



THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT

(CHAPTER 137)

Act

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Amended by

16 of 1980

S 24/78

S 61/81

S 98/85

S 195/85

S 196/85

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Infectious Diseases Act

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An Act relating to quarantine and the prevention of infectious diseases.

[1st August 1977]

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the Infectious Diseases Act.

Interpretation

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —
- “Agency” means the National Environment Agency established under the National Environment Agency Act (Cap. 195);
 - “AIDS” means Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome;
 - “baggage” means the personal effects of a traveller or of a crew member of a vessel;
 - “Board” means the Health Promotion Board established under the Health Promotion Board Act (Cap. 122B);

- “building” means any house, hut, shed or roofed enclosure, whether intended for the purpose of human habitation or otherwise, and any wall, gate, post, pillar, paling, frame, hoarding, slip, dock, wharf, pier, jetty, landing-stage or bridge;
- “carrier”, in relation to any infectious disease, means any person who is harbouring or is likely to or is suspected to harbour the agents of that disease;
- “contact”, in relation to any infectious disease, means any person who has been exposed to the risk of infection from that disease;
- “crew” includes any person who is on board a vessel not for the sole purpose of travelling from one place to another but who is employed in the vessel’s service or in connection with its cargo;
- “dangerous infectious disease” means any of the diseases set out in the Second Schedule;
- “Director” means the Director of Medical Services and includes a Deputy Director of Medical Services and an Assistant Director of Medical Services;
- “Director-General” means the Director-General of the Public Health appointed under section 3 (1) of the Environmental Public Health Act (Cap.95);
- “food establishment” means any place or any premises or part thereof used for the sale or for the preparation or manufacture for sale, or for the storage or packing for sale, of food, whether cooked or not, intended for human consumption;
- “Health Officer” means any person who is appointed by the Director-General or the Director to carry out the duties of a Health Officer under this Act;
- “HIV Infection” means Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection;
- “infected” means infected with the germs of an infectious disease;
- “infectious disease” means —
- (a) any of the diseases specified in the First Schedule; and

(b) for the purposes of sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 47, 55 and 73 (1) (g), includes any other disease —

- (i) that is caused or is suspected to be caused by a micro-organism or any agent of disease;
- (ii) that is capable or is suspected to be capable of transmission by any means to human beings; and
- (iii) that, the Director has reason to believe, if left uninvestigated or unchecked, is likely to result in an epidemic of the disease;

“isolation”, in relation to a person or group of persons, means the separation of that person or group of persons from any other persons, other than —

- (a) the health staff in charge of the care and isolation of that person or group of persons; and
- (b) such other persons as the Director or the Director-General (as the case may be) may allow;

“master”, in relation to a vessel, means the person for the time being in charge or command of the vessel;

“medical practitioner” means a medical practitioner registered or exempted from registration under the Medical Registration Act (Cap. 174);

“Minister” means —

- (a) in relation to sections 3 (1), 7 (1), 10 (1), 17 (1) and (2), 19 (2), 21 (3), 25 (1) (k), 26, 47, 52, 54 and 58 (1), the Minister charged with the responsibility for health; and
- (b) in relation to section 3 (2), the Minister charged with the responsibility for the environment;

“nurse” means a registered nurse or enrolled nurse within the meaning of the Nurses and Midwives Act (Cap. 209);

“occupier”, in relation to any premises or vessel, means the person in occupation of the premises or vessel or having the charge or control thereof either on his own account or as an agent of another person;

“owner”, in relation to any premises or vessel, means the person for the time being receiving the rent of the premises or vessel

whether on his own account or as agent, trustee or receiver or who would receive the same if the premises or the vessel were let or chartered;

“port” means any place in Singapore and any navigable river or channel leading into such place declared to be a port under the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act (Cap.170A) and includes an airport;

“Port Health Officer” means any Health Officer in charge of a port and includes his deputies and assistants;

“pratique”, in relation to a vessel, means the written permission granted by a Port Health Officer to the vessel to disembark and commence operation;

“premises” means messuages, buildings, lands, easements and hereditaments of any tenure whether open or enclosed, whether public or private and whether maintained or not under statutory authority, and includes any place or structure or any part thereof used or intended to be used for human habitation or for employment or any other purpose;

“public place” means any place or premises to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission, and includes any place or premises used by the public or a section of the public for educational or recreational purposes or for assemblage;

“quarantine” means the compulsory detention in isolation for the purpose and under the provisions of this Act of any ships, persons, goods, things, animals or plants;

“quarantine anchorage” means any area of the port which has been appointed for the time being for the quarantine of vessels and declared to be a quarantine anchorage by the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore;

“quarantine station” means any island, building or place where quarantine is carried out;

“surveillance” means the subjection of a person or persons to periodical medical examinations or observations with a view to ascertaining his or their state of health;

“vessel” means any ship, boat, aircraft or a vessel of any description used in navigation by sea or air.

[5/92; 7/96; 13/99; 46/99; 5/2001; 26/2001; 4/2002; 5/2003; 7/2003]

PART II

ADMINISTRATION

Administration of this Act

3.—(1) Except as otherwise provided by this Act, the Director shall, subject to any general or special directions of the Minister, be responsible for the administration of Parts III, IV and VI.

[5/2003]

(2) Except as otherwise provided by this Act, the Director-General shall, subject to any general or special directions of the Minister, be responsible for the administration of Part V.

[5/2003]

(3) The appropriate Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, direct that the powers conferred on the Director under Part III be exercised by the Director-General in relation to such matters as may be specified in the notifications.

[4/2002]

(4) For the purposes of exercising the powers under Part III in relation to matters referred to in subsection (3) any reference to the Director in that Part shall be construed as a reference to the Director-General.

[4/2002]

Delegation

4. The Director-General or the Director may, subject to such conditions or restrictions as he thinks fit, delegate to any Health Officer all or any of the powers conferred on him by this Act.

[4/2002]

Advisory committees

5. The appropriate Minister may establish one or more advisory committees consisting of such members as he may appoint for the purpose of giving advice to the Director-General or the Director, as the case may be, with regard to such matters arising out of the administration of this Act as are referred to them by the Minister.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

PART III**CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
WITHIN SINGAPORE****Notification of infectious diseases**

6.—(1) Every medical practitioner who has reason to believe or suspect that any person attended or treated by him is suffering from an infectious disease or is a carrier of that disease shall notify the Director within the prescribed time and in such form or manner as the Director may require.

[5/2003]

(2) Every person in charge of a laboratory used for the diagnosis of disease who becomes aware of the existence of an infectious disease in the course of his work shall notify the Director within the prescribed time and in such form or manner as the Director may require.

[5/2003]

(3) Any person who is aware or who suspects that any other person is suffering or has died from or is a carrier of an infectious disease shall notify the Director within the prescribed time and in such form or manner as the Director may require.

[5/2003]

(4) Any person who is required to notify the Director under this section shall give any other particulars required by the Director in so far as they can be reasonably ascertained by him or are within his knowledge.

(5) Any person who fails to comply with the requirements of this section or furnishes as true information which he knows or has reason to believe to be false shall be guilty of an offence.

(6) When any person who is charged with failing to comply with the requirements of subsection (1), (2) or (3) in relation to the notification of an infectious disease, he shall be presumed to have known of the existence of the disease unless he proves to the satisfaction of the court that he had no such knowledge and could not with reasonable diligence have obtained such knowledge.

Epidemiological surveys and investigations

7.—(1) The Director may, from time to time, undertake epidemiological surveys of people, animals or vectors in order to determine the existence, prevalence or incidence of —

- (a) any infectious disease; or
- (b) any other disease which the Minister, by notification in the *Gazette*, declares to be a disease to which this section applies.

[5/92]

(2) In investigating any disease the Director may require any person —

- (a) to furnish him, as soon as practicable, with such information as he may require for the purpose of the investigation; and
- (b) to submit to such medical examination as he thinks fit.

