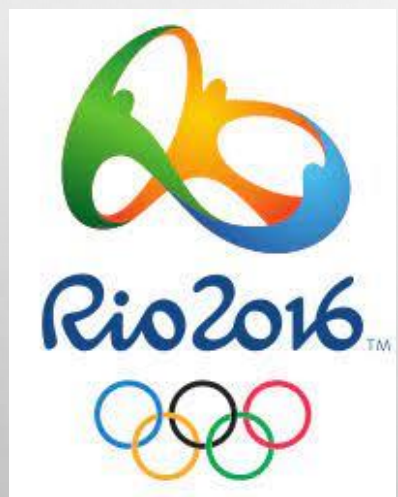



The background of the slide is a light gray gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

**SANTÉ PUBLIQUE ET JEUX OLYMPIQUES –  
DÉFIS ET OPPORTUNITÉS**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE OLYMPIC GAMES  
– CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

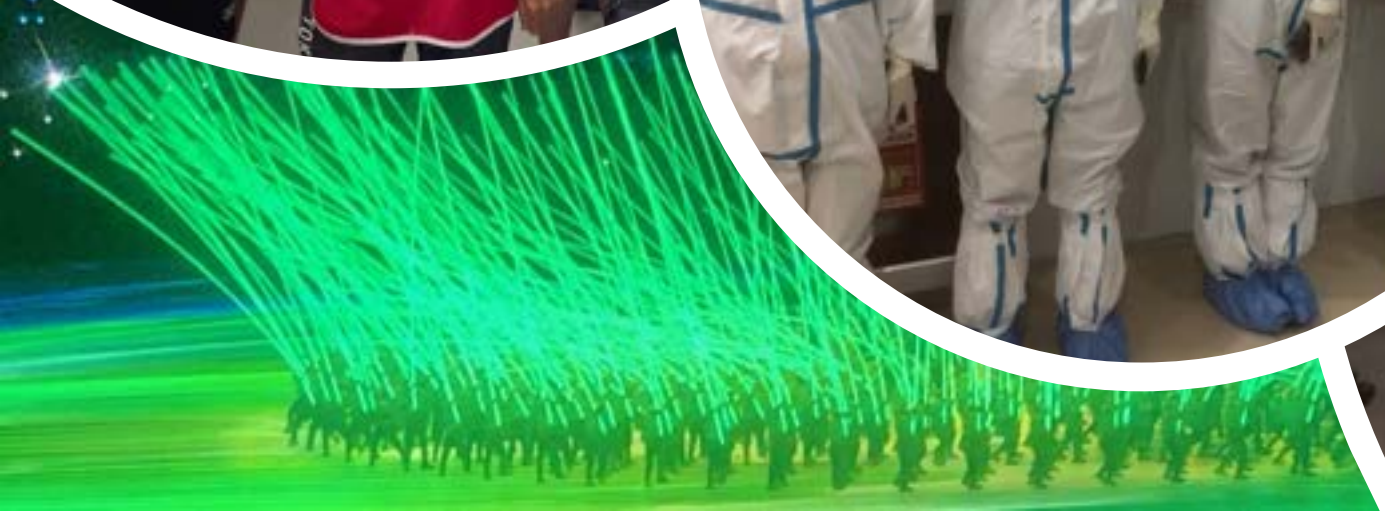
DR BRIAN MCCLOSKEY MD CBE

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISOR



The image features a light gray background with several realistic water droplets of varying sizes scattered in the corners. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The text is centered in the middle of the page.

**ALL GAMES ARE THE SAME  
EACH GAMES IS DIFFERENT  
EVERY GAMES HAS ITS OWN  
CHALLENGES**



# SO WHAT IS MY AMBITION FOR PARIS 2024?






# **THE OLYMPIC CHALLENGE FOR SURVEILLANCE**

**HOW DO WE KNOW NOTHING IS HAPPENING?**

**IF THERE ARE NO ALERTS IN YOUR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM, IS THAT  
BECAUSE NOTHING IS HAPPENING OR BECAUSE YOUR SYSTEMS  
AREN'T SENSITIVE ENOUGH TO FIND WHAT IS HAPPENING?**



# **DISEASE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS**

- **THE PROBLEM IS THAT SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS ARE DESIGNED TO FIND THINGS WHEN THEY HAPPEN NOT TO SHOW THAT NOTHING IS HAPPENING**
- **...AND THOSE ARE VERY DIFFERENT CHALLENGES**

