STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1974 No. 274

PUBLIC HEALTH, ENGLAND AND WALES

The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) (Amendment) Regulations 1974

Made - - -	21*st February* 1974
Laid before Parliament	11*th March* 1974
Coming into Operation	1*st April* 1974

The Secretary of State for Social Services, as respects England, and the Secretary of State for Wales, as respects Wales, in exercise of powers conferred by section 143 (as extended by section 56 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968(**a**), section 179 of, and paragraph 4 of Schedule 29 to, the Local Government Act 1972(**b**) and amended by paragraph 3 of Schedule 4 to the National Health Service Reorganisation Act 1973(**c**)) and section 283(2) of the Public Health Act 1936(**d**) and now vested in them(**e**), and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following regulations:—

Title and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) (Amendment) Regulations 1974 and shall come into operation on 1st April 1974.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

"the principal regulations" means the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968(**f**) as amended(**g**);

"Wales" means the area consisting of the counties established by section 20 of the Local Government Act 1972 (new local Government areas in Wales), and "England" does not include any area included in any of those counties.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(**h**) shall apply to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

(**a**) 1968 c. 46. (**b**) 1972 c. 70. (**c**) 1973 c. 32. (**d**) 1936 c. 49.

(**e**) Secretary of State for Social Services Order 1968, Article 2, S.I. 1968/1699 (1968 III, p. 4585) and the Transfer of Functions (Wales) Order 1969, Article 5(3), S.I. 1969/388(1969 I, p. 1070) (which transferred all functions of the Minister of Health to the Secretary of State).

(**f**) S.I. 1968/1366 (1968 II, p. 3800). (**g**) S.I. 1969/844 (1969 II, p. 2378).

(**h**) 1889 c. 63.

Amendment of the principal regulations

3. In regulation 2(1) of the principal regulations (interpretation)—

(*a*) after the definition of "the Act of 1968" there shall be inserted the following definitions—

" "Area Health Authority" means an Area Health Authority established by an order made by the Secretary of State under section 5(1)(*b*) of the National Health Service Reorganisation Act 1973 and includes an Area Health Authority (Teaching);";

" "appropriate Area Health Authority" means the Area Health Authority within which a district of a local authority or a port health district is wholly or partly situated;";

(*b*) the definitions of "county district", "district" and "local authority" shall be deleted;

(*c*) after the definition of "Chief Medical Officer" there shall be inserted the following definitions;

" "district" as respects a local authority in Greater London, means a London borough, the City of London, the Inner Temple or the Middle Temple, as the case may be;";

" "International Health Regulations" means the International Health Regulations as adopted by the World Health Assembly on 25th July 1969 as amended by the 26th World Health Assembly in 1973;";

" "local authority" means—

(*a*) as respects England, the council of a metropolitan or non-metropolitan district, the council of a London borough, the Common Council of the City of London, the sub-Treasurer of the Inner Temple and the Under-Treasurer of the Middle Temple; and

(*b*) as respects Wales the council of a district;";

(*d*) the definition of "relevant medical officer of health" shall be deleted.

4. In regulation 6 of the principal regulations (cases of infectious disease to be specially reported)—

(*a*) for paragraph (1) there shall be substituted the following paragraph—

"(1) In this regulation "a disease subject to the International Health Regulations" means cholera, including cholera due to the *eltor* vibrio, plague, smallpox, including variola minor (alastrim), and yellow fever.";

(*b*) in paragraph (2) the words "in the case of a county district or port health district" shall be deleted and for the words "any relevant medical officer of health" there shall be substituted the words "the area medical officer of the appropriate Area Health Authority";

(*c*) in paragraph (3) for sub-paragraph (*a*) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraph—

"(*a*) a disease subject to the International Health Regulations, or"

5. In regulation 7 of the principal regulations (weekly and quarterly returns)—

(*a*) in paragraphs (1) and (2) the words "of a county district" shall be deleted and for the words "any relevant medical officer of health" there shall be substituted the words "the area medical officer of the appropriate Area Health Authority";

(*b*) in paragraph (3) the expression "or 48(3)(*a*)" shall be deleted and after the words "Act of 1968," there shall be inserted the words "as amended (**a**),".

6. In Schedule 3 to the principal regulations (form of certificate) for the words "Medical Officer of Health" there shall be substituted the words "Medical Officer for Environmental Health (Proper Officer).".

7. In regulations 6, 7, 9 and 11 of, and Schedules 4 and 5 to the principal regulations, the reference to "medical officer of health" and in regulation 7(3) the reference to "medical officer" shall be read and construed as a reference to "proper officer".

Keith Joseph,

Secretary of State for Social Services.

21st February 1974.

Peter Thomas,

Secretary of State for Wales.

21st February 1974.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Regulations.*)

These Regulations amend the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations 1968 to take account of the reorganisation of local government and of the National Health Service from 1st April 1974 under the Local Government Act 1972 and the National Health Service Reorganisation Act 1973.

The Regulations also amend the 1968 Regulations to conform with the International Health Regulations adopted by the World Health Assembly. The amendments introduce a definition of the International Health Regulations and substitute a definition of a disease subject to those Regulations for the definition of "quarantinable disease" (Regulations 3 and 4).

(**a**) 1973 c. 32.

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