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|  | Director's Directives | Directive | 01-2005 |
| | The Merchant Shipping (Ship's Medical Stores) Directive 2005 To all Ship Owners, Ship Managers; Ship Operators, Filing Agents and Ship's Crewing Agents | Revision | 02 |
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| | | Annex | <i>Guidance to the International Medical Guide for Ships 3rd Edition Interim Advice</i> |

The Director of the Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 7, subsection (5) of The Merchant Shipping Act of 2006 (as amended), and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, makes the following Directive:

1. Citation and commencement

This Directive may be cited as the Merchant Shipping (Ship's Medical Stores) Directive and shall come into force on 01 July 2005.

2. Interpretation

In this Directive

%DOMS+means the Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services and Merchant Shipping;

%Antidotes+means a substance used to prevent or treat a harmful effect or effects, direct or indirect, of one or more dangerous substances;

%Antiguan and Barbudan ship+means a ship which is registered or licensed under the Antigua and Barbuda Merchant Shipping Act 2006 (as amended);

%Company+means the owner of a ship or any other organization or person such as the manager, or the bareboat charterer, who has assumed the responsibility for the operation of the ship from the ship owner and who, on assuming such responsibility, has agreed to take over all duties and responsibilities imposed on the company by these regulations;

%Dangerous goods+are those goods referred to in the IMDG Code, as defined in regulation VII/1.1 of SOLAS;

%International voyages+means voyages worldwide;

%International coastal voyages+means voyages during which the ship is never more than 50 miles off shore;

%Master+includes every person having command or charge of any ship other than a pilot;

%Medical stores+includes medical supplies such as medicines, medical equipment and antidotes;

~~%~~Near coastal voyages+means voyages from any port or place in Antigua and Barbuda to any other port or place in Antigua and Barbuda during which the ship is never more than 30 miles from a safe haven in Antigua and Barbuda;

~~%~~Restricted international voyages+means voyages during which the ship is never more than 200 nautical miles off shore;

~~%~~SOLAS+means the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea.

3. Application

This Directive applies to all Antiguan and Barbudan ships with the exception of:

- (a) Ships owned or operated by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda;
- (b) Pleasure yachts not engaged in trade;
- (c) Ships not propelled by mechanical means;
- (d) Fishing vessels;
- (e) Tugs operating in harbour areas.

4. Regulations

- (1) This Directive sets out the minimum requirements of ADOMS for medical stores on board Antiguan and Barbudan ships.
- (2) All medical stores kept on board Antiguan and Barbudan ships in accordance with this Directive shall conform to the standards and requirements of:

***The World Health Organization (WHO) Í International Medical Guide for ShipsÍ,
(3rd Edition)***

or

**The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA)
Merchant Shipping Note (MSN) 1768 (M+F) and MSN 1768 (M+F) (Corrigendum) deriving
from EC Directive 92/29/EEC**

- (3) In diversion to the categories of vessels defined by the a.m. MSN publications, the following categories of vessels and the consequent requirements for medical stores shall apply to Antiguan and Barbudan ships:

- Category A: Antiguan and Barbudan ships engaged on international voyages
- Category B: Antiguan and Barbudan ships engaged on restricted international voyages
- Category C: Antiguan and Barbudan ships engaged on international coastal voyages or near coastal voyages.

- (4) Antigua and Barbuda ships always shall comply with one of the most recent versions of the documents mentioned under 4(2) also taking into consideration the guidance given in annexes to these documents and any amendments, if applicable.
- (5) *The requirements for medical stores are set out in the schedules attached to the publications referred to in 4(2). On board vessels for which the medical stores are kept conforming to the standards and requirements of The World Health Organization (WHO) International Medical Guide for Ships, 3rd Edition, the quantities for medicine shall be derived from the Interim Advice annexed to this Directive.*
- (6) Companies may, on advice of a qualified medical practitioner or pharmacist determine whether any additional or different quantities in medical stores are required, taking into account i.e. type of an intended voyage, ports of call, type of cargo, number of crew, duration of voyage and type of work to be carried out during the voyage.
- (7) Every Antigua and Barbuda ship to which this Directive applies shall carry for each of its lifeboats and life-rafts a watertight medicine chest containing at least the medical supplies specified in the schedules to the documents referred to in 4(2).

5. Medicines for ships carrying dangerous goods

Ships carrying dangerous goods or their residues should comply with the IMDG Code and the guidance in the IMO/WHO/ILO Medical First Aid Guide for use in accidents involving dangerous goods (MFAG) 1994 and any subsequent amendments or, if applicable, the guidance in Annex 4 to MSN 1768 (M+F).

6. Responsibilities

- (1) The general responsibility for compliance with the requirement of this Directive shall remain with the company.
- (2) Each company shall ensure that:
 - a) medical stores are accompanied by one or more guides to their use, including instructions for use of at least the antidotes required;
 - b) the master or any person authorized by the master to dispense and use drugs, medicines etc. on patients on board has undergone approved training and holding the appropriate certificate as a Designated Medical Care Provider, issued by a foreign national Administration of the seafarers' origin;
- (3) The master is responsible to ensure that any necessary medical attention on board a ship is given either by him or under his supervision by a competent and certified person appointed by him for that purpose.
- (4) The master is also responsible for the maintenance of medical stores on board a vessel, ensuring that they are kept in good condition.
- (5) Medical advice from ashore should be sought as necessary.

7. Inspections

- (1) Medical stores shall be subject to inspection by a qualified medical practitioner or pharmacist who also issues a certificate of inspection, at least every twelve (12) months to ensure that:
 - a) Medical stores meet the requirements of this Directive;
 - b) Medical supplies are stored correctly;
 - c) Medical supplies are kept according to their periods of validity;
 - d) Acts of dispensing medical supplies have been recorded.
- (2) Provided where in any case the inspection under 7(1) is impracticable, ADOMS may extend this period to seventeen (17) months.
- (3) Inspections of medical supplies stored on life-rafts shall be performed in the course of their annual inspection, as required by regulation III/20.8. of SOLAS.
- (4) Inspections according to 7(1) shall be documented by a qualified medical practitioner or pharmacist by issuing a certificate of inspection.

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