



The Event

The 2009 World Transplant Games brought thousands of competitors, health care workers, and spectators to the Gold Coast. In addition to the normal risks of such a widespread event, transplant recipients are at extremely high risk of medical complications and illness.

The Service

In the height of pandemic influenza, Event First Aid worked with Aspen Medical to provide a primary care clinic for the high-risk transplant candidates at the Gold Coast Exhibition Centre; in addition, round-the-clock coverage was provided for seventeen venues over ten days. We also provided an on-call clinical support service with access to key transplant specialists and emergency physicians.

Project Management and Coordination

- A designated project manager was appointed, as well as event- and venue-specific supervisors;
- A comprehensive Event Medical Management Plan was developed, as was screening and contingency plans for pandemic influenza disease;
- All events and venues were in constant communication through our radio network.

Primary Care Clinic

- Staffing, including doctors, nurses and on-call specialist advice;
- Equipment, including consumables, diagnostic equipment and emergency supplies;

Advanced Life Support Paramedic Teams;

- Available to respond to incidents throughout the entire event;
- Additional teams on standby at high risk events like cycling and athletics;
- Medical Support and Response Vehicles were provided at events which required large-area coverage;
- Fully equipped with defibrillators, oxygen resuscitation, advanced airway and trauma packs, intravenous drip kits and emergency medications.

Event Medics

- Present at every event and venue throughout the entire games;
- Equipped with automatic defibrillators, oxygen packs and trauma kits.



Event First Aid

A division of Health Care Options Pty. Ltd.

The Outcome

Every competitor and official was screened at the beginning of the competition to rule out the presence of viral illness and influenza in the event population. Handwash stations were provided at every venue. More than fifty patients attended the primary care clinic for mostly routine matters; each was seen by a doctor and managed at no cost. Fifteen patients were reviewed by field medics; two were hospitalised with clinically significant dehydration – both were treated by our paramedic response teams, who were able to commence rehydration and stabilise the patients prior to transfer.