The Administrator makes the following Regulations in exercise of the power under section 6(c), (d) and (g) of the Quarantine Ordinance(a).

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Quarantine (Public Health) (Amendment) Regulations 2022.

(2) These Regulations come into force on 16 April 2022.

Amendment of the Quarantine (Public Health) Regulations

2.—(1) The Quarantine (Public Health) Regulations(b) are amended as follows.

(2) For regulation 8, substitute—

"8.—(1) Where the Director of Medical and Health Services suspects that a person is being infected with from a dangerous infectious disease, the Director of Medical and Health Services may instruct that person, or any contact of that person not to leave premises specified by the Director of Medical and Health Services.

(2) The reference, in subsection (1), to premises specified by the Director of Medical and Health Services includes a reference to any other premises subsequently specified by the Director of Medical and Health Services.

(3) When giving an instruction under paragraph (1), the Director of Medical and Health Services must set a date and time for release.

(4) Until the release date and time, an isolated person may only leave the premises referred to in paragraph (1)—

(a) in accordance with permission granted by the Director of Medical and Health Services, for the purposes of undergoing a test, or other examination, to determine if the person is infected with a dangerous infectious disease,

(b) in accordance with permission granted by the Director of Medical and Health Services, where necessary to ensure that a critical public function is performed, or

(c) for the purpose of preventing serious harm or serious hardship to that or another person—"
(i) if a Medical Officer has granted permission, or
(ii) if that risk of harm or hardship is so serious and imminent that it is not reasonable to obtain permission of a Medical Officer before leaving the premises.

(5) The obligation under paragraph (4) comes to an end—

(a) after the release date and time (without prejudice to the power of the Director of Medical and Health Services to use the powers under paragraph (1) again immediately after that time if they suspect that the person is suffering from a dangerous infectious disease), or

(b) if, before that time, the Director of Medical and Health Services determines that this obligation is no longer necessary in order to protect against the incidence or spread of the dangerous infectious disease.

(6) During isolation, an isolated person and any person present with them in the premises referred to in paragraph (1) must comply with any requirements that the Director of Medical and Health Services considers necessary for the purpose of preventing or protecting against the incidence or spread of the dangerous infectious disease, and in particular relating to—

(a) hygiene,

(b) contacts between the person ordered to be isolated and other persons.

(7) The requirements made under paragraph (6) may apply to an individual case or to a category of persons or cases.

(8) An obligation to comply with requirements made under paragraph (6) is an obligation to comply with them as in force from time to time until the end of the isolation.

(9) When giving an instruction under paragraph (1), the Director of Medical and Health Services must inform the isolated person of—

(a) the fact that the instruction is issued under regulation 8 of these Regulations,

(b) the fact that the person is being isolated because—

(i) in the case of a person to whom paragraph (1) applies because they are suspected of being infected with from a dangerous infectious disease, the dangerous infectious disease, or

(ii) in the case of a person to whom paragraph (1) applies because they are a contact of a person suspected of being infected with from a dangerous infectious disease, that fact,

(c) the premises specified under paragraph (1),

(d) the release date and time, and

(e) the requirements applying under paragraph (6).

(10) A police officer may, without a warrant, arrest a person whom the officer has reasonable grounds to suspect of having contravened, or to be contravening, paragraphs (4) or (6).

(11) In this regulation—

(a) a reference to the isolation of a person is a reference to the period between an instruction having been issued to the person under paragraph (1) and the release date and time,

(b) except in paragraphs (4)(b), a reference to the Director of Medical and Health Services includes a reference to a Medical Officer authorised by that Director for the purposes of this regulation.

(12) In this regulation—

“isolated person” means a person to whom an instruction has been given under paragraph (1);
“release date and time” means the date and time for release set under paragraph (3).”

(3) Omit regulation 9.

(4) Omit regulation 11.

(5) For regulation 12, substitute—

“12. No person may, without the permission of a Medical Officer, enter premises—

(a) where a person is in isolation under regulation 8, except in compliance with an instruction under regulation 8, or

(b) where a person has died of a dangerous infectious disease, unless the premises have been disinfected to the satisfaction of the Director of Medical and Health Services for the purposes of this regulation.”

(6) Omit regulation 12A.

(7) In regulation 17, for “isolation station”, substitute “other premises”.

(8) Omit regulation 27.

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Dated this 14th day of April 2022.

R. Thomson,
Administrator,
Sovereign Base Areas.
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

1. This explanatory note relates to the Quarantine (Public Health) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 (the “Regulations”). It has been prepared by the Office of the Attorney General and Legal Adviser in order to assist the reader of the Ordinance. It does not form part of the Ordinance It is not intended to be a comprehensive description.

2. Regulation 2 amends the Quarantine (Public Health) Regulations (the “principal Regulations”).

3. Regulation 2(2) amends regulation 8 of the Principal Regulations. It makes provisions for ordering the isolation and release of persons suspected of being infected with a dangerous infectious disease, and their contacts, as well as relating to the requirements that those persons, and those sharing premises with them, need to comply with. It provides for powers to release isolated persons, for example to be tested or to perform critical public functions, or to prevent serious harm or hardship.

4. Regulation 2(3) revokes regulation 9 of the principal Regulations, which dealt with the contacts and attendants of infected persons. This is now dealt with in regulation 8 of the principal Regulations.

5. Regulation 2(4) revokes regulation 11 of the principal Regulations, which dealt with the release of isolated contacts. Again, this is now dealt with in regulation 8 of the principal Regulations.

6. Regulation 2(5) changes the wording of regulation 12 of the principal Regulations, making it more consistent with that of regulation 8.

7. Regulation 2(6) revokes regulation 12A of the principal Regulations, which has now lapsed.

8. Regulation 2(7) amends regulation 17 of the principal Regulation, making the wording more consistent with that of regulation 8.

9. Regulation 2(8) revokes regulation 27 of the principal Regulations, which provided for a power to order the removal to a hospital of certain persons infected with dangerous infectious diseases. Regulation 8 of the principal Regulations now allows to take the same measures.