

HOSTING AN INTERNATIONAL SPORTING MASS GATHERING – CRICKET WORLD CUP 2024

by

Dr. Walter A. Alleyne

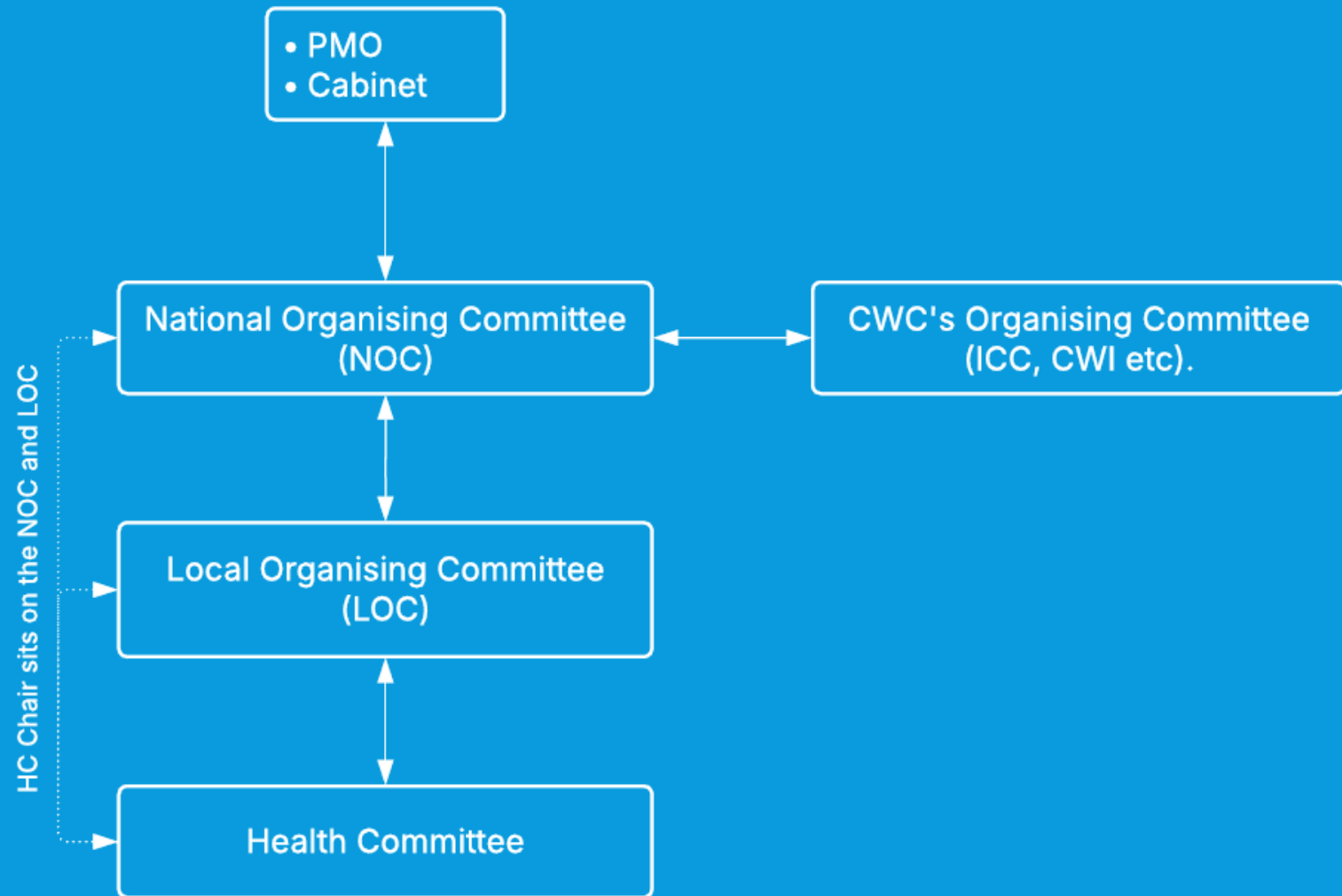
Senior Medical Officer, Ministry of Health and Wellness (Barbados)