# **INFECTIOUS DISEASE & MASS GATHERINGS**

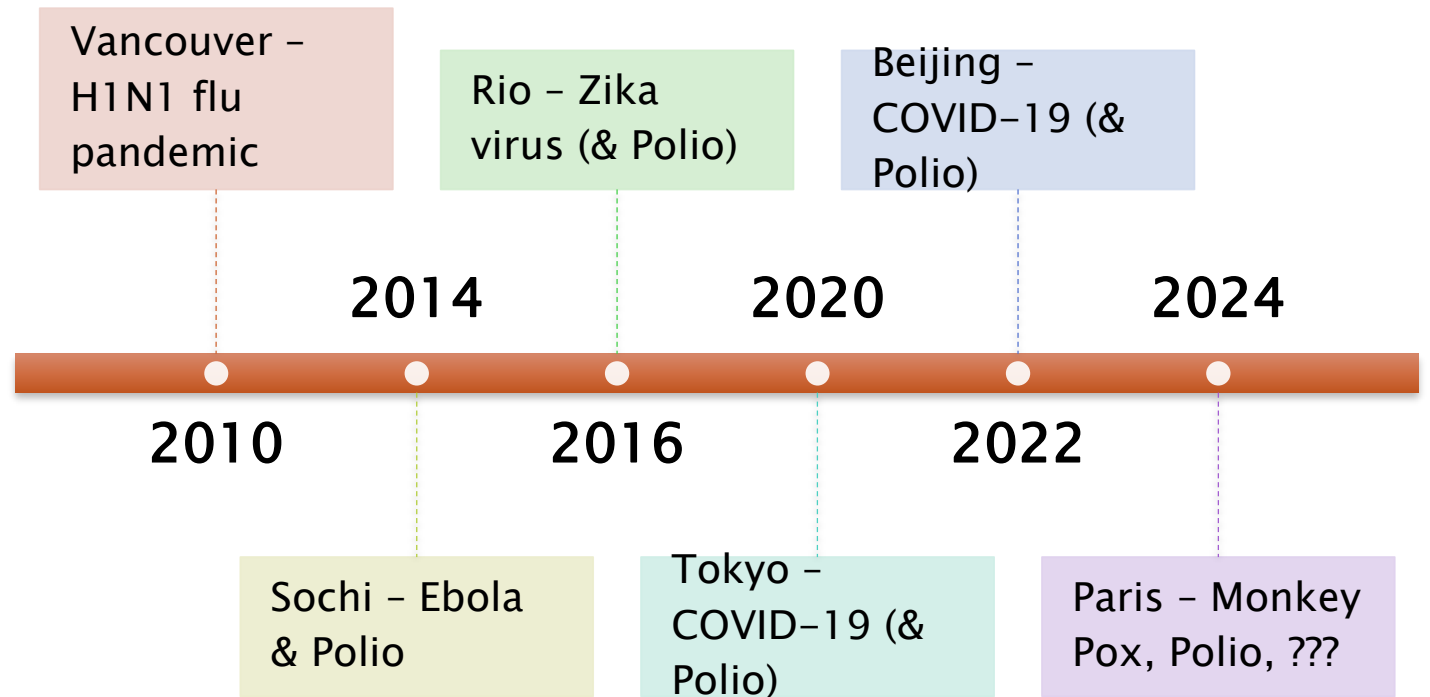
- **COUNTRIES HOSTING OLYMPIC GAMES HAVE GOOD NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH SYSTEMS...**
- **... BUT THERE ARE SPECIFIC CHALLENGES FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES**



The image features a light gray background with a subtle gradient. In the top-left and bottom-right corners, there are several realistic water droplets of various sizes, rendered with soft shadows and highlights to give them a three-dimensional appearance. The text is centered in the middle of the frame.

**BUT COVID IS NOT THE FIRST (OR ONLY)  
CHALLENGE**

# OLYMPIC GAMES AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIE S



# BUT DON'T FORGET:

- **NOROVIRUS (PYEONGCHANG 2018, WORLD ATHLETICS 2017)**
- **MEASLES (VANCOUVER 2010)**
- **CHICKEN POX (LONDON 2012)\***
- **LEGIONELLA (LONDON 2012)\***
- **LEPROSY (VANCOUVER 2010)\***
- **THE IMPACT IS NOT ALWAYS RELATED TO THE SEVERITY OR RISK OF THE DISEASE.**
- *\* RELATED TO CRUISE SHIPS USED AS HOTELS*

