



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 622 of 8th April 2020

To	All Surveyors/Auditors
Applicable to flag	All Flags
Title	Accommodation and Medical
Reference	CONARINA – Instructions-MLC

Accommodations and Recreational Facilities (Regulation 3.1)

Regulation 3.1 Applicability:

- a. New ships are to have documentary evidence of having been constructed and equipped to the MLC Regulations, Fourth Schedule.
- b. Existing ships are to have documentary evidence of having been constructed and equipped to the MLC Regulations, Third Schedule, Appendix I or II as applicable.
- c. The Administration is to be notified of any deviations or noncompliance and requested to advise if alterations are to be made to the crew accommodation, or if they will issue, or authorize the RO to an Exemption Certificate.

Frequent inspections of every part of the crew accommodations and hospital are to be inspected at intervals not exceeding 7 days by the master or designated officer and accompanied by at least one crew member.

Inspections are to be entered into the official log book including the following:

- date and time of the inspection
- name and rank of the officer conducting the inspection
- inspection results which were not in compliance with the Maritime Labour Convention).

Medical Stores (Regulation 4.1)

Ships carrying dangerous substances are to further comply with Part III of the Fifth Schedule. Exceptionally, a ferry-type ship operating on a regular route where the crossing is less than two hours, the antidotes may be limited to those which have to be administered in cases of extreme emergencies within a period of time not exceeding the normal duration of the crossing.

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Any container of medical stores kept on board shall:

- have a label in English;
- in the case of a container of tablets or capsules, be capable of re-closure to prevent ingress of moisture.
- in the case of a container of disinfectant, not show deleterious reaction with the disinfectant after storage in normal conditions for six months;
- in the case of a container of insecticide, shall be airtight, watertight, packed in a suitable and sturdy case and if in a pressurized canister it must have a cap or other means of protecting the valve against accidental opening;
- in the case of medicine or disinfectant not in the container supplied by its manufacturer, be packed in a sturdy, brown colored or non-translucent container;
- in the case of a container of oxygen, must have a label in English containing a notice that it is highly explosive and that no smoking is allowed in its vicinity;

Labels are to be firmly affixed and resistant to moisture by varnish or other effective means or be an integral part of the container and are to contain:

- the ordering name referred to in the Fifth Schedule;
- any storage requirements;
- information relative to expiry dates or perishable considerations;
- the name and address of the supplier;
- in the case of any container of a disinfectant or an antiseptic, the dilution recommended for the intended purpose;
- in the case of hypochlorite, a notice indicating that the chemical may combust spontaneously, and that the hypochlorite should be stored in a cool dark place;

Storage:

Medicines are to be stored in accordance with the instructions on the label.

- controlled drugs are to be stored in accordance with the Ship Captain's Medical Guide.
- unless required to be kept in a refrigerator or in a first aid box, shall be stored in a medical cabinet, if available, or in a cool, dry, locked cabinet.
- any medicines kept in a hyperbaric decompression chamber or otherwise in such a way as not to be readily accessible at all times shall not be taken into account in respect to these requirements.

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Medicines are to be replaced when so required by the expiry date. Replacement shall take place at the earliest opportunity after expiry and in any event within three months. Expired medicines are to be disposed of in accordance with the Ship Captain's Medical Guide. Medical stores are to be inspected by a competent person at least once a year to ensure that the ship is carrying the required medical stores

- medical stores are correctly stored
- any perishable medicines have been replaced.

Medicine guides as to the use of medical stores and particularly instructions for the use of antidotes shall be carried on board.

Health and Safety Protection (Regulation 4.3)

Every shipowner shall carry out an assessment of the occupational health and safety hazards that may be present on board the ship and the associated risk related to all aspects of work activity and shall consider the risks to the health and safety of the seafarers. When carrying out such assessments, the shipowner shall also take into consideration changes to the work activities and to the ship's structure or operational use and shall take appropriate action.

Written or retrievable electronic copies of such assessments are to be maintained on board and are to be updated regularly.

These assessments shall be posted in those places which are being addressed by the assessment in such manner as to be clearly readable by the seafarers concerned.

Subsequent to the assessments, the shipowner shall implement protective measures appropriate to the nature of the work being carried including use of protective equipment in accordance with recognized industry standards which may be regulated by international treaties.

The assessments referred to in this rule shall be reviewed whenever there is a major change in working conditions, or whenever the shipowner or seafarer concerned by the assessments have reason to suspect that they are no longer valid.

REFERENCES:

- CONARINA – Instructions- Courtesy of Malta Administration.
- ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,

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