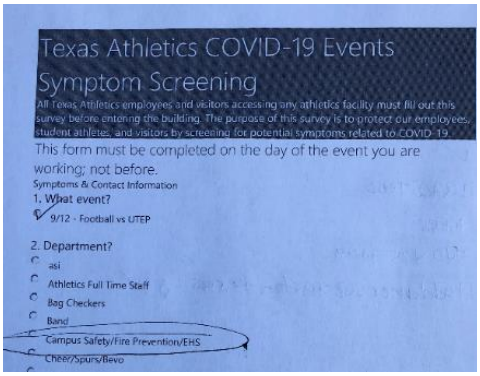
Inspection Results of University of Texas at Austin Football Game COVID Compliance Sweep on 9/12/2020

Introduction



Four Austin Public Health (APH) Environmental Health Services Division (EHSD) staff were assembled into a small strike team and dispatched the University of Texas football game at Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium. The purpose of APH staff's visit was to observe the COVID-19 protocols developed by the University of Texas. Each APH EHSD staff member was assigned to a UT Environmental Health Services Department staff escort to observe and actively report their actions back to UT management staff. A UTPD Officer accompanied the APH EHSD team.

Entry Into Stadium Observations



UT staff required each APH staff member to complete a COVID-19 release form (*see inset photo*) and took their temperatures with a wrist reading device. When queried, the UT EHS staff escorts were not sure where the general public had their temperature taken prior to stadium entry. Additionally, UT health staff escorts was unsure whether antigen testing was required by those attending the game. The attendance could not initially be obtained – The UT health staff escorts said they would know by the end of the game based on electronic reporting at all of the gates.

Initial Observations Inside the Stadium

The high touch surfaces such as handrails and tables were not being regularly cleaned throughout the game. This was also confirmed by discussing it with an on-site UT custodian staff member.

Contactless payment systems (*see inset photo below*) were set up to receive payment for credit/debit cards. However, those using UT student payment cards were still required to hand the UT payment card to the food employee to pay for food. APH observed that food staff at concessions stands did not change their gloves between customers.

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Some customers paying by a credit card were required to sign or otherwise complete the sale by using a screen that switches use back and forth between the food employee and customer. The sanitizing of the screens between customers was not observed.

Compliance Observations

6:06 PM: Using a random sample of fans, APH staff noted a compliance rate of 88% for face mask use. Location - first floor near BBQ – Sections 25-28

7:40PM: Another random sample of fans, APH staff noted 27 out of 33 fans with good mask use; 82% mask compliance. Location - Section 130, upper deck

8:30 PM: Random sample of fans, APH noted 2 out of 26 fans with good mask use; 1% mask compliance. Location - Section 116/115 upper deck

Conclusion



Staff was able to observe only one instance mask compliance enforcement on the west side of the stadium. No other observations of mask compliance enforcement were observed until after staff was asked to leave the game. The 1% mask compliance noted above was reported by the UT health staff escorts to their management team. Improper face masks use was observed of staff working the event (*see inset photo*). On the field, players and coaches did not use masks, only face shields

A UT health staff escort did ask staff to leave the stadium at 8:31 PM in the middle of the second quarter, per previous agreement. His supervisor followed up immediately with a text to the APH/ Environmental Health Supervisor's mobile phone to confirm that it was time for APH staff to conclude their compliance visit.

Positive Observations

- University of Texas staff had each APH staff member complete a COVID-19 release form and took their temperatures with a wrist reading device. APH staff was unable to determine if the general public was required to go through the temperature screening process.
- Water fountains were closed off from use with yellow caution tape.
- Only one person per football team met for coin toss at the 50-yard line.

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- Both football teams' staff were spread out from the 10-yard line to the corresponding 10-yard line (much further than normal).
- The stadium's jumbotron constantly reminded folks during the game to wear masks.
- Lots of social distancing stop point reminders throughout the stadium.
- Good use of directional flow in stairwells and seating access corridors.
- Plenty of hand sanitizing stations placed throughout the stadium. APH staff recommends placing these stations closer to handrails or increase sanitization frequency of common touch points.



Additional Comments and Observations:
APH/ EHSD dispatched four environmental health officers to the Darrell K Royal Memorial Stadium on Saturday evening 09/12/2020 to observe COVID-19 safety practices and compliance with COVID-19 rules, orders and protocols.

UT staff were very cooperative and accommodating in arranging and facilitating EHSD's observational visit, and assisted and accompanied EHSD staff throughout the process. Per earlier agreement, staff was notified at 8:30 to conclude the visit and depart from the stadium.

EHSD staff divided into four teams, each paired with a UT representative. The teams toured the stadium facility independently; their findings are summarized below.

Based on EHSD's observations, it appears that UT went to considerable lengths to effectively implement COVID-19 control measures, such as testing students prior to the game; limiting capacity to less than 25%; cancelling BEVO Blvd.; prohibiting mobile food vendors; prohibiting tailgating; among other measures.

However, areas for improved COVID control for future events would include additional enforcement in the consistent wearing of face coverings, maintenance of social distancing, and sanitization of frequently touched surfaces such as handrails.

UT COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN PROVISIONS	OUTCOME OBSERVED
Attendance limited to a maximum of 25% of capacity.	Apparently enforced based on observation
Tailgating prohibited.	Enforced
Bevo Boulevard cancelled.	Enforced
Students required to undergo COVID tests and temperature checks prior to game.	Enforced per UT
Food trucks/ mobile food vendors prohibited.	Enforced
Concessionaires required to submit detailed COVID compliance plans.	Enforced per UT
Concession employees' temperatures were to be checked prior to game.	Not determined
Masks required.	Inconsistent compliance (Note 1)
Social distancing required.	Inconsistent compliance (Note 2)
Onsite spraying and disinfection provided.	Lapses in periodic sanitizing of handrails etc. observed. (Note 2)

(1) Face covering (mask) compliance started at a very high rate (estimated at 85-90%) but steadily decreased to widespread noncompliance as the game progressed (toward the end of the 1st Quarter). For one randomly counted group, only two of 26 fans were wearing face coverings as required. However, in some cases masks might not have been required due to fans eating or drinking at their seats. Note that UT did broadcast reminders to wear face coverings on the jumbotron at various times during the game.

(2) In the stands, compliance with social distancing requirements was inconsistent. Although the relatively small number of attendees was distributed widely throughout the stadium, numerous groups of people sat in close proximity, rather than being divided by empty rows or a minimum of two seats. On the positive side, social distancing markers (floor decals and signs) were extensively used, as was detailed directional guidance to minimize close contact.