

# Infectious Diseases Legislation

## Primary Legislation - Health Act, 1947 and Health Act, 1953

Minister may specify IDs and provide for preventing spread of IDs by Regulation; People have a duty to take precautions against infecting others; Chief medical officer (of county or city) may order necessary detention and isolation of person with ID; Presumption in civil action as to cause of infection; Authorised officers and limitations on exercise of powers (geographical); compensation for damage to person or property (includes negligence by health authority)

### Principal Regulations

#### Infectious Diseases Regulations, 1981

Declares Schedule of Infectious Diseases  
Requires notification to the MOH

#### Responsibility

Regulation 11. A medical officer of health, or a health officer on the advice of a medical officer of health, shall **make such enquiries and take such steps** as are necessary or desirable **for investigating the nature and source of such infection**, for **preventing the spread** of such infection and for **removing conditions favourable** to such infection

#### Authority

Regulation 19. A person who refuses to comply with a requirement or direction given or a request for information made in pursuance of any of the provisions of these Regulations shall be guilty of a contravention of these Regulations.

### Notification Changes

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2000

MOH weekly returns to NDSC + detailed report on cases as required

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2003 (SI no 707)

Clinical directors of diagnostic laboratories to report IDs; Unusual clusters or changing pattern of illness that may be of public health concern to be reported; NDSC responsible for maintenance, updating and circulation of case definitions and standard form for returning infectious disease. Update address of NDSC

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2004

Replaces NDSC with HPSC of HSE

#### ID (Shipping) Regs, 2008

MOH responsibilities and powers in relation to shipping

Amendments include provision for smallpox vaccination for airport & seaport workers; co-signature for Section 38 etc

### Schedule Changes

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 1985

2xVD → 12STD

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 1988

+Mumps

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 1996

+CJD & nvCJD

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2003 (SI no 115)

+SARS

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2003 (SI no 180)

SARS to 'Section 38'

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2003 (SI no 707)

Replaced Schedule; List of IDs for immediate preliminary notification updated;

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2007

New/re-emergent influenza for 'Section 38' & immediate preliminary notification; nvCJD amended to variant CJD and changes to notification of CJD & variant CJD

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2011

-1 + HIV & 11 others

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2015

+ Hepatitis E

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2016

+ Zika Virus Disease

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2018

+ all CJD/vCJD, CPE, neonatal Herpes simplex, mcr-positive Enterobacteriaceae, Novel or Rare Antimicrobial-resistant Organisms

### MOH Changes

#### Health Act, 2004

Continuation of authority to perform functions of medical officers

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2004

Updates the definition of MOH

#### ID (Amendment) Regs, 2007

Construe MOH as per Health Act, 2004; health boards and functional areas of health boards amended to HSE and functional areas of HSE

#### ID (Aircraft) Regs, 2009

MOH responsibilities and powers in relation to aircraft