# CHALLENGES OF OLYMPIC GAMES

- **SCALE**
- **MEDIA**
- **POLITICS**

# OLYMPIC REHEARSAL



## Athletes on the run from moth invasion as thousands descend on Olympic site

- London and south east have seen a big increase in moth populations because of unseasonal or prolonged spells of cold, wet weather

By [PAUL HARRIS FOR THE DAILY MAIL](#)

PUBLISHED: 23:56, 24 July 2012 | UPDATED: 14:45, 22 July 2015



The Christ the Redeemer statue overlooking Flamengo Beach and Guanabara Bay, where Olympic events are set to be held Image: Gettyi

[NEWS](#) [POLITICS](#) [FOOTBALL](#) [CELEBS](#) [TV](#) [CHOICE](#) [ROYALS](#)

## Rio Olympics: 'Killer super bugs' could blight Games with popular landmarks like Copacabana 'teeming with super bacteria'

Two unpublished studies, one of which is set to be released next month, found worrying levels of super bacteria in waters set to host Games events

# Swarm of moths caused panic during the Sydney Olympics closing ceremony

By [Maryanne Taouk](#)

Posted Thu 17 Sep 2020 at 8:12pm, updated Fri 18 Sep 2020 at 5:25am

## U.K. installing missiles on London rooftop to guard Summer Olympics

*Britain's military has told residents of an upscale apartment development near the Olympic Park in east London it is installing a missile battery on top of a tower within their housing complex to defend the 2012 Games this summer*

Reuters

Published Apr 29, 2012 • 2 minute read

# REACTION TO UNCERTAINTY...

## Should the Olympics Be Cancelled?

They could prove a much-needed symbol of global solidarity — or a superspreader event.

New York Times, June 2021

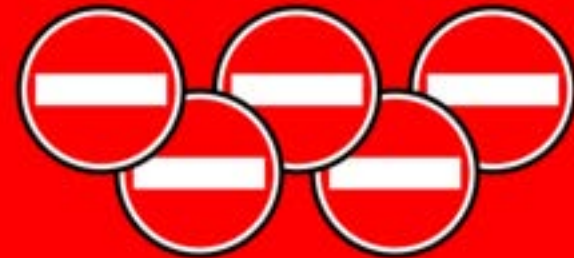
## Tokyo's Olympics Have Become the Anger Games

*The Olympics are supposed to be a symbol of global togetherness, but Tokyo's are shaping up to be the least wanted in history.*

*New Yorker, July 2021*

In interest of safety, Summer Olympics in Tokyo should be cancelled.

LA Times, February 2021



**CANCEL  
THE TOKYO OLYMPICS  
TO PROTECT OUR LIVES**

# WE'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE...

***Researchers Weigh Risks of Zika Spreading at Rio Olympics***

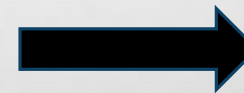
*NY Times January 2016*

***"150 experts say Olympics must be moved or postponed because of Zika"***

*Washington Post, May 2016*

**"Off the Podium: Why Public Health Concerns for Global Spread of Zika Virus Means That Rio de Janeiro's 2016 Olympic Games Must Not Proceed"**

**Harvard Public Health Review, July 2016**



... the Olympics could result in a "global catastrophe" of Zika outbreaks, ... it was "socially irresponsible" and "ethically questionable" to allow them to continue.

**On 2 September 2016, the WHO reported that there were no confirmed cases of Zika among athletes or visitors during the Rio Olympics.**



The image features a light gray background with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered in the corners. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The text is centered in the middle of the page.

**SO, WHAT DO WE DO FOR THE GAMES?**

# ENHANCED SURVEILLANCE

- LABORATORY NOTIFICATIONS
- CLINICIAN NOTIFICATIONS
- EVENT BASED SURVEILLANCE
- SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE
- INTERNATIONAL EPIDEMIC INTELLIGENCE
- FOOD, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT TESTING
- MEDIA MONITORING
- POLYCLINIC REPORTING

# LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC REQUIREMENTS

- **ENHANCED MICROBIOLOGY SERVICES**
  - **FASTER RESULTS**
  - **MULTIPLEX TESTING**
- **3 NEW SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS:**
  - **PRIMARY CARE OUT-OF-HOURS**
  - **HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS**
  - **EVENT BASED SYSTEM**
- **UNDIAGNOSED SERIOUS INFECTIOUS ILLNESS PROTOCOL**
- **POLYCLINIC REPORTING**
- **DAILY SITUATION REPORT**
- **OLYMPIC COORDINATION CENTRE**

# LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC REQUIREMENTS

- **ENHANCED MICROBIOLOGY SERVICES**
  - **FASTER RESULTS**
  - **MULTIPLEX TESTING**
- **3 NEW SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS:**
  - **PRIMARY CARE OUT-OF-HOURS**
  - **HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS**
  - **EVENT BASED SYSTEM**
- **UNDIAGNOSED SERIOUS INFECTIOUS ILLNESS PROTOCOL**
- **POLYCLINIC REPORTING**
- **DAILY SITUATION REPORT**
- **OLYMPIC COORDINATION CENTRE**

# EVENT BASED SURVEILLANCE

- **‘...ANY EVENT IN ENGLAND RELATED TO AN INFECTIOUS AGENT AFFECTING AN INDIVIDUAL OR A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS WHICH**
  - **COULD HAVE PUT THE HEALTH OF THOSE PARTICIPATING, VISITING OR WORKING AT THE OLYMPICS AT SIGNIFICANT RISK, OR**
  - **WHICH WAS LIKELY TO BE OR HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MEDIA SCRUTINY WHICH WOULD HARM THE PERCEPTION OF THE GAMES, OR**
  - **MAY HAVE RESULTED IN WIDESPREAD PUBLIC CONCERN WHICH NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED’.**
- **THESE EVENTS WERE REPORTED TO EBS THROUGH A REGIONAL OPERATION CELL (ROC) REPORT OR IDENTIFIED IN THE HEALTH PROTECTION AGENCY’S INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM BY THE EBS TEAM.**

# SO, WHAT DID IT LOOK LIKE?

- DAILY REVIEW OF HEALTH PROTECTION AGENCY DASHBOARD
- LOCAL CALL BETWEEN PARTNERS:
  - PUBLIC HEALTH (REGIONAL HEALTH AND HEALTH PROTECTION)
  - HOSPITAL CLINICIANS
  - LABORATORIES
  - ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (SANITARY INSPECTORS)
  - FOOD SAFETY
- ANYTHING UNUSUAL RISK ASSESSED
- REPORTED TO NATIONAL TELECONFERENCE
- REVIEWED FOR INCLUSION IN SITREP

# UNDIAGNOSED SERIOUS INFECTIOUS ILLNESS (USII)

- A NEW SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM TO IDENTIFY POTENTIAL CASES AND CLUSTERS OF USII IN A TIMELY MANNER, TO ALLOW FOR APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE
- A PROSPECTIVE, POPULATION-BASED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM TO ENABLE DIRECT REPORTING OF USII CASES FROM SENTINEL ADULT AND PAEDIATRIC INTENSIVE CARE UNITS (ICU/PICUS) THROUGH A WEB-BASED TOOL
- A USII CASE WAS DEFINED AS ANY CHILD ( $\leq 16$  YEARS-OLD) ADMITTED TO A PICU OR HIGH-DEPENDENCY UNIT (HDU) OR ANY ADULT ( $> 16$  YEARS-OLD) ADMITTED TO AN ICU OR HDU WITH A SERIOUS ILLNESS SUGGESTIVE OF AN INFECTIOUS PROCESS WHERE THE CLINICAL PRESENTATION DOES NOT FIT WITH ANY RECOGNISABLE CLINICAL PICTURE OR THERE IS NO CLINICAL IMPROVEMENT IN RESPONSE TO STANDARD THERAPY AND INITIAL LABORATORY INVESTIGATIONS FOR INFECTIOUS AGENTS ARE NEGATIVE
- SIX-MONTH PILOT BEFORE GAMES
- SUPPORTED BY ENHANCED DIRECT ACCESS TO SPECIALIST ADVICE

# WHAT DID THAT LOOK LIKE?

## 1. LOCAL DATA COLLECTION

WEB BASED REPORTING

## 2. INFECTIOUS DISEASE EXPERT AVAILABLE 24hrs


ADVICE ON SPECIALIST AND REFERENCE TESTING & CLINICAL  
MANAGEMENT





# **ENHANCING SURVEILLANCE**

**ESSENTIALLY IT IS ABOUT NETWORKS ,  
COLLABORATION & COMMUNICATION**





# **ENHANCING SURVEILLANCE**

**IT'S ABOUT KNOWING WHO TO TALK TO  
...AND TALKING TO THEM  
...REGULARLY**



# LONDON 2012 EVENTS

- 73 DAYS OF DAILY REPORTING
- 158 EVENTS REPORTED TO PUBLIC HEALTH ASSESSED AS HAVING RELEVANCE FOR THE GAMES AND REQUIRING RISK ASSESSMENT AND FOLLOW UP
- NONE ULTIMATELY IMPACTED ON THE GAMES
- MANY EVENTS GENERATED MEDIA AND POLITICAL INTEREST
- REASSURANCE ON THESE EVENTS WAS ONLY POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE BREADTH, SPEED AND CONSISTENCY OF SURVEILLANCE REPORTING
  - REASSURANCE IS A KEY ELEMENT OF GAMES OPERATIONS

