndrome patterns in chief complaint and triage notes, enabling rapid detection of clusters among residents and international visitors.
- Travel-linked signal detection, including enhanced review of cases with recent travel to countries represented in Miami-Dade matches.
- Rapid investigation of flagged signals, including chart review, facility outreach, and coordination with infection preventionists when concerning trends are identified.
- Event-specific dashboards, providing internal situational awareness on trends facility volume, syndrome activity, and travel-associated illness.



Clinician role:

Timely clinical reporting remains essential. Syndromic surveillance identifies emerging patterns, but clinician notification is often the first indicator of a true public health event. Providers should report any unusual presentations, suspected outbreaks, or conditions requiring immediate notification.



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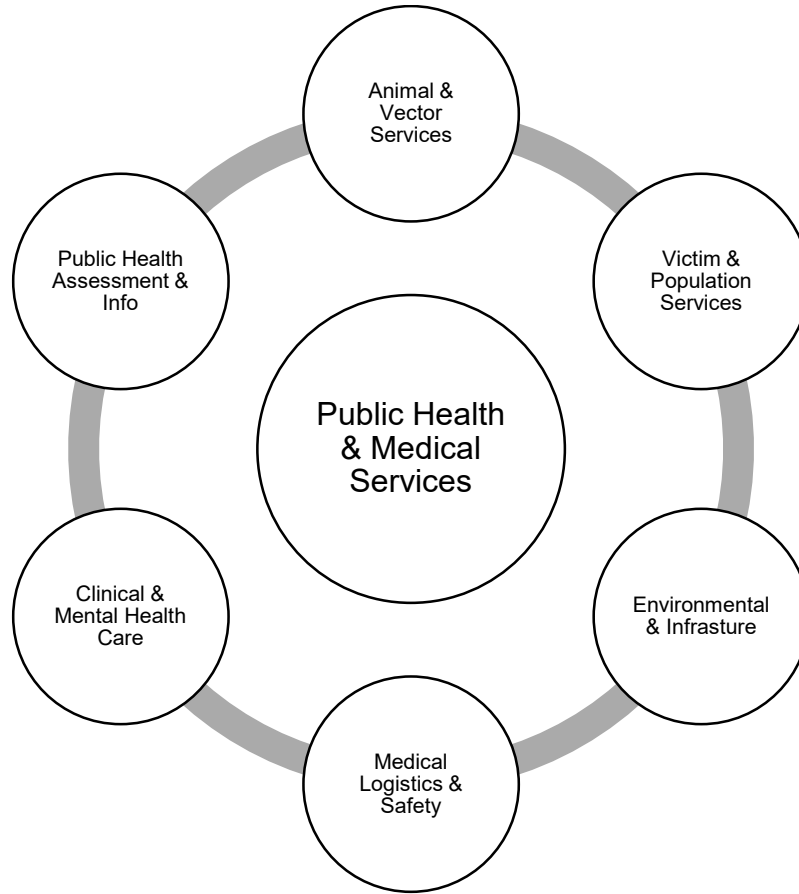
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Public Health Preparedness

During the 2026 FIFA World Cup, Emergency Support Function 8 (ESF-8) – Public Health and Medical Services – will provide coordinated assistance to strengthen local, state, and federal capacity during any public health or medical incident. ESF-8 ensures that Miami-Dade can rapidly scale resources, maintain continuity of care, and respond effectively to emerging threats throughout the tournament.



ESF-8 will play a critical role in safeguarding visitors, athletes, and residents by coordinating medical surge capacity across hospitals with support from the Miami-Dade County Healthcare Preparedness Coalition (MDCHPC). This includes ensuring rapid response to mass-casualty incidents, maintaining essential healthcare operations, and integrating with the Miami-Dade County Department of Emergency Management, law enforcement, and international partners. Together, these efforts will help sustain a resilient healthcare system throughout the event.



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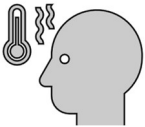
Unusual Events and Indicators of Biological Terrorism

Clinicians and healthcare facilities should remain vigilant for unusual clinical events or patterns that may indicate intentional release of a biological agent. While no specific threats have been identified, large international events increase the importance of rapid recognition and reporting.

Indicators that warrant immediate notification to FDOH include:



Clusters of severe illness with similar symptoms occurring in patients without epidemiologic links



Atypical disease presentations, unusually rapid progression, or unexpectedly high severity



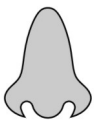
Illness inconsistent with seasonality or local epidemiology, including rare or eradicated diseases (e.g., smallpox-like illness, unexplained neurologic clusters)



Multiple patients presenting from the same location or event with similar unexplained symptoms



Unusual geographic or temporal patterns detected (e.g., sudden spikes in respiratory, neurologic, or GI syndromes)



Illness following suspicious exposures, powders, aerosols, or odors reported in public settings



Any suspected exposure to Category A agents (e.g., anthrax, plague, tularemia, botulinum toxin, viral hemorrhagic fevers)



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Unusual Events and Indicators of Biological Terrorism (Continued)

Immediate reporting is required. Early clinician recognition remains the most reliable trigger for rapid public health response, even when syndromic surveillance has not yet detected a signal.

