STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1966 No. 12

PUBLIC HEALTH, ENGLAND AND WALES

The Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations 1966

Made - - - -	10*th January* 1966
Laid before Parliament	17*th January* 1966
Coming into Operation	1*st March* 1966

The Minister of Health, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 143 and 283 of the Public Health Act 1936(a) and by section 108 of the Local Government Act 1933(b), and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations 1966, and shall come into operation on 1st March 1966.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations, the following expressions have the respective meanings hereby assigned to them:—

"the Act" means the Public Health Act 1936;

"local authority" means the council of a borough, urban district or rural district and the Common Council of the City of London; and

"district" means the district of a local authority.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(c) applies to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament and as if these regulations and the regulations hereby revoked were Acts of Parliament.

(3) Reference in these regulations to the provisions of any enactment or regulations shall be construed, unless the context otherwise requires, as references to those provisions as amended or re-enacted by any subsequent enactment or regulation.

Revocation of existing regulations

3. The Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations 1951(d) are hereby revoked.

(a) 26 Geo. 5. & 1 Edw. 8. c. 49.
(b) 23 & 24 Geo. 5. c. 51.
(c) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.
(d) S.I. 1951/1036 (1951 II, p. 313).

Enforcement

4. These regulations shall be enforced and executed in every district by the local authority thereof.

Copies of the Regulations to be sent to Medical Practitioners

5. Every local authority shall send a copy of these regulations to each medical practitioner who after due enquiry is ascertained to be practising within their district.

Provisions of the Public Health Acts applied to leprosy

6. The provisions of Part V of the Act and of Part III of the Public Health Act 1961(**a**) which are specified in Part I of schedule 1 to these regulations shall apply to leprosy: and section 144 of the Act (which relates to the notification of disease) shall so apply as modified and set out in Part II of that schedule.

Report to Ministry of Health

7.—(1) Every medical officer of health who receives a certificate under section 144 of the Act as applied by these regulations shall forthwith send a copy thereof to the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health.

(2) A medical officer of health shall not include in the return which he is required to make to the Minister of Health under regulation 15(3) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959(**b**) any case of leprosy notified to him under section 144 of the Act as applied by these regulations; and accordingly after the words "infectious disease" in the said regulation 15(3) there shall be inserted the words "other than leprosy".

Form of Certificate

8. The form set out in schedule 2 to these regulations is hereby prescribed as a form of certificate to be used for the purposes of section 144 of the Act as applied by these regulations.

Confidentiality

9. Every certificate or copy required to be sent to or by a medical officer of health in pursuance of section 144 of the Act as applied by these regulations or regulation 7 of these regulations shall be sent in such a manner that during its transmission its contents cannot be observed, and the information contained in any such certificate or copy shall not be divulged to any person except so far as is necessary to comply with the requirements of any enactment applied by these regulations.

Compensation

10. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 278 of the Act (which provides for compensation for damage resulting from the exercise of powers under the Act) shall extend to anything done by any local authority in pursuance of these regulations or of any enactment applied thereby.

(**a**) 9 & 10 Eliz. 2. c. 64. (**b**) S.I. 1959/962 (1959 I, p. 1605).

SCHEDULE 1

PROVISIONS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936 AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1961 APPLIED TO LEPROSY

PART I

Public Health Act 1936

Section 145 (Supply of forms of certificate, and fees for certificates.)

Section 146 (Notification of cases occurring in buildings occupied for purposes of the defence services.)

Section 148 (Penalty on exposure of persons and articles liable to convey notifiable disease.)

Section 149 (Persons suffering from notifiable disease not to carry on occupation to danger of others.)

Section 150 (Child liable to convey notifiable disease may be ordered not to attend school.)

Section 153 (Power to prohibit home work on premises where notifiable disease exists.)

Section 157 (Provisions as to the letting of houses, or rooms in hotels, after recent case of notifiable disease.)

Section 158 (Persons ceasing to occupy house to disclose to owner any recent case of notifiable disease, and to disinfect.)

Section 164 (Avoidance of contact with body of person who suffered from notifiable disease.)

Section 169 (Provision for removal to hospital of persons suffering from notifiable disease where serious risk of infection being spread.)

Section 170 (Power of justice to order detention in hospital of infected person without proper lodging to return to.)

Public Health Act 1961

Section 38 (Power of justice to order a medical examination.)

Section 41 (Compensation for stopping employment to prevent spread of disease.)

PART II

SECTION 144 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936, AS MODIFIED

144.—(1) When an inmate of any building used for human habitation is suffering from leprosy, every medical practitioner attending on or called in to visit that inmate (in this section referred to as "the patient") shall, as soon as he becomes aware that the patient is so suffering, send to the medical officer of health of the district in which the building is situated a certificate in the form set out in schedule 2 to the Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations 1966.

(2) Any medical practitioner who fails to send a certificate which he is required by this section to send shall be liable to a fine not exceeding forty shillings, unless he satisfies the court that he believed, and had reasonable grounds for believing, that a certificate in respect of the patient had been duly sent by another medical practitioner.

(3) If a medical officer of health of a district receives a certificate under this section in respect of a person living in the district but ordinarily resident in another district, he shall forthwith send a copy of that certificate to the medical officer of health of that other district.

SCHEDULE 2

Form of Certificate

To the Medical Officer of Health of .....
I hereby certify and declare that in my opinion the person of whom particulars are given below is suffering from leprosy.

Name in full .....

Present address in full .....

Age ..... Sex .....

If patient is at present in a hospital, the address in full from which the patient was admitted to hospital is .....

.....

The case occurred

*(*a*) in my general practice

*(*b*) in my practice as medical officer of a public body or institution.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Dated the ..... day of ..... 196 .

* Delete (*a*) or (*b*)

Given under the official seal of the Minister of Health on 10th January 1966.

(L.S.)

Kenneth Robinson,
Minister of Health.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These regulations are in substitution for those revoked by regulation 3. They apply to leprosy provisions of the Public Health Act 1936 and the Public Health Act 1961 for preventing the spread of disease, and in particular they set out the requirements for the notification of this disease.