[5/92]

(3) Any person who fails, without reasonable excuse, to furnish any information or to submit to any medical examination required under subsection (2) shall be guilty of an offence.

Medical examination and treatment

8.—(1) The Director may require any person who is, or is suspected to be, a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease to submit to medical examination or medical treatment at such times and at such hospital or other place as the Director may determine.

[7/2003]

(2) If any person fails to comply with the requirements of the Director under this section —

- (a) that person shall be guilty of an offence; and
- (b) the Director may order the removal of that person to any hospital or other place where the person may be detained and (if necessary) isolated until he has been medically examined or treated.

[5/2003; 7/2003]

Post-mortem examination

9. Where any person has died whilst being, or suspected of being, a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease, the Director may order a post-mortem examination of the body of that person for the purpose of —

- (a) determining the cause or circumstances of the death of that person; or
- (b) investigating into any outbreak or suspected outbreak of, or preventing the spread of, that disease.

[7/2003]

Director may require information from medical practitioners, etc.

10.—(1) The Director may, for the purpose of investigating into any outbreak or suspected outbreak of an infectious disease, preventing the spread of an infectious disease, or treating any person who is, or is suspected to be, a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease —

- (a) require any medical practitioner to obtain from his patient such information as the Director may reasonably require for that purpose and transmit such information to the Director; and
- (b) with the approval of the Minister, prescribe by order any general or specific measures or procedures for that purpose for compliance by any medical practitioner, hospital, medical clinic, clinical laboratory or healthcare establishment.

[7/2003]

(2) Any person who fails to comply with a requirement or an order referred to in subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

[7/2003]

(3) A patient of a medical practitioner who fails to provide the medical practitioner or a person acting on his behalf with any information sought from the patient pursuant to a requirement under subsection (1) (a) that is within the patient's knowledge shall be guilty of an offence.

[7/2003]

(4) A medical practitioner shall comply with a requirement under subsection (1) (a) to transmit information to the Director notwithstanding any restriction on the disclosure of information imposed by any written law, rule of law, rule of professional conduct or contract; and he shall not by so doing be treated as being in breach of any such restriction notwithstanding anything to the contrary in that law, rule or contract.

[7/2003]

(5) In this section, “clinical laboratory”, “healthcare establishment” and “medical clinic” have the same meanings as in the Private Hospitals and Medical Clinics Act (Cap. 248).

[7/2003]

Offence for supplying false or misleading information

11.—(1) Any person who —

- (a) donates any blood or blood product at any blood bank or hospital in Singapore for any use or purpose; and

- (b) directly in connection with such donation of blood or blood product, supplies any material information which he knows to be false or misleading,

shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

[13/99]

(2) In this section, “material information” means any information directly relating to the likelihood of transmission of an infectious disease by the use of any blood or blood product.

[13/99]

Treatment of premises or vessel

12.—(1) The Director may, by notice in writing, require the owner or occupier of any premises or vessel to cleanse or disinfect it in the manner and within the time specified in the notice.

[5/2003]

(2) Any owner or occupier who fails to comply with the requirements of the notice served under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) Without prejudice to any proceedings under subsection (2), where a notice issued by the Director under subsection (1) has not been complied with, a person authorised in that behalf by the Director may enter the premises or vessel to which the notice relates and take or cause to be taken such measures as have been specified in the notice.

[4/2002]

(4) The cost and expenses incurred by the Director under subsection (3) shall be paid by the person in default and may be recovered as a debt due to the Government.

Destruction and disposal of infected animals, food and water

13. The Director may order the destruction of any animal and the disposal of any food or water wherever found if he considers such animal, food or water to be a source for the transmission of an infectious disease.

Wakes and disposal of corpses

14.—(1) Where any person has died whilst being, or suspected of being, a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease, the Director may by order —

- (a) prohibit the conduct of a wake over the body of that person or impose such conditions as he thinks fit on the conduct of such wake; or
- (b) impose such conditions as he thinks fit for the collection, removal and disposal of the body of that person.

[7/2003]

(2) If any person contravenes any order under subsection (1) —

- (a) that person shall be guilty of an offence; and
- (b) any Health Officer may take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that the order is complied with, including entering any premises at any time without warrant and with such force as may be necessary to collect, remove and dispose of the body of the deceased person.

[7/2003]

(3) Any costs and expenses incurred by a Health Officer under subsection (2) (b) shall be borne by the person in default and may be recovered as a debt due to the Government.

[7/2003]

Isolation of certain persons

15.—(1) The Director may order any person who is, or is suspected to be, a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease to be detained and isolated in a hospital or other place for such period of time and subject to such conditions as the Director may determine.

[7/2003]

(2) The Director may order any person who is, or is suspected or continues to be suspected to be, a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease, or who has recently recovered from or been treated for such disease, to remain and to be isolated and (if necessary) be treated, in his own dwelling place —

- (a) for such period of time as may be necessary for the protection of the public; and
- (b) subject to such conditions as the Director may consider necessary for this purpose.

[7/2003]

(3) If any person against whom an order under subsection (1) or (2) is made —

- (a) fails to proceed to the place in which he is to be isolated within the time specified in the order;
- (b) without the permission of the Director, leaves or attempts to leave the place in which he is being isolated; or

(c) fails to comply with any condition to which the person is subject,
that person shall be guilty of an offence.

[7/2003]

Surveillance

16.—(1) The Director may, in his discretion, order any person who is, or is suspected to be, a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease to undergo surveillance for such period of time and subject to such conditions as the Director thinks fit.

[7/2003]

(2) Any person subjected to surveillance by the Director under subsection (1) who fails to comply with any condition relating to his surveillance imposed by the Director shall be guilty of an offence.

[7/2003]

Isolation area

17.—(1) The Minister may, for the purpose of preventing the outbreak or spread of an infectious disease, by notification in the *Gazette* declare any premises to be an isolation area.

[7/2003]

(2) A notification under subsection (1) shall be effective until the expiration of such period as may be specified in the notification or until it is revoked by the Minister, whichever occurs first.

[7/2003]

(3) The Director may, in relation to an isolation area, by order —

- (a) prohibit any person or class of persons from entering or leaving the isolation area without the permission of the Director;
- (b) prohibit or restrict the movement within the isolation area of any person or class of persons;
- (c) prohibit or restrict the movement of goods;
- (d) require any person or class of persons to report at specified times and places and submit to such medical examinations, answer such questions and submit to such medical treatment as the Director thinks fit;
- (e) authorise the destruction, disposal or treatment of any goods, structure, water supply, drainage and sewerage system or other matter within the isolation area known or suspected to be a source of infection; and

(f) prohibit, restrict, require or authorise the carrying out of such other act as may be prescribed.

[7/2003]

(4) Action necessary to give effect to an order under subsection (3) may be taken by a Health Officer or a police officer.

[7/2003]

(5) Any person who, without reasonable excuse, contravenes an order under subsection (3) shall be guilty of an offence.

[7/2003]

(6) A person who leaves or attempts to leave or is suspected of having left an isolation area in contravention of an order under subsection (3) may be arrested without warrant by any police officer, or by any Health Officer authorised in writing in that behalf by the Director.

[7/2003]

(7) Without prejudice to any of the orders which the Director may make under this Act, the Director may issue an order under section 15 against a person who is arrested under subsection (6) as if he were a person referred to in that section.

[7/2003]

(8) Goods brought into or removed from an isolation area in contravention of an order under subsection (3) shall be forfeited to the Government and may be seized, dealt with and disposed of in accordance with section 55 (2) and (3) as if those goods were any substance or matter referred to in section 55 (1) (c).

[7/2003]

Abatement of overcrowding

18.—(1) If, in the opinion of the Director, a building is so overcrowded as to expose the occupants thereof to the risk of infection by an infectious disease, the Director may, by notice in writing, direct the owner or occupier of the building to abate the overcrowding or to close the building or part thereof within the time specified in the notice.

(2) When a building or any part thereof has been directed to be closed under subsection (1), any person who enters the building or part thereof without the permission of the Director shall be guilty of an offence.

Closure of food establishment

19.—(1) If the Director suspects that any food establishment is the source of or is responsible for the transmission of an infectious

disease, he may, by notice in writing, order the closure of the food establishment and prohibit the sale or distribution of the food or water found therein for such period as may be specified in the notice.

(2) Any person aggrieved by any order of the Director under subsection (1) may, within 7 days from the date of the order, appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

Prohibition of meetings, gatherings and public entertainments

20.—(1) Where it appears to the Director that the holding of any meeting, gathering or any public entertainment is likely to increase the spread of any infectious disease, the Director may prohibit the meeting, gathering or public entertainment in any place.

(2) Any person who holds, is present at or has taken part in any meeting, gathering or public entertainment in contravention of a prohibition by the Director under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence.

Control of occupation, trade or business

21.—(1) The Director may, by order in writing, prohibit any person who is a case or carrier of an infectious disease for any period specified therein from carrying on any occupation, trade or business in which that person is likely to cause the spread of the disease.

[16/80]

(2) The Director may, by order in writing, prohibit any person for any period specified therein from carrying on any occupation, trade or business if his occupation, trade or business is conducted in such manner as is likely to cause the spread of any infectious disease.

(3) Any person aggrieved by any order of the Director under subsection (2) may, within 7 days from the date of the order, appeal to the Minister whose decision shall be final.

(4) Any person who contravenes any order made under subsection (1) or (2) shall be guilty of an offence.

Certain persons not to act in manner likely to spread disease

21A.—(1) A person who knows, or has reason to suspect, that he is a case or carrier or contact of a disease set out in the Fifth Schedule shall not expose other persons to the risk of infection by his presence

or conduct in any public place or any other place used in common by persons other than the members of his own family or household.

[7/2003]

(2) A person having the care of another person whom he knows, or has reason to suspect, is a case or carrier or contact of a disease set out in the Fifth Schedule shall not cause or permit that person to expose other persons to the risk of infection by that person's presence or conduct in any such place.

[7/2003]

(3) A person shall not lend, sell, transmit or expose, without previous disinfection, any clothing, bedding or rags which he knows to have been exposed to infection from a disease set out in the Fifth Schedule, or any other article which he knows to have been so exposed and which is liable to carry such infection.

[7/2003]

(4) Any person who contravenes subsection (1), (2) or (3) shall be guilty of an offence.

[7/2003]

(5) A person shall not incur any liability for contravening subsection (1) if his presence or conduct in a place mentioned in that subsection is necessary for the purpose of obtaining medical treatment.

[7/2003]

(6) Where the Director has designated a hospital or other place for the treatment of any disease set out in the Fifth Schedule, subsection (5) shall only apply in relation to the obtaining of medical treatment at the designated hospital or place for that disease.

[7/2003]

(7) A person shall not incur any liability for contravening subsection (3) by transmitting with proper precautions any article for the purpose of having it disinfected.

[7/2003]

PART IV

CONTROL OF AIDS AND HIV INFECTION

Person with AIDS or HIV Infection to undergo counselling, etc.

22.—(1) The Director may require any person who has been diagnosed as having AIDS or HIV Infection —

- (a) to undergo counselling by a registered medical practitioner;
- and

- (b) to comply with such precautions and safety measures as may be specified by the Director.

[5/92; 13/99]

(2) Any person who fails or refuses to comply with subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

[5/92]

Sexual intercourse by person with AIDS or HIV Infection

23.—(1) A person who knows that he has AIDS or HIV Infection shall not have sexual intercourse with another person unless, before the sexual intercourse takes place, the other person —

- (a) has been informed of the risk of contracting AIDS or HIV Infection from him; and
- (b) has voluntarily agreed to accept that risk.

[5/92; 13/99]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

[5/92]

(3) For the purposes of this section, a person shall not, only by reason of age, be presumed incapable of having sexual intercourse.

[5/92]

(4) For the purposes of this section and section 24, a person shall be deemed to know that he has AIDS or HIV Infection if a serological test or any other prescribed test for the purpose of ascertaining the presence of HIV Infection carried out on him has given a positive result and the result was communicated to him.

[5/92; 13/99]

(5) In this section, “sexual intercourse” means —

- (a) sexual connection occasioned by the introduction into the vagina, anus or mouth of any person of any part of the penis of another person; or
- (b) cunnilingus.

[5/92]

Blood donation and other acts by person with AIDS or HIV Infection

24.—(1) Any person who knows that he has AIDS or HIV Infection shall not —

- (a) donate blood at any blood bank in Singapore; or
- (b) do any act which is likely to transmit or spread AIDS or HIV Infection to another person.

[5/92; 13/99]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$50,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 2 years or to both.

[5/92; 13/99]

Protection of identity of person with AIDS, HIV Infection or other sexually transmitted disease

25.—(1) Any person who, in the performance or exercise of his functions or duties under this Act, is aware or has reasonable grounds for believing that another person has AIDS or HIV Infection or is suffering from a sexually transmitted disease or is a carrier of that disease shall not disclose any information which may identify the other person except —

- (a) with the consent of the other person;
- (b) when it is necessary to do so in connection with the administration or execution of anything under this Act;
- (c) when ordered to do so by a court;
- (d) to any medical practitioner or other health staff who is treating or caring for the other person;
- (e) to any blood, organ, semen or breast milk bank that has received or will receive any blood, organ, semen or breast milk from the other person;
- (f) for statistical reports and epidemiological purposes if the information is used in such a way that the identity of the other person is not made known;
- (g) to the victim of a sexual assault by the other person;
- (h) to the Controller of Immigration for the purposes of the Immigration Act (Cap. 133);
- (i) to the next-of-kin of the other person upon the death of such person;
- (j) to any person or class of persons to whom, in the opinion of the Director, it is in the public interest that the information be given; or

- (k) when authorised by the Minister to publish such information for the purposes of public health or public safety.

[5/92; 13/99]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both.

[5/92]

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1) (a), the consent of the other person includes —

- (a) if that person has died, the written consent of that person's spouse, personal representative, administrator or executor;
- (b) if that person is below the age of 16 years, the written consent of a parent or legal guardian of that person; and
- (c) if, in the opinion of the medical practitioner who undertook the test for HIV Infection for that person, he has a disability by reason of which he appears incapable of giving consent, the written consent in the following order, of —
 - (i) a legal guardian of that person;
 - (ii) the spouse of that person;
 - (iii) a parent of that person; or
 - (iv) an adult child of that person.

[13/99]

Disclosure by Director, medical practitioner and recipient of information

25A.—(1) The Director may disclose any information relating to any person whom he reasonably believes to be infected with AIDS or HIV Infection to —

- (a) any medical practitioner or other health staff who has been exposed to a risk of infection from AIDS or HIV Infection; or
- (b) any first responder who has experienced a significant exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials of any patient.

[13/99]

(2) In subsection (1), “first responder” means any police officer, member of the Singapore Civil Defence Force or any person who provides emergency response, first aid care or other medically related

assistance either in the course of the person's occupational duties or as a volunteer.

[13/99]

(3) Subject to subsection (4), a medical practitioner may disclose information relating to any person whom he reasonably believes to be infected with AIDS or HIV Infection to the spouse, former spouse or other contact of the infected person or to a Health Officer for the purpose of making the disclosure to the spouse, former spouse or other contact.

[13/99]

(4) The medical practitioner shall not disclose any information under subsection (3) unless —

- (a) he reasonably believes that it is medically appropriate and that there is a significant risk of infection to the spouse, former spouse or other contact;
- (b) he has counselled the infected person regarding the need to notify the spouse, former spouse or other contact and he reasonably believes that the infected person will not inform the spouse, former spouse or other contact; and
- (c) he has informed the infected person of his intent to make such disclosure to the spouse, former spouse or other contact.

[13/99]

(5) Where the medical practitioner is unable, by any reasonable means, to counsel or inform the infected person, he may apply to the Director to waive the requirements of subsection (4) (b) or (c) or both.

[13/99]

(6) The Director may approve the application made under subsection (5) if, in the opinion of the Director, it is medically appropriate to disclose the information and that there is a significant risk of infection to the spouse, former spouse or other contact.

[13/99]

(7) No person, to whom any information relating to a person who is reasonably believed to be infected with AIDS or HIV Infection has been disclosed under this section, shall disclose such information to any person other than the persons specified in subsection (8) or as provided in subsection (10).

[13/99]

(8) The persons referred to in subsection (7) are —

- (a) the infected person himself;

- (b) a person who is authorised under section 25 (1) (a) to consent to such disclosure; and
- (c) any person who is authorised to disclose such information under subsection (1), (3) or (6) or section 25 (1).

[13/99]

(9) Any person who contravenes subsection (7) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 months or to both.

[13/99]

(10) A person, to whom any information relating to a person who is reasonably believed to be infected with AIDS or HIV Infection has been disclosed under this section, may apply to the Director for approval to disclose such information to any person or class of persons.

[13/99]

(11) The Director may approve the application under subsection (10) if he is satisfied that such disclosure is in the interests of public health or public safety.

[13/99]

PART V

PREVENTION OF INTRODUCTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES INTO SINGAPORE

Infected area

26.—(1) Where the Minister has reason to believe that a dangerous infectious disease may be introduced into Singapore from or through any area in Singapore or elsewhere, he may, by notification in the *Gazette*, declare that area to be an infected area.

(2) The Minister may, in his discretion, issue an order prohibiting the entry into Singapore of any person or class of persons from an infected area declared under subsection (1) except under such conditions as he may specify.

[5/2003]

Vessels, persons and articles from infected area

27.—(1) For the purposes of this Part, all vessels, persons and articles coming from an infected area shall be deemed to be infected unless otherwise declared by the Director.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) A vessel and any person and article on board shall also be deemed to be infected if an infectious disease is found on board or if such infection was present amongst the crew, passengers, rodents or vectors on board the vessel.

Information required on arrival of vessels

28.—(1) The master and the surgeon, if there is one on board, or the agent of any vessel arriving in Singapore shall provide such particulars as may be required by the Director-General or Port Health Officer in such form or manner as the Director-General may require.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) Any master, surgeon or agent who fails to comply with subsection (1) or who provides any information which is false or misleading shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

Measures required of a vessel or vehicle on arrival

29.—(1) The Director-General or a Port Health Officer may —

- (a) inspect any vessel or vehicle or any person or goods on board the vessel or in the vehicle when in Singapore;
- (b) subject persons on board a vessel or in a vehicle, upon arrival, to medical examination;
- (c) direct health and sanitary measures to be taken in respect of a vessel or vehicle;
- (d) obtain from the master, or any other person on board the vessel, all necessary information that he requires to ascertain the health of persons on board, the sanitary condition of the vessel and cargo and of the port last visited by that vessel and any other information that he may require;
- (e) inspect the journal or log-book of the vessel or of the vessel's papers; and
- (f) direct the master, owner or agent of any vessel to forward a copy of the vessel's passenger and crew list and cargo manifest immediately after the vessel's arrival in Singapore.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) Any person who fails to comply with any direction or requirement of the Director-General or the Port Health Officer

under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000.

[4/2002]

Undertaking to report to Port Health Officer

30.—(1) Any person who has given an undertaking in another country to report to a Port Health Officer in Singapore shall immediately on his arrival report accordingly and shall comply with all the directions of a Port Health Officer.

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) or fails to comply with the directions of a Port Health Officer shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1,000; and any deposit or guarantee made by such person may be forfeited.

(3) Without prejudice to subsection (2), any such person who fails to report to a Port Health Officer or fails to comply with the directions of a Port Health Officer shall be liable to be arrested without a warrant, to be isolated, disinfected or otherwise treated.

Vaccination

31.—(1) Every person on an international voyage whether leaving or arriving in Singapore shall —

- (a) have been vaccinated against all or any of the diseases in accordance with the requirements set out in the Third Schedule; and
- (b) produce valid international certificates of vaccination to a Port Health Officer.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), a Port Health Officer may require such person to be vaccinated and may subject him to isolation or surveillance for such period as the Port Health Officer thinks fit.

(3) The Port Health Officer may, in his discretion, return any person, not being a citizen of Singapore, who refuses or fails to comply with subsection (2), to his place of origin or embarkation at the expense of the owner or agent of the vessel by which he arrived in Singapore.

(4) The owner, master or agent of any vessel shall ensure compliance with subsection (1) in respect of any person on board his vessel.

Disinfection and treatment of vessel and vehicle

32.—(1) The Director or a Health Officer authorised by the Director may, in his discretion, order the disinfection and treatment of the clothes and personal effects of any infected person arriving in Singapore.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) Any vessel or vehicle which has conveyed an infected person shall be cleansed, disinfected or treated in such manner as may be directed by the Director or a Health Officer authorised by the Director.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

Arrival of infected ships

33.—(1) An infected ship shall anchor at a quarantine anchorage unless otherwise directed by a Port Health Officer and shall remain there until it has been granted pratique by a Port Health Officer.

(2) An infected ship lying within the waters of Singapore shall show the appropriate quarantine signal prescribed by regulations unless otherwise directed by a Port Health Officer.

(3) No person shall board or disembark from the ship while it lies at a quarantine anchorage, without obtaining the prior written permission of a Port Health Officer.

(4) No baggage, cargo or article may be discharged from a ship while it lies at a quarantine anchorage without the prior written permission of a Port Health Officer.

(5) Any master or any other person who contravenes this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

[34

Unauthorised boarding or disembarking from infected vessel

34.—(1) The master of any infected vessel shall while it is subject to quarantine —

- (a) prevent and, if necessary, detain any person disembarking from the vessel without being authorised by a Port Health Officer;
- (b) detain any person from Singapore who without the permission of a Port Health Officer boards the vessel;

- (c) deliver any person detained to a Port Health Officer;
- (d) prevent any baggage or cargo from being discharged from the vessel; and
- (e) prevent any rodent from leaving or entering the vessel.

(2) A master who fails to comply with any of the provisions of subsection (1) and any person aiding or abetting a master shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

(3) For the purposes of section 33 and this section, “infected” means infected with a dangerous infectious disease.

[35]

Pratique

35.—(1) A ship not granted pratique shall remain in the quarantine anchorage while in the waters of Singapore or may continue its voyage to other ports.

(2) The master or agent of any ship which has not been granted pratique who suffers or permits the ship to be anchored or berthed in contravention of subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

[36]

Discharge of waste or matter

36. The discharge of human dejecta, solid or liquid waste or any matter, which the Director-General or a Port Health Officer considers to be contaminated, from any vessel shall be subject to such measures as the Director-General or the Port Health Officer may impose.

[37]

[4/2002]

Vessels within waters of Singapore

37.—(1) The master, owner or agent of any vessel whilst in Singapore shall —

- (a) take such precautions as may be directed by a Port Health Officer to prevent rodents from leaving or entering the vessel, and take such measures for the destruction of rodents on board the vessel;

- (b) take all measures directed by a Port Health Officer to abate any nuisance that may be present on board the vessel within such time as may be specified by the Port Health Officer; and
- (c) take such measures to clean, disinfect, whitewash or any other measures which a Port Health Officer may direct to improve the condition of the water tanks, living spaces or any other part of the vessel.

(2) Any master, owner or agent who fails to comply with any directions of the Port Health Officer under subsection (1) within the specified time shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 and to a further fine not exceeding \$500 for every day during which the offence continues after conviction.

[38]

Person supplying food and water

38.—(1) The master, owner or agent of every vessel and any person supplying food and water to the vessel shall ensure that the food and water supplied to the vessel is fit for human consumption.

(2) The master, owner or any person in charge of any vessel or vehicle employed for carrying food or water intended for human consumption shall ensure that his vessel or vehicle and the food and water receptacles therein are in a clean and sanitary condition.

(3) Any person who contravenes this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000.

[39]

Powers of Director-General or Port Health Officer regarding food and water

39.—(1) The Director-General or a Port Health Officer may —

- (a) take samples of any food and water intended for human consumption or for sale to a vessel;
- (b) order the owner or any person in charge of a vessel supplying food to carry out an analysis of the food and to supply the results of that analysis to the Director-General or the Port Health Officer;

- (c) if he has reason to believe that any food intended for human consumption is liable to be contaminated or is unfit for human consumption, order the food to be destroyed; and
- (d) order the owner, master or agent of any vessel to immediately cleanse the water tanks of the vessel to his satisfaction.

[4/2002]

(2) Any person who fails to comply with an order of the Director-General or a Port Health Officer under subsection (1) within the time specified therein shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

[40

[4/2002]

Importation of vectors of diseases

40.—(1) No person shall import or bring or cause to be imported or brought into Singapore any vectors capable of transmitting a disease without first obtaining the written permission of the Director-General.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

[41

Importation of agents of diseases

41.—(1) No person shall, without the prior written permission of the Director, import or bring or cause to be imported or brought into Singapore any disease-causing organism or any agent of disease capable of transmitting a disease.

[5/2003]

(2) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

[41A

[5/2003]

Power to inspect merchandise, etc., on board vessel

42.—(1) The Director-General or a Port Health Officer may inspect and examine any articles, merchandise, baggage or cargo,

on board any vessel, which are in his opinion contaminated or likely to be contaminated.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) The Director-General or the Port Health Officer may order any contaminated articles, merchandise, baggage or cargo found on board the vessel to be —

(a) seized and treated or disposed of in such manner as he thinks fit; and

(b) prohibited from being unloaded or stored in Singapore.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(3) Any person who fails to comply with an order of the Director-General or the Port Health Officer under subsection (2) or hinders or obstructs the execution of that order shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$2,000.

[4/2002]

(4) Any articles, merchandise, baggage or cargo to which the order relates may be confiscated, treated or disposed of at the discretion of the Director-General or the Port Health Officer.

[4/2002]

Corpses

43.—(1) No corpse or human remains or bones other than cremated ashes, shall be brought into or transhipped or exported from Singapore, unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other evidence showing the name of the deceased, the date and cause of death and the measures adopted to preserve the body.

(2) Such corpse or human remains or bones shall not be landed or transhipped or exported without the written permission of a Port Health Officer.

(3) The owner, master or agent of any vessel shall ensure compliance with subsections (1) and (2).

(4) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) or (2) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000.

Master, etc., of vessel to assist Director-General, Director, etc.

44.—(1) The master, owner or agent of a vessel shall provide such facilities and assistance as the Director-General, the Director, a Port

Health Officer or a Health Officer may require in exercising his powers for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) The master, owner or agent of a vessel shall take all reasonable measures and exercise due and proper care to ensure the safety of the Director-General, the Director, a Port Health Officer or a Health Officer and any person acting under his direction in the course of their work on board the vessel.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(3) Any person who contravenes this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

Liability of master, owner or agent for expenses

45.—(1) The master, owner and agent of any vessel which has been ordered into quarantine or of any vessel from which any person is removed for quarantine shall be responsible for —

- (a) the removal, care and maintenance, conveyance and medical surveillance of all persons on board the vessel; and
- (b) the provision of such services as the Director-General, the Director, a Port Health Officer or a Health Officer considers necessary to ensure the satisfactory performance of the quarantine of the vessel and the persons on board.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) The master, owner or agent of any vessel which has been ordered into quarantine or to be cleansed, fumigated, disinfected or otherwise treated, shall pay the costs and expenses of removal of any cargo and goods from the vessel incurred in the cleansing, fumigation, disinfection or treatment of the vessel.

(3) The master, owner or agent of the vessel may make arrangement with the Director-General, the Director, a Port Health Officer or a Health Officer for the carrying out of any of the responsibilities under this section and for the payment of the costs and expenses thereof.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(4) The Director-General, the Director, a Port Health Officer or a Health Officer may take any action he considers necessary to ensure that the vessel or any person or articles on board performs the quarantine satisfactorily and any expenses incurred thereby shall be

recoverable from the owner or agent of the vessel as a debt due to the Agency or the Government, as the case may be.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(5) The Director-General, the Director, a Port Health Officer or a Health Officer may require the master, owner or agent of the vessel to give such security as he thinks necessary to ensure that the master, owner or agent of the vessel will carry out his responsibilities under this section satisfactorily.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

PART VI

VACCINATION

Responsibility of parent or guardian

46.—(1) The parent or guardian of every child in Singapore shall ensure that the child is vaccinated against the diseases set out in the Fourth Schedule.

(2) The Registrar of Births and Deaths shall, immediately after the registration of the birth of a child, issue to the parent or guardian of the child a notice in the prescribed form requiring the child to be vaccinated against the diseases to which this section applies.

Power to order mandatory vaccination of persons in certain cases

47.—(1) In an outbreak of any infectious disease in any area in Singapore, the Minister may by order direct any person or class of persons not protected or vaccinated against the disease to be vaccinated within such period as may be specified in the order.

[5/2003]

(2) In addition to the power conferred by subsection (1), where it appears to the Minister that —

(a) an outbreak of an infectious disease in any area in Singapore is imminent; and

(b) it is necessary or expedient to do so for the securing of public safety,

the Minister may by order direct any person or class of persons not protected or vaccinated against that infectious disease to be vaccinated within such period as may be specified in the order.

[5/2003]

(3) Any order made under subsection (1) or (2) may specify the person by whom and the manner in which the vaccination is to be carried out.

[5/2003]

(4) Where any order is made under subsection (1) or (2), the Minister shall cause notice of the effect of the order to be given in such a manner as he thinks necessary for bringing it to the notice of all persons who in his opinion ought to have notice thereof.

[5/2003]

Vaccination and intradermal tests

48.—(1) No vaccination or intradermal test shall be carried out except by a medical practitioner, or by a nurse employed by the Board or working under the supervision of a medical practitioner.

[5/2001]

(2) Every medical practitioner shall —

- (a) keep in the prescribed manner a record of all vaccination and intradermal tests carried out by him or under his supervision; and
- (b) within the prescribed period after carrying out any vaccination or intradermal test, notify in the prescribed manner —
 - (i) the Director or any officer of the Board who is designated by the Director for the purpose; and
 - (ii) the person on whom the vaccination or intradermal test was carried out or, if such person is a child, to the parent or guardian of such child.

[5/2003]

Exemption from vaccination

49. The Director or any officer of the Board who is designated by the Director for the purpose may grant the postponement of or exemption from any vaccination required under this Part as he thinks fit.

[5/2001]

Certificates of unfitness

50.—(1) If any medical practitioner is of the opinion that any person is not fit to be vaccinated, he shall immediately deliver to that person or in the case of a child to the parent or guardian of the

child an exemption certificate in such form as the Director may require.

[5/2003]

(2) Such exemption certificate shall remain in force for such period as may be specified therein.

[5/2003]

(3) Before the expiry of the exemption certificate the person shall go, or the parent or guardian of the child shall take or cause the child to be taken, to a medical practitioner who shall then examine and vaccinate the person or child or give a further exemption certificate in respect of that person or child in such form as the Director may require.

