

International Health Regulations

Protecting People Every Day

The **International Health Regulations** (IHR) represent an agreement between 196 countries, including all WHO Member States, to work together for global health security. Under the IHR, all countries must report events of international public health importance.

The IHR require that all countries can:



Detect

Make sure surveillance systems and laboratories can detect potential threats



Assess

Work together with other countries to make decisions in public health emergencies



Report

Report specific diseases, plus any potential international public health emergencies



Respond

Respond to public health events



We share a responsibility to protect our world from outbreaks of infectious diseases and other health threats. The goal of the IHR is to stop events in their tracks before they become international emergencies.