# TOKYO OLYMPIC GAMES, 2020 (2021)

## SARS-COV2 TESTING

- ~ 676,000 TESTS DONE ON PARTICIPANTS
- ~33K TESTS PER DAY
- (INCLUDES: PRE-DEPARTURE TESTS, AIRPORT TESTS (43K), PRE-GAMES TRAINING CAMP TESTS, LOCAL WORKFORCE TESTING OUTSIDE TOCOG PROGRAMME)
  - **464 POSITIVES**
- OVERALL POSITIVITY RATE IN TESTING: 0.02%

# TOKYO GAMES – SARS–COV2 TESTING

- ATHLETES AND TEAM OFFICIALS CONFIRMED POSITIVE: 67
- ATHLETES: 33
- TEAM OFFICIALS: 34

# TOKYO GAMES – COVID-19 CONTACT TRACING

- CLOSE CONTACTS OF CONFIRMED POSITIVES: 417
- SUBSEQUENTLY TESTED POSITIVE: 7 (2%)
- CLOSE CONTACTS WHO CONTINUED TO TRAIN AND COMPETE AS PLANNED UNDER ADAPTIVE COUNTERMEASURES:  
403 (96%)

# BEIJING WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES 2022

## SARS COV2 TESTING

- ~1.9M TESTS CARRIED OUT
- 1,86M IN “CLOSED LOOP”
- 13.6K AIRPORT TESTS
- 437 POSITIVES
- 265 AIRPORT
- 172 “CLOSED LOOP”

# KEY MESSAGES

- **EFFECTIVE PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES DO REDUCE THE RISK OF SPREADING EVENTS**
- **KNOWING WHAT IS HAPPENING MAKES LIFE MORE COMFORTABLE!**



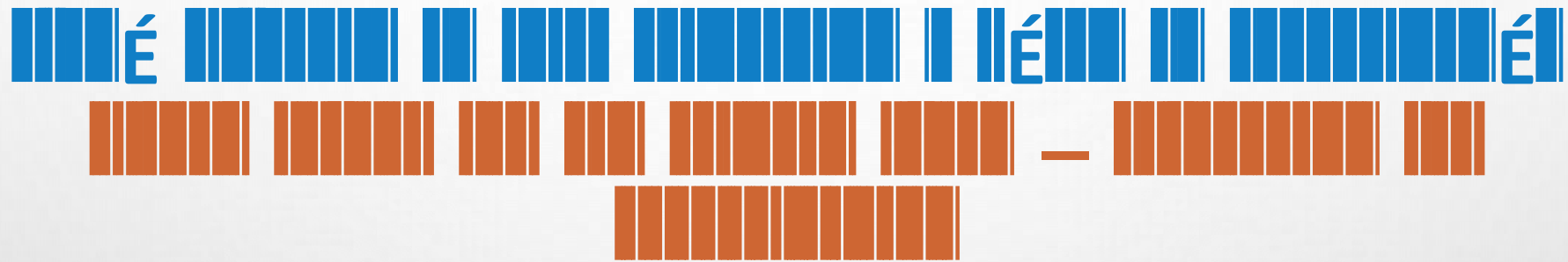
# KEY MESSAGES

- EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED
- NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF REASSURANCE
- POLITICS CAN DRIVE DECISION MAKING FASTER THAN SCIENCE DRIVES ANSWERS

# SUMMARY

- “NORMAL” INFECTIOUS DISEASE SYSTEMS ARE DESIGNED TO TELL YOU WHEN SOMETHING HAPPENS
- WHAT IS NEEDED AT THE GAMES IS A SYSTEM THAT GIVES YOU CONFIDENCE TO SAY NOTHING IS HAPPENING
- THAT REQUIRES A DIFFERENT PARADIGM AND MULTIPLE PARALLEL SYSTEMS TO CROSS-REFERENCE
- SPEED AND CONSISTENCY ARE CRITICAL





DR BRIAN MCCLOSKEY MD CBE  
PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISOR