

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA



PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (DANGEROUS INFECTIOUS DISEASE) REGULATIONS 2020

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

2020, NO. 16

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**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (DANGEROUS INFECTIOUS DISEASE) REGULATIONS 2020,
made by the Minister pursuant to Section 102 of the Public Health Act, Cap. 353.**

1. Citation and commencement

(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Public Health Act (Dangerous Infectious Disease) Regulations, 2020.

(2) These Regulations shall be deemed to have come into effect on the 13th day of March, 2020

2. Interpretation

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise permits –

“Board” means the Central Board of Health constituted under the Public Health Act, Cap 353;

“Chief Health Inspector” means the officer for the time being appointed to perform the duties of the Chief Health Inspector;

“Chief Medical Officer” means the person for the time being holding the post of Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health;

“Health Inspector” means the officer for the time being appointed to perform the duties of the Health Inspector;

“isolation” means separation of ill or contaminated persons or affected baggage, containers, conveyances, goods or postal parcels from others in such a manner as to prevent the spread of infection or contamination;

“public health observation” means the monitoring of the health status of a person over time for the purpose of determining the risk of disease transmission;

“quarantine” means the restriction of activities and, if necessary, the separation from others of suspect persons who are not ill, but who may, because of the risk of exposure, be likely to be infected;

“self-quarantine” means the restriction of movement and of contact with others expected to be observed by a person within a confined space of their choosing, but which may be subject to directions given by a Health officer.

3. Application of Regulations

These Regulations apply throughout Antigua and Barbuda and in the waters of its territorial sea.

4. Special measures that apply to persons suffering from or exposed to a dangerous infectious disease

(1) The Board may authorise that any of the following special measures be applied to a person suffering from a dangerous infectious disease or to a person who was exposed to a dangerous infectious disease –

- (a) isolation;
- (b) public health observation
- (c) quarantine
- (d) self-quarantine
- (e) any other special measure that the Board considers capable of limiting or preventing the spread of the dangerous infectious disease.

(2) The Board may apply the special measures referred to in subregulation (1) in any order and in any combination in relation to any person.

(3) Where self-quarantine is ordered by the Board, it may be subject to conditions as approved by the Board.

5. Special measures that apply to persons in the community generally

(1) The Board may, by force, if necessary, require that in any area in Antigua and Barbuda, or throughout the State, the following measures be observed –

- (a) social distancing;
 - (b) banning of or restriction on social gathering;
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- (c) mandatory curfew;
- (d) sanitizing station at the entry to all business places;
- (e) closing of public spaces;
- (f) stay-at-home order;
- (g) closing of all non-essential services and businesses.

(2) Notwithstanding subregulation (1), the Board may impose any measure as may appear advisable for the prevention the spread of the dangerous infectious disease and for monitoring the disease.

6. Enforcement

- (1) The Board may, by force if necessary, enforce any Order given under these Regulations.
- (2) A person who refuses to comply with an Order given under these Regulations, may be taken into quarantine under such conditions and in such a place as the Board may approve for the quarantine of persons.

7. Offence

A person who fails to comply with an Order made under these regulations commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) or to imprisonment for six (6) months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Made the 20th day of March, 2020.


Hon. Molwyn Joseph
Minister of Health