

GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT NO. 79 OF 2017

The Public Health Act
(Laws, Volume 17, Cap. 295)

**The Public Health (Infected Areas) (Cholera)
Regulations, 2017**

IN EXERCISE of the powers contained in sections 28 and 30 of the Public Health Act, the following Regulations are made:

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Public Health (Infected Areas) (Cholera) Regulations, 2017. Title

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires— Interpretation
 - “ authorised officer ” means a Medical Officer of Health, a Health Inspector, or a suitably qualified person authorised in writing by the Minister or by a local authority with the approval of the Minister;
 - “ building ” means a temporary or permanent structure owned by a State institution;
 - “ Health Inspector ” has the meaning assigned to the word in the Act;
 - “ infected area ” means a part of Zambia declared as being or appearing to be threatened by the epidemic of Cholera;
 - “ Medical Officer of Health ” has the meaning assigned to the word in the Act;
 - “ State institution ” has the meaning assigned to the word in the Constitution; and Cap. 1
 - “ unsanitary condition ” means a condition or circumstance that might generate, promote, or transmit cholera to a person.

3. The Ministry responsible for health may convert a suitable building to a hospital or observation camp or station for the purpose of placing persons suffering from or who have been in contact with persons suffering from Cholera. Conversion of building as hospital, observation camp or station

Exit from hospital, observation camp or station	<p>4. (1) A person shall not leave a hospital, observation camp or station referred to in regulation 3 without the permission of an authorised officer or Medical Officer of Health.</p> <p>(2) A person shall comply with the direction of an authorised officer or Medical Officer of Health under sub-regulation (1).</p>
Disposal of dead	<p>5. The body of a person who has died from cholera shall be disposed of in conformity with the directions of an authorised officer.</p>
Entry into premises for enquiry	<p>6. An authorised officer may enter any premises to search for a case of Cholera or to enquire whether there is or has been a case of Cholera.</p>
Informing authorised officer in local authority or public health facility	<p>7. A person who becomes aware or has reason to suspect that another person has died or is suffering from Cholera shall immediately inform the nearest authorised officer in a local authority or a public health facility.</p>
Restriction on gatherings	<p>8. A public ceremony or a gathering of more than five persons, not being a family shall not be held in an infected area without the written permission of a local authority or Medical Officer of Health.</p>
Prohibition or restriction on sale	<p>9. An authorised officer may prohibit or restrict the sale of fish from any waters, meat or perishable and ready to eat foods from a trade, occupation or location entailing danger to the health of those engaged in the trade or occupation, and may institute measures for preventing or limiting the danger.</p>
Prohibition or restriction on trading or vending in unsanitary conditions	<p>10. An authorised officer shall prohibit or restrict trading in or vending of food in unsanitary conditions.</p>
Non-compliance with direction, prohibition or restriction	<p>11. A person who fails to comply with the direction, prohibition or restriction of an authorised officer under these Regulations commits an offence and is liable, upon conviction, to a fine not exceeding two thousand five hundred penalty units or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both.</p>
Sanitation and hygiene in public premises	<p>12. (1) An authorised officer may inspect a public premises in order to ensure that it has sufficient sanitation and hygiene to prevent the occurrence or transmission of cholera.</p> <p>(2) An authorised officer may order the cleaning or closure of the public premises or burial of any contaminated water body where the officer determines that a public premises does not have sufficient sanitation and hygiene to prevent the occurrence or transmission of cholera.</p>

13. The measures referred to in these Regulations will be effected if the urgency category levels described in the Schedule reach the alert levels.

Effecting of
measures

14. A person who contravenes these Regulations commits an offence and is liable, on conviction to the penalty specified in the Act fine not exceeding two thousand five hundred penalty units or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or to both.

Offences

SCHEDULE
(Regulation 12)

URGENCY CATEGORY LEVELS

The Urgency Category Levels are as follows:

- (a) “ alert level ” conveying the highest level of importance warranting immediate action or attention;
- (b) “ advisory level ” requiring the provision of important information for a specific incident or situation and does not require immediate action; or
- (c) “ update level ” requiring the provision of updated information for a specific incident or situation and unlikely to require immediate action.

LUSAKA
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