



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 220 of 12<sup>th</sup> September 2014

To:	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag:	All Flags
Subject:	Medical Care Ship's Doctors
Reference:	ILO MLC

Medical Care Ship's Doctors

The UK MCA has issued Merchant Shipping Notice regarding medical care and ship's doctor. The notice sets the qualifying criteria for a medical practitioner to work as a ship's doctor on a UK ship, as specified under regulation 4 and regulation 47 of the Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) (Minimum Requirements for Seafarers etc.) Regulation 2014.

A medical practitioner, referred to in this notice as a "ship's doctor", must be carried on any ship carrying 10 or more persons on an international voyage of 72 hours duration or longer.

To work as a ship's doctor on a UK ship, a medical practitioner who is ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom must be fully registered with the General Medical Council, and either

- the doctor must hold a license to practice; or
- the doctor must

(a) have a good command of the English language; and

b) participate in a revalidation program that ensures maintenance of their medical skills

To work as a ship's doctor on a UK ship, a medical practitioner who is not ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom must be fully qualified to practice in the country where they are ordinarily resident, and in addition the doctor must:

- be qualified from one of the medical schools listed in the Avicenna Directory;
- have a good command of the English language; and
- participate in a revalidation program that ensures maintenance of their medical skills.

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REFERENCES:

- ILO MLC – UK MCA

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