[5/2003]

(4) Any medical practitioner who issues an exemption certificate under this section shall, within the prescribed time and in such form or manner as the Director may require, notify the Director or an officer of the Board who is designated by the Director for the purpose.

[5/2003]

Offence

51. Any person who contravenes any provision of this Part, or fails to comply with any notice given under section 46 or order made under section 47, shall be guilty of an offence.

[5/2003]

Suspension of this Part

52.—(1) The Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, suspend all or any of the provisions of this Part during an epidemic of any infectious disease.

(2) The Minister shall, on the termination of such epidemic, by notification in the *Gazette* restore such provisions of this Part that he has suspended and order all persons affected by the suspension to perform within such time as he may specify all acts that remained to be performed by reason of the suspension.

Issue of international certificates of vaccination

53.—(1) International certificates of vaccination shall be issued only by such medical practitioners as may be permitted by the Director.

(2) Any permission under subsection (1) —

- (a) may be granted in the discretion of the Director;
- (b) may be granted, renewed or refused without any reason for the grant, renewal or refusal being assigned;
- (c) may be granted or renewed subject to such restrictions and conditions as the Director may think fit; and
- (d) shall be subject to suspension at any time and without notice upon breach of any restriction or condition subject to which it was issued, or upon contravention of any provision of this Act.

Fees for vaccinations and intradermal tests

54. The Minister may from time to time, by notification in the *Gazette*, prescribe the fees that may be charged by medical practitioners who carry out any vaccination or intradermal test under the provisions of this Act.

PART VII

ENFORCEMENT

Powers of Director and Health Officers in dealing with outbreaks and suspected outbreaks of infectious diseases

55.—(1) For the purpose of investigating into any outbreak or suspected outbreak of an infectious disease or for the purpose of preventing the spread of any such infectious disease, the Director or any Health Officer authorised by the Director may —

- (a) at any time without warrant and with such force as may be necessary —
 - (i) enter, inspect and search any premises; or
 - (ii) stop, board, inspect and search any conveyance, in which the outbreak or suspected outbreak has taken place;
- (b) take samples of any substance or matter, wherever found, if the Director or Health Officer has reason to believe that that substance or matter is the cause of, is contributory to or is otherwise connected with, the occurrence of the outbreak or suspected outbreak, and send such samples for such test, examination or analysis as the Director or Health Officer may consider necessary or expedient;

- (c) seize any substance or matter, wherever found, if the Director or Health Officer has reason to believe that that substance or matter is the cause of, is contributory to or is otherwise connected with, the occurrence of the outbreak or suspected outbreak;
- (d) require any person to destroy any food in his possession which the Director or Health Officer has reason to believe is the cause of, is contributory to or is otherwise connected with, the occurrence of the outbreak or suspected outbreak;
- (e) require any person —
 - (i) to furnish any information within his knowledge; or
 - (ii) to produce for inspection any book or document within his custody or possession;
- (f) require, by notice in writing, any person who is, or is suspected to be, a case or carrier or contact of an infectious disease to submit to medical examination and have his blood or other body sample taken for examination within the time specified in such notice, and to undergo such treatment as may be necessary;
- (g) subject to subsection (5), order the closure or cordoning off of any public place in which the outbreak or suspected outbreak has taken place;
- (h) subject to subsections (6) and (7), requisition, for such period as the Director or Health Officer thinks necessary —
 - (i) any premises which, in his opinion, is suitable for the isolation and treatment of persons who are or are reasonably suspected to be cases or carriers or contacts of the infectious disease; and
 - (ii) any conveyance which, in his opinion, is suitable and necessary for use in connection with the prevention of the spread of the infectious disease; and
- (i) by order prohibit or restrict the movement of persons, animals and conveyances into, within or out of any public place referred to in paragraph (g) or any premises referred to in paragraph (h) (i).

[5/2003; 7/2003]

(2) Where the Director or Health Officer seizes any substance or matter under subsection (1) (c) —

- (a) the Director or Health Officer shall immediately give notice in writing of the seizure to the owner of, or to the person from whom, the substance or matter was seized and may —
 - (i) direct that the substance or matter under seizure be kept or stored in the premises or conveyance where it was seized or be removed to any other place to be kept or stored thereat; or
 - (ii) dispose of the substance or matter immediately if the Director or Health Officer is of the view that the substance or matter is decayed, putrefied or deleterious to health; and
- (b) any person aggrieved by the seizure may, within 48 hours after the seizure, complain thereof to a Magistrate's Court and the Magistrate's Court may —
 - (i) confirm the seizure wholly or in part;
 - (ii) disallow the seizure wholly or in part;
 - (iii) order that any substance or matter that has been seized be returned to its owner, subject to any condition which the Court may think fit to impose to ensure that the substance or matter is preserved for any purpose for which it may subsequently be required; or
 - (iv) order payment to be made to the owner of or person entitled to the substance or matter seized of such amount as the Court considers reasonable compensation to him for any loss or depreciation resulting from the seizure.

[5/2003]

(3) Where —

- (a) no complaint is received by the Magistrate's Court within 48 hours of the seizure under subsection (2) (b); or
- (b) the Magistrate's Court confirms the seizure under subsection (2) (b) (i),

the substance or matter seized in its entirety or to the extent to which its seizure was confirmed by the Magistrate's Court, as the case may be, shall become the property of the Government and shall be disposed of in such manner as the Director thinks fit.

[5/2003]

(4) A person shall comply with a requirement under subsection (1) (e) to disclose information or produce documents to the Director notwithstanding any restriction on the disclosure of the information or documents imposed by any written law, rule of law, rule of professional conduct or contract; and the person shall not by so doing be treated as being in breach of any such restriction notwithstanding anything to the contrary in that law, rule or contract.

[7/2003]

(5) The power referred to in subsection (1) (g) shall not apply in respect of any public place where the power to order the closure or cordoning off of such public place in the same circumstances has been conferred by any other written law on some other public officer or statutory body.

[5/2003]

(6) Any premises that are unoccupied may be requisitioned under subsection (1) (h) without notice being given to the owner thereof, but no premises that are occupied shall be so requisitioned unless a written notice has been served on the owner or occupier or posted in a conspicuous position at those premises.

[5/2003]

(7) Where any premises or conveyance is requisitioned under subsection (1) (h), the owner or occupier of the premises or the owner or person having control and possession of the conveyance shall be entitled to a reasonable compensation for the occupation of the premises during the period of requisition, or for the use and detention of the conveyance, as the case may be.

[5/2003]

(8) Any person who fails to comply with any requirement or order made by the Director or a Health Officer under subsection (1) (d), (e), (f), (g) or (i) shall be guilty of an offence.

[5/2003]

Powers of arrest

56.—(1) Any police officer or any Health Officer authorised in writing in that behalf by the Director-General or the Director may arrest any person committing or who he has reason to believe has committed any offence punishable under this Act if —

- (a) the name and address of the person are unknown to him;
- (b) the person declines to give his name and address; or
- (c) there is reason to doubt the accuracy of the name and address if given.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) A person arrested under subsection (1) may be detained until his name and address are correctly ascertained.

(3) No person so arrested shall be detained longer than is necessary for bringing him before a court unless the order of a court for his detention is obtained.

Powers of arrest of person in isolation, undergoing surveillance, etc.

56A.—(1) Any person who —

- (a) being required to be isolated in any place under the provisions of this Act, fails to proceed to that place or leaves or attempts to leave that place; or
- (b) being required to undergo or submit to surveillance, medical examination or medical treatment under the provisions of this Act, fails to undergo or submit to such surveillance, examination or treatment,

may be arrested without warrant by any police officer, or by any Health Officer authorised in writing in that behalf by the Director.

[7/2003]

(2) The Director may issue any order under this Act for the isolation, surveillance, medical examination or medical treatment of a person arrested under subsection (1).

[7/2003]

Police officer or Health Officer may demand names and addresses in certain cases

57.—(1) Any person who is required by any police officer or by any Health Officer authorised in that behalf by the Director-General or the Director shall on demand give his name and address and other proof of identity to the police officer or Health Officer, as the case may be.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) The occupier of any premises shall, if required by any police officer or by a Health Officer authorised in that behalf by the Director-General or the Director, give his name and address and other proof of identity and the name and address of the owner of the premises, if known.

[4/2002; 5/2003]

(3) Any person who fails to comply with any requirement properly made to him by a police officer or Health Officer under subsection (1) or (2), or wilfully mis-states his name and address or the name and address of the owner of any premises, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500.

[5/2003]

Disclosure of information to prevent spread of infectious disease

57A.—(1) The Director may only disclose any information obtained by him under this Act to any person if this is necessary to enable that person to take steps to prevent the spread of a disease set out in the Sixth Schedule.

[7/2003]

(2) A person to whom information under subsection (1) is disclosed may only disclose or use such information to the extent necessary for implementing any measure permitted by the Director for the purpose of preventing the spread of that disease, but not otherwise.

[7/2003]

(3) Any person who contravenes subsection (2) shall be guilty of an offence.

[7/2003]

(4) Subsection (1) is without prejudice to any right of disclosure under this Act or any other written law or rule of law.

[7/2003]

Extraordinary powers in relation to emergency measures

58.—(1) The Director may, with the approval of the Minister, formulate and implement emergency measures for the control of an infectious disease in any area and such measures shall be published in the *Gazette* before implementation.

(2) Any person who wilfully neglects or refuses to carry out or obstructs the execution of any emergency measure formulated and implemented under subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[7/2003]

Police assistance

59. The Commissioner of Police shall provide such police assistance as may be necessary to carry out any of the provisions of this Act.

PART VIII**MISCELLANEOUS****Service of notices, orders or other documents**

60.—(1) Any notice, order or other document required or authorised by this Act to be served on any person may be served —

- (a) by delivering it to the person or to some adult member or employee of his family or household at his usual or last known place of residence;
- (b) by leaving it at his usual or last known place of residence or business in an envelope addressed to the person;
- (c) by sending it by post to him at his usual or last known place of residence or place of business in Singapore;
- (d) in the case of a body corporate, by delivering it to the secretary of the body corporate at its registered or principal office or sending it by post to the secretary of that body corporate at that office;
- (e) if the document is to be served on the master of a vessel or on a person on board a vessel, by delivering it to any person being or appearing to be in command or charge of the vessel; or
- (f) if the document is to be served on the master of a vessel and there is no master, by serving it on the owner of the vessel or on the agent of the owner or, where no such agent is known or can be found, by affixing it on some conspicuous part of the vessel.

[7/2003]

(2) Any notice, order or other document required by this Act to be served on the owner or occupier of any premises or vessel or on the master of any vessel shall be deemed to be properly addressed if addressed by the description of the “owner” or “occupier” or “master” of such premises or vessel, as the case may be, without specifying any further name or description.

(3) A notice, order or other document required by this Act to be served on the owner or occupier of any premises may be served by delivering it to some adult person on the premises or, if there is no such person on the premises to whom the same can with reasonable diligence be delivered, by affixing it on some conspicuous part of the premises.

Default in compliance with notice

61. Where any notice served in accordance with section 60 requires any act to be done or work to be executed by the owner or the occupier or the person in charge of any premises or vessel and there is default in complying with the requirement of the notice, the owner, occupier or the person in default shall, where no fine is specially provided for the default, be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to fine not exceeding \$10,000.

[7/2003]

Inaccuracies in documents

62.—(1) No misnomer or inaccurate description of any person, thing or place named or described in any document prepared, issued or served under or for the purposes of this Act shall in any way affect the operation of this Act as respects that person, thing or place if that person, thing or place is so designated in the document as to be identifiable.

(2) No proceedings taken under this Act shall be invalid for want of form.

Evidence

63.—(1) All records, registers and other documents kept by the Director-General, the Director, any Port Health Officer or Health Officer or officer of the Board for the purposes of this Act shall be deemed to be public documents, and copies thereof or extracts therefrom certified by the officer responsible for the custody thereof to be true copies or extracts, as the case may be, subscribed by such officer with his name and his official title shall be admissible in evidence as proof of the contents of the documents or extracts therefrom.

[5/2001; 4/2002; 5/2003]

(2) In any proceedings for the recovery of costs and expenses incurred by the Director-General, the Director, a Port Health Officer or a Health Officer, a certificate purporting to be under the hand of the Director-General or the Director and specifying —

- (a) the costs and expenses claimed as due and payable; and
- (b) the person named in the certificate as liable for the payment thereof,

shall be prima facie evidence of the facts certified therein and of the signature of the Director-General or the Director thereto, as the case may be.

[4/2002; 7/2003]

Obstruction of persons executing power, etc.

64. Any person who —

- (a) in any way hinders or obstructs or assists in hindering or obstructing any person in the exercise of any power conferred by this Act; or
- (b) being required to provide any information or documents under this Act (including as a condition of any order, notice or requirement made or given), provides any information or document which he knows to be false or misleading,

shall be guilty of an offence.

[7/2003]

General penalties

65. Any person guilty of an offence under this Act for which no penalty is expressly provided shall —

- (a) in the case of a first offence, be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both; and
- (b) in the case of a second or subsequent offence, be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both.

[7/2003]

Offences triable by Magistrate's Court

66. Every offence under this Act may be tried by a Magistrate's Court, and that Court may, notwithstanding anything in the Criminal Procedure Code (Cap. 68), award the full punishment with which the offence is punishable.

Immunity of Government, Agency, etc.

67. No suit or other legal proceedings shall lie against the Government, the Agency or any other person for anything which is in good faith done or omitted to be done in the exercise of any power or the performance of any duty or function under this Act.

[5/2003]

Composition of offences

68. The Director-General or the Director may compound any offence under this Act by accepting from the person reasonably suspected of having committed that offence a sum not exceeding \$5,000.

[4/2002; 7/2003]

Fees, etc., collected by Director and Director-General

69.—(1) All fees, charges, composition sums and moneys collected by the Director in connection with the administration of this Act shall be paid into the Consolidated Fund.

[5/2003]

(2) All fees, charges, composition sums and moneys collected by the Director-General in connection with the administration of this Act shall be paid to the Agency.

[68A

[5/2003]

Amendment of Schedules

70. The appropriate Minister may, from time to time, by notification in the *Gazette*, amend any of the Schedules.

[69

Exemption

71. The appropriate Minister may, subject to such conditions and for such period or periods as he thinks fit, exempt any person, premises, vessel, vehicle or article or any class of persons, premises, vessels, vehicles or articles from any of the provisions of this Act.

[70

Other written law not affected

72. Except so far as may be expressly provided in this Act, nothing in this Act shall be construed so as to limit or affect in any way the provisions of any other written law.

[71

Regulations

73.—(1) The appropriate Minister may make regulations for carrying out the purposes and provisions of this Act for which he is responsible.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the appropriate Minister may make regulations with respect to all or any of the following matters:

- (a) the establishment and maintenance of quarantine stations for persons and animals, and for regulating the management thereof;
- (b) the cleansing, disinfecting, fumigating and treatment of vessels and premises;
- (c) the prohibition on importation, exportation or transhipment of infected merchandise, articles or clothing;
- (d) the prescribing of measures to be taken for the prevention of the spread or transmission of infection by means of any vessel or vehicle departing from any infected area of Singapore;
- (e) the prohibition and regulation of the removal of fodder, litter, dung, human dejecta, waste water and other things;
- (f) the prescribing of notification and supply of information by medical practitioners of cases of infectious diseases treated by them;
- (g) the prescribing of immunisation and vaccination measures and procedures for infectious diseases;
- (h) the prescribing of any measure, the prohibition of any act, or the imposing of a duty to do any act, necessary to prevent or control the spread of an infectious disease; and
- (i) the prescribing of fees and charges and of any matter which by this Act is required to be prescribed.

