

Notification of infectious diseases

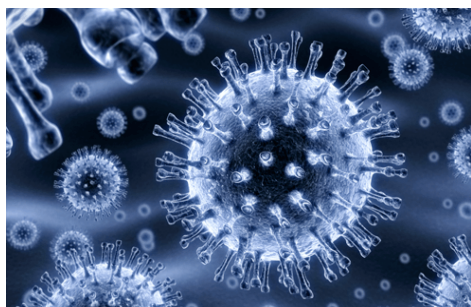


GRONINGEN SEAPORTS

If a vessel is on an international voyage and intends to enter a port, it is important that it is clear whether there is a patient with an infectious disease on board.

When the master of the vessel suspects that there are one or more patients on board with an infectious disease, he must report this to the Nautical Coordination Centre (tel. +31 (0)596 640 477) as well as the pilot as soon as possible. This is in accordance with the Public Health Act.

The Nautical Coordination Centre will coordinate the steps to take.



Criteria

The WHO advises masters to notify in case of the following criteria:

Fever, persisting for several days, whether or not in combination with:

- Fatigue
- Decreased consciousness
- Glandular swelling
- Jaundice
- Cough or shortness of breath
- Unusual bleeding
- Paralysis

One of the symptoms below, with or without fever:

- Any skin rash or eruption
- Severe vomiting (other than sea sickness)
- Severe diarrhoea
- Epileptic seizures

(source: Maritime Declaration of Health)

Maritime Declaration of Health

The master must fill out and sign the Maritime Declaration of Health. The international-standard form should be filled out to this end.

The following information must be supplied on the standard form:

- Expiration date of the Ship Sanitation Exemption / Control Certificate;
- Number of passengers and crew members.



GRONINGEN SEAPORTS

More information:

Groningen Seaports
Nautical Service Centre
Handelskade Oost 1
9934 AR Delfzijl
P.O. box 20004
9930 PA Delfzijl
The Netherlands

Phone+31 (0)596 640477
Fax +31 (0)596 630424
E-mail: nsc@groningen-seaports.com
Website: www.groningen-seaports.com



In addition, the following questions must be answered:

- Did a person die during the voyage, with the cause of death being something other than an accident?
- Is there a sick person on board or was there a sick person on board during the international voyage of which you suspect it was a infectious disease?
- Was the number of sick persons during the voyage larger than normal or than you would expect?
- Is there currently a sick person on board?
- Has a doctor been consulted?
- Are you aware of a situation on board that could lead to infection or the spread of a disease?
- Were any sanitary / hygiene measures taken (such as quarantine, isolation, disinfection, decontamination)?
- Have any stowaways been found on board?
- Is there a sick (pet) animal on board?

In case the answer to any of these questions was 'yes', the master must inform the agent, pilot (+31 596 618188) and the Nautical Service Centre (+31 596 640477). The master should mail the Maritime Declaration of Health to nsc@ groningen-seaports.com

The completed form must be kept on board and at all times be available for presentation. The person responsible for medical care on board the vessel must be available to answer any additional questions.

Notification of infectious diseases

For this, the international standard form is used as appended to fill in the Maritime Health Declaration.

Employees in the ports of Groningen Seaports (Delfzijl and Eemshaven)

In case a pilot, agent, employee of the customs, port police, military police or any other employee in the ports of Groningen Seaports perceives signs that a patient with an infectious disease is on board of a vessel, he/she should ask the vessel to contact the Nautical Service Centre . In addition, the above-mentioned employees can also discuss signals regarding infectious diseases themselves with the Nautical Service Centre. The Nautical Service Centre will forward the question to the right partners.

Infectious Diseases

In compliance with the Public Health Act, a notifiable infectious disease should be reported to the GGD Groningen Infectious Diseases department. In the event of an infectious disease, the Nautical Service Centre always notifies the GGD Groningen.

GGD Groningen

Hanzeplein 120

9713 CW Groningen

+31 (0)50-3674000 (During office hours 08:00-17:00)

Outside office hours the report can be sent via Nautical Service Centre +31 (0)596-640477 (24/7)

ANNEX 8

MODEL OF MARITIME DECLARATION OF HEALTH

To be completed and submitted to the competent authorities by the masters of ships arriving from foreign ports.

Submitted at the port of Date.....
Name of ship or inland navigation vessel.....Registration/IMO No.....arriving fromSailing to.....
(Nationality)(Flag of vessel)..... Master's name.....
Gross tonnage (ship).....
Tonnage (inland navigation vessel).....
Valid Sanitation Control Exemption/Control Certificate carried on board? yes..... no..... Issued at..... date.....
Re-inspection required? yes..... no.....
Has ship/vessel visited an affected area identified by the World Health Organization? yes..... no.....
Port and date of visit

List ports of call from commencement of voyage with dates of departure, or within past thirty days, whichever is shorter:
.....

Upon request of the competent authority at the port of arrival, list crew members, passengers or other persons who have joined ship/vessel since international voyage began or within past thirty days, whichever is shorter, including all ports/countries visited in this period (add additional names to the attached schedule):

(1) Name joined from: (1).....(2).....(3).....
(2) Name joined from: (1).....(2).....(3).....
(3) Name..... joined from: (1).....(2).....(3).....

Number of crew members on board.....

Number of passengers on board.....

Health questions

- (1) Has any person died on board during the voyage otherwise than as a result of accident? yes.... no.....
If yes, state particulars in attached schedule. Total no. of deaths
- (2) Is there on board or has there been during the international voyage any case of disease which you suspect to be of an infectious nature? yes..... no..... If yes, state particulars in attached schedule.
- (3) Has the total number of ill passengers during the voyage been greater than normal/expected? yes.... no.....
How many ill persons?
- (4) Is there any ill person on board now? yes..... no..... If yes, state particulars in attached schedule.
- (5) Was a medical practitioner consulted? yes..... no..... If yes, state particulars of medical treatment or advice provided in attached schedule.
- (6) Are you aware of any condition on board which may lead to infection or spread of disease? yes..... no.....
If yes, state particulars in attached schedule.
- (7) Has any sanitary measure (e.g. quarantine, isolation, disinfection or decontamination) been applied on board? yes no..... If yes, specify type, place and Date.....
- (8) Have any stowaways been found on board? yes no..... If yes, where did they join the ship (if known)?
.....
- (9) Is there a sick animal or pet on board? yes no.....

Note: In the absence of a surgeon, the master should regard the following symptoms as grounds for suspecting the existence of a disease of an infectious nature:

- (a) fever, persisting for several days or accompanied by (i) prostration; (ii) decreased consciousness; (iii) glandular swelling; (iv) jaundice; (v) cough or shortness of breath; (vi) unusual bleeding; or (vii) paralysis.
- (b) with or without fever: (i) any acute skin rash or eruption; (ii) severe vomiting (other than sea sickness); (iii) severe diarrhoea; or (iv) recurrent convulsions.

I hereby declare that the particulars and answers to the questions given in this Declaration of Health (including the schedule) are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signed

Master

Countersigned

Ship's Surgeon (if carried)

Date.....