

**Bristol Port Health Authority**

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1966

**MARITIME DECLARATION OF HEALTH**

Before answering the following questions, read the Instructions on page 4.

Port of Arrival..... Date.....

Name of Vessel <sup>SS</sup> <sub>MV</sub> ..... Nationality.....

Net Registered Tonnage..... Master's Name.....

From..... to.....

Deratting Certificate } Issued at..... Dated.....  
Deratting Exemp. Certif. }

No. of } Cabin..... No. of Crew.....  
Passengers } Deck.....

List of Ports of call from commencement of voyage with dates of departure.

.....  
.....

Health Questions	Answer Yes or No
1. Has there been on board during the voyage* any case or suspected case of plague, cholera, yellow fever, smallpox, typhus or relapsing fever? Give particulars in the Schedule ... ..	.....
2. Has plague occurred or been suspected amongst the rats or mice on board during the voyage,* or has there been an abnormal mortality among them? ... ..	.....
3. Has any person died on board during the voyage* otherwise than as a result of an accident? Give particulars in Schedule ... ..	.....
4. Is there on board or has there been during the voyage* any case of disease which you suspect to be of an infectious nature? Give particulars in Schedule ... ..	.....
5. Is there any sick person on board now? Give particulars in Schedule ... ..	.....
<i>Note.</i> —In the absence of a surgeon, the Master should regard the following symptoms as ground for suspecting the existence of disease of an infectious nature; fever accompanied by prostration or persisting for several days, or attended with glandular swelling; or any acute skin rash or eruption with or without fever; severe diarrhoea with symptoms of collapse; jaundice accompanied by fever.	
6. Are you aware of any other condition on board which may lead to infection or the spread of disease? ... ..	.....

I hereby declare that the particulars and answers to the questions given in this Declaration of Health (including the Schedule) are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed.....  
(Master)

Countersigned.....  
(Ship's Surgeon)

Date.....

\* If more than four weeks have elapsed since the voyage began, it will suffice to give particulars for the last four weeks.

**SCHEDULE TO THE DECLARATION**

*Particulars of every case of illness or death occurring on board*

Name	Class or Rating	Age	Sex	Nationality	Port of Embarkation	Date of Embarkation	Nature of Illness	Date of its Onset	Results of Illness*	Disposal of Case†

\* State whether recovered ; still ill ; died.

† State whether still on board ; landed at (give name of port); buried at sea.

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BRISTOL PORT  
HEALTH AUTHORITY**

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Name of Owners or Agents  
in Bristol .....

Nature of Cargo.....

Drinking water taken at.....

Details of Persons on board :—

*(a) Crew*

<i>(a) British</i>	...	...	...	...	.....
<i>(b) Alien</i>	...	...	...	...	.....
<b>Totals</b>	...	...	.....	.....	.....

*(b) Passengers*

<i>(a) British</i>	...	...	...	...	.....
<i>(b) Alien</i>	...	...	...	...	.....
<i>(c) Commonwealth</i>	...	...	.....	.....	.....
<b>Totals</b>	...	...	.....	.....	.....

*(c) Other Persons on board* ... ..

*(d) Passengers landing* ... ..

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**For office use only**

INFECTED AREA :—      YES  
   NO

Tide.....hrs.  
Date.....

*Signature of Port Health Officer*.....

## INSTRUCTIONS TO MASTERS

### MARITIME DECLARATION OF HEALTH,

The Master of a ship approaching a port in England and Wales which during its voyage has been in a foreign port other than an "EXCEPTED PORT" (see below) must complete a Maritime Declaration of Health in the form specified on pages 1 and 2. The Declaration must be countersigned by the ship's surgeon if one is carried and be ready to deliver to the Officer of H.M. Customs or Authorised Officer of the Port Health Authority whichever shall first board the vessel.

**1. If the answer to any of the health questions on page 1 is "YES" free pratique will not be granted by Her Majesty's Customs until the vessel has been visited by the Port Medical Officer and,**

#### THE MASTER MUST :—

(1) (a) either send a wireless message to "PORTELTH" BRISTOL, stating the name of his ship and the time on the 24 hour clock it is expected to arrive. This message must be sent off not more than 12 hours and not less than 4 hours before the arrival of the ship; or

(b) if the ship is not fitted with a radio transmitting apparatus the Master must notify the Port Health Authority, whenever practicable before arrival and otherwise immediately on arrival, of any circumstances requiring the attention of the Medical Officer; and

(2) When the ship comes, whether by day or night within the district, show or give the following signals :—

(a) the international two-flag signal "ZW" flown at the masthead or where it can best be seen from the shore; and

(b) between sunset and sunrise, either :—

(i) the signal "ZW" flashed in the Morse Code by lamp, or

(ii) a signal consisting of a red light over a white light, the lights being not more than six feet apart shown at the peak or where the signal can best be seen from the shore.

**2. If the answer to all of the health questions on page 1 is "NO" :—**

#### THE MASTER MUST :—

Show or give the following signals when the ship comes, whether by day or night, within the district :—

(a) the international flag signal "Q" flown at the masthead or where it can best be seen from the shore; and

(b) between sunset and sunrise, either :—

(i) the signal "Q" flashed in the Morse code by lamp, or

(ii) a signal consisting of a red light over a white light, the lights being not more than six feet apart shown at the peak or where the signal can best be seen from the shore.

"EXCEPTED PORT" means a foreign port situated on the European coast of France, the coast of Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, Greece, or the Federal Republic of Germany, including the East bank of the River Elbe between the entrance to the Kiel Canal and Hamburg, inclusive of both places and also any port within the Kiel Canal".

**3. Regulation 17 of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1966, states :—**

If, within four weeks after the Master of a ship has delivered a Maritime Declaration of Health pursuant to Regulation 16 or a corresponding provision in force in Scotland or Northern Ireland, the ship arrives in a district or calls at another district, as the case may be, the Master shall report to the Customs Officer or Authorised Officer, whoever first boards the ship, any case or suspected case of infectious disease which has occurred on board since the Declaration was delivered and has not already been reported.

**4. Restriction on Boarding or Leaving Ships**

Regulation 18(1) of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1966, states: On arrival of a ship from any foreign port or from any infected area which is not a foreign port, no person other than a pilot, a customs officer, and immigration officer or an authorised officer shall, without the provision of the medical officer, board or leave the ship until it is free from control under these Regulations, and the master shall take all steps necessary to secure compliance with this provision.

The maximum penalty for breach of the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1966, is £100, and in the case of continued offence, a further penalty not exceeding £50 for every day during which the offence continues.

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