Monday, February 24, 2025

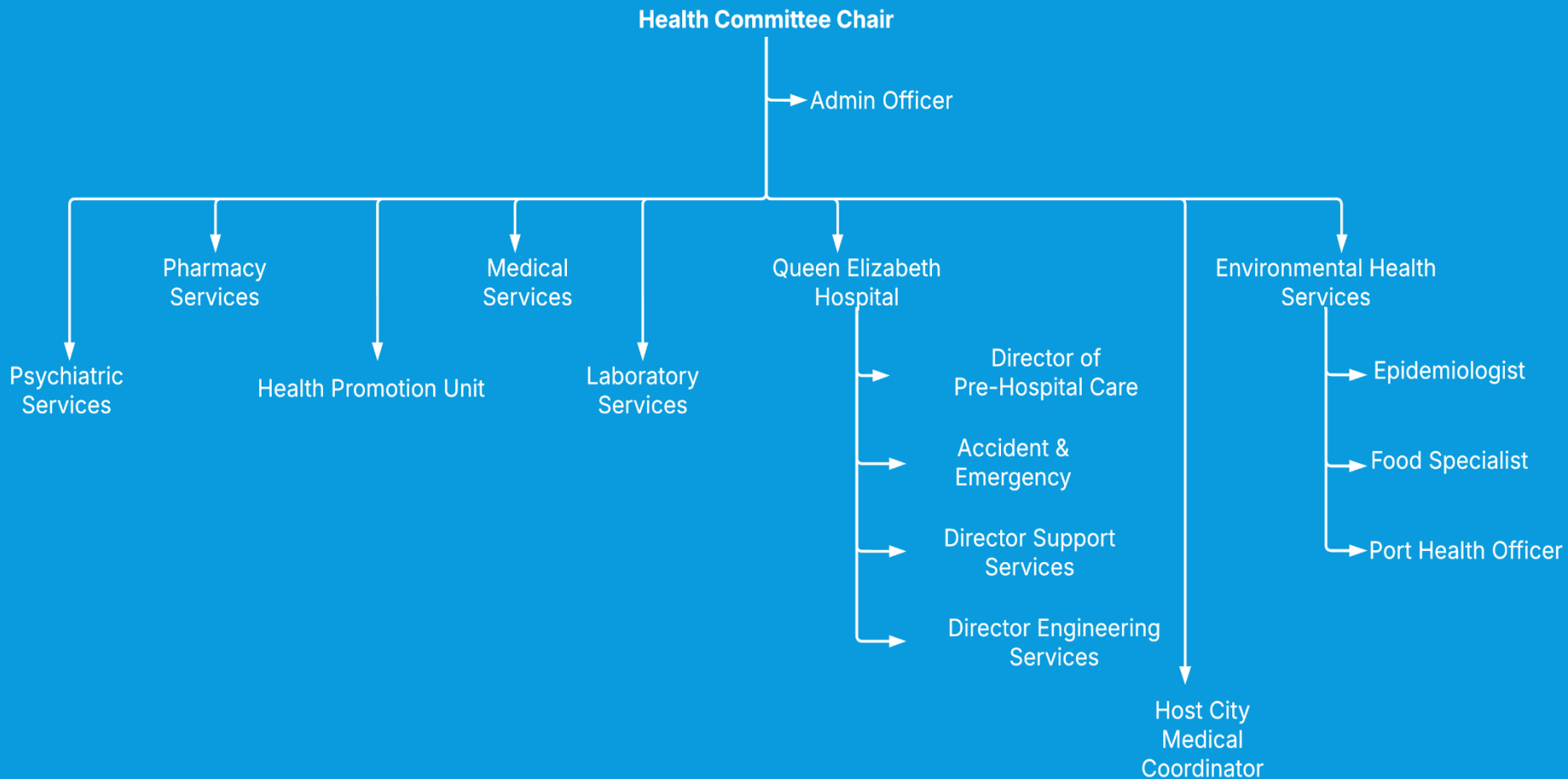
OVERVIEW

- **Event Scale:** 9 matches over 4 weeks
- **Venue:** Kensington Oval, Barbados
- **Key Challenge:** Ensuring health and safety for all associated with Cricket World Cup 2024.

OVERALL MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING STRUCTURE FOR CWC



THE HEALTH COMMITTEE



MEDICAL SERVICES ON MATCH DAYS

- **On site:**
 - 5 x Medical Stations (7 doctors and 8 nurses)
 - 24 First Aiders
 - 4 Medical Emergency Response Teams (MERT)
- **On standby:**
 - Barbados Defence Force's Mass Casualty Clearing Unit (in support of a mass causality incident) .
 - EMT Type 1 (To support and Mass Causality Incident).

SUMMARY OF PATIENTS SEEN:

- **Based on 56 Total Cases:**
 - Heat-Related Injuries (36%)
 - Physical Injuries (21%)
 - Gastroenteritis (14%)
 - Respiratory Illness (4%)
 - Other Medical Conditions (25%)

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

- Clear emergency response protocols with the ability to expand or contract as required.
- Comprehensive medical coverage
- Environmental health monitoring

KEY LESSONS LEARNT

- Planning for mass gatherings requires extensive preparation for public health emergencies, with clear response mechanisms at the national, regional, and international levels.
- Planning needed to account for both event-related incidents and external emergencies like hurricanes/earthquakes etc. (Natural and man-made incidents).
- Critical components must include robust surveillance systems, early warning mechanisms, and cross-sector collaboration for rapid investigation and response.

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