Disease/Agent	Symptoms	Key Clinical Features	Resources
Anthrax (<i>Bacillus anthracis</i>)	Fever, malaise, cough, chest discomfort.	Severe respiratory distress, widened mediastinum on CXR, sepsis	Bioterrorism and Anthrax: The Threat Anthrax CDC
Plague (<i>Yersinia pestis</i>)	Fever, chills, cough, hemoptysis	Rapidly progressive pneumonia, sepsis	Bioterrorism and Plague: Preparedness Plague CDC
Tularemia (<i>Francisella tularensis</i>)	Fever, fatigue, cough	Severe atypical pneumonia may mimic influenza	About Tularemia Tularemia CDC
Botulism (<i>Clostridium botulinum toxin</i>)	Blurred vision, diplopia, difficulty swallowing	Descending flaccid paralysis without fever	Bioterrorism and Botulism: The Threat Botulism CDC
Smallpox (<i>Variola virus</i>)	High fever, malaise, severe headache	Rash progressing from macules to pustules; lesions same stage	Bioterrorism and smallpox: The Threat Smallpox CDC
Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers (e.g., Ebola, Marburg)	Fever, fatigue, myalgia	Bleeding, shock, multi-organ failure in severe cases	Ebola Disease Basics Ebola CDC About Marburg Marburg CDC



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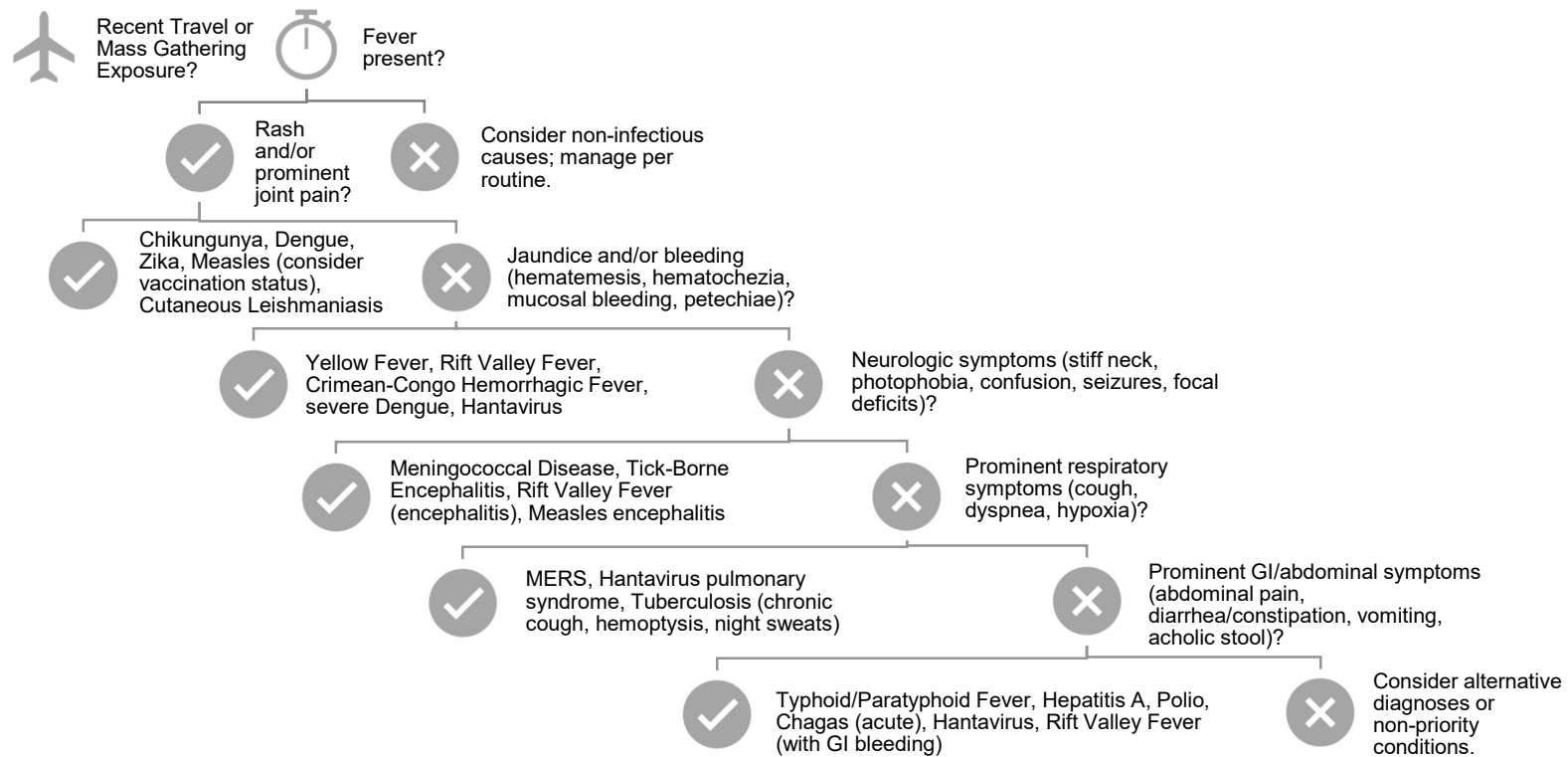
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Evaluation Algorithm for Acute Febrile Illness in Mass Gathering and Travel Settings

For frontline clinical assessment and public health situational awareness– **Not a Definitive Diagnostic Tool**



Adapted for mass gathering preparedness and travel-associated illness detection

Florida Department of Health
Epidemiology, Disease Control & Immunization Services
1350 NW 14th Street, Annex Building, Miami, Florida 33125
PHONE: 305/470-5660 • FAX: 305/470-5633
FloridaHealth.gov



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