[7/2003]

(3) The appropriate Minister may, in making any regulations, provide that any contravention of or failure to comply with any regulation shall be an offence punishable with a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

[72

[7/2003]

Transitional and saving provisions

74.—(1) Any licence, permit, document, application, approval, permission, order, direction, ruling or notice issued, made, given or approved by the Commissioner of Public Health under any provision

of this Act immediately before 1st July 2002* shall be deemed to have been issued, made, given or approved under the same provision by the Director-General.

[4/2002]

(2) All orders made under sections 8, 15 and 16, as in force immediately before 27th April 2003†, shall as from 27th April 2003 continue to be valid and effective as if they were orders made under sections 8, 15 and 16 (as amended by the Infectious Diseases (Amendment No. 2) Act 2003 (Act 7 of 2003)).

[7/2003]

FIRST SCHEDULE

Section 2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- (1) Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.
- (2) Chickenpox.
- (3) Cholera.
- (4) Dengue.
- (5) Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever.
- (6) Diphtheria.
- (7) Encephalitis.
- (8) Hand, foot and mouth disease.
- (9) Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection (Non-acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).
- (10) Legionellosis.
- (11) Leprosy.
- (12) Malaria.
- (13) Measles.
- (14) Mumps.
- (15) Nipah virus infection.
- (16) Paratyphoid.
- (17) Plague.
- (18) Poliomyelitis.
- (19) Rubella.

*Date of commencement of the National Environment Agency Act 2002 (Act 4 of 2002).

†Date of commencement of the Infectious Diseases (Amendment No. 2) Act 2003 (Act 7 of 2003).

FIRST SCHEDULE — *continued*

- (20) Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).
- (21) Typhoid.
- (22) Tuberculosis.
- (23) Venereal disease —
 - (a) Chancroid.
 - (b) Genital Herpes.
 - (c) Gonorrhea.
 - (d) Non-gonococcal urethritis.
 - (e) Syphilis.
- (24) Viral Hepatitis.
- (25) Yellow Fever.

[16/80; S 98/85; S 195/85; S 119/90; S 403/98; S 397/2000; S 396/2001; S 127/2003]

SECOND SCHEDULE

Section 2

DANGEROUS INFECTIOUS DISEASES

- (1) Plague.
- (2) Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).
- (3) Yellow Fever.

[S 119/90; S 127/2003]

THIRD SCHEDULE

Section 31

VACCINATION OF PERSONS
LEAVING OR ARRIVING IN SINGAPORE

Yellow Fever — Vaccination against yellow fever is required from any person who is going to or coming from or has passed through any country which is wholly or partly endemic for yellow fever.

[S 24/78; S 119/90]

FOURTH SCHEDULE

Section 46

DISEASES AGAINST WHICH
A CHILD IS TO BE VACCINATED

- (1) Diphtheria.
- (2) Measles.

[S 61/81; S 196/85]

FIFTH SCHEDULE

Section 21A (1), (2) and (3)

**DISEASES IN RESPECT OF WHICH ACTS
REFERRED TO IN SECTION 21A ARE PROHIBITED**

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

[7/2003]

SIXTH SCHEDULE

Section 57A (1)

**DISEASES IN RESPECT OF WHICH INFORMATION
MAY BE DISCLOSED BY THE DIRECTOR TO A PERSON
TO ENABLE HIM TO TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT
SPREAD OF DISEASES**

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

[7/2003]

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT
(CHAPTER 137)

1. Act 21 of 1976 — Infectious Diseases Act 1976

Date of First Reading	:	3.9.76 (Bill No. 14/76 published on 8.9.76)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	24.11.76
Date of commencement	:	1.8.77

2. Act 16 of 1980 — Infectious Diseases (Amendment) Act 1980

Date of First Reading	:	26.2.80 (Bill No. 1/80 published on 29.2.80)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	17.3.80
Date of commencement	:	9.5.80

3. Act 5 of 1992 — Infectious Diseases (Amendment) Act 1992

Date of First Reading	:	16.1.92 (Bill No. 9/92 published on 17.1.92)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	27.2.92
Date of commencement	:	1.4.92

4. Act 7 of 1996 — Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore Act 1996
(Consequential amendments made by)

Date of First Reading	:	5.12.95 (Bill No. 46/95 published on 6.12.95)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	18.1.96
Date of commencement	:	2.2.96

5. Act 13 of 1999 — Infectious Diseases (Amendment) Act 1999

Date of First Reading	:	11.2.99 (Bill No. 7/99 published on 12.2.99)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	26.2.99
Date of commencement	:	1.4.99

6. Act 46 of 1999 — Nurses and Midwives Act 1999

(Consequential amendments made by)

Date of First Reading	:	11.10.99 (Bill No. 38/99 published on 12.10.99)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	24.11.99
Date of commencement	:	1.5.2000

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY
INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT
(CHAPTER 137)

7. Act 5 of 2001 — Health Promotion Board Act 2001

(Consequential amendments made by)

Date of First Reading	:	12.1.2001 (Bill No. 2/2001 published on 13.1.2001)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	22.2.2001
Date of commencement	:	1.4.2001

8. Act 26 of 2001 — Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments and Repeal) Act 2001

Date of First Reading	:	11.7.2001 (Bill No. 24/2001 published on 12.7.2001)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	25.7.2001
Date of commencement	:	1.9.2001 (except sections 3 and 17) 22.8.2001 (section 17) 1.3.2002 (section 3)

9. Act 4 of 2002 — National Environment Agency Act 2002

(Consequential amendments made by)

Date of First Reading	:	3.5.2002 (Bill No. 13/2001 published on 4.5.2002)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	24.5.2002
Date of commencement	:	1.7.2002

10. Act 5 of 2003 — Infectious Diseases (Amendment) Act 2003

Date of First Reading	:	28.2.2003 (Bill No. 4/2003 published on 1.3.2003)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	21.3.2003
Date of commencement	:	1.4.2003

11. Act 7 of 2003 — Infectious Diseases (Amendment No. 2) Act 2003

Date of First Reading	:	24.4.2003 (Bill No. 10/2003 published on 26.4.2003)
Date of Second and Third Readings	:	25.4.2003
Date of commencement	:	27.4.2003

COMPARATIVE TABLE

INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT (CHAPTER 137)

The following provisions in the 1999 Revised Edition of the Infectious Diseases Act have been renumbered by the Law Revision Commissioners in this 2003 Revised Edition.

This Comparative Table is provided for the convenience of users. It is not part of the Infectious Diseases Act.

2003 Ed.	1999 Ed.
8—(1)	8—(1)
—	(2) (<i>Deleted by Act 7/2003</i>)
(2)	(3)
PART IV — CONTROL OF AIDS AND HIV INFECTION	PART IIIA — CONTROL OF AIDS AND HIV INFECTION
25—(1) to (3)	25—(1) to (3)
25A—(1) to (11)	25—(4) to (14)
PART V — PREVENTION OF INTRODUCTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES INTO SINGAPORE	PART IV — PREVENTION OF INTRODUCTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES INTO SINGAPORE
—	33 (<i>Repealed by Act 5/2003</i>)
33	34
34	35
35	36
36	37
37	38
38	39
39	40
40	41
41	41A
PART VI — VACCINATION	PART V — VACCINATION
PART VII — ENFORCEMENT	PART VI — MISCELLANEOUS
55—(1) to (3)	55—(1) to (3)

2003 Ed.	1999 Ed.
(4)	(3A)
(5) to (8)	(4) to (7)
PART VIII — MISCELLANEOUS (inserted after section 59)	—
69	68A
70	69
71	70
72	71
73 —(1) and (2)	72 —(1)
(3)	(2)
74 —(1)	73 (Inserted by Act 4/2002)
(2)	(Taken from Act 7/2003)