

Infectious Diseases (Diphtheria and Measles Vaccination) Regulations 2021

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No. S 1082

INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT (CHAPTER 137)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(DIPHTHERIA AND MEASLES VACCINATION)
REGULATIONS 2021

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 73 of the Infectious Diseases Act, the Minister for Health makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations are the Infectious Diseases (Diphtheria and Measles Vaccination) Regulations 2021 and come into operation on 1 January 2022.

Definitions

2.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“booster diphtheria vaccination” means a further vaccination against diphtheria of a child who has completed a course of primary diphtheria vaccination;

“certificate of temporary unfitness”, in relation to a child, means a certificate of unfitness issued by a medical practitioner under regulation 8(1) stating that, in the medical practitioner’s opinion, the child is temporarily unfit to be vaccinated against diphtheria or measles, as the case may be;

“Chief Executive” means the Chief Executive of the Board;

“diphtheria vaccine” means any preparation of diphtheria toxoid, whether or not the preparation also contains other toxoids;

“measles vaccine” means any preparation of attenuated live measles virus, whether or not the preparation also contains other attenuated live viruses;

“primary diphtheria vaccination” means the vaccination against diphtheria of a child who has not been previously vaccinated against diphtheria;

“specified date”, in relation to a certificate of temporary unfitness, means the date specified in that certificate in accordance with regulation 8(2)(b);

“vaccination against diphtheria” means the administration of a diphtheria vaccine to a child, for the purpose of providing protection against infection by the bacterium *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*;

“vaccination against measles” means the administration of a measles vaccine to a child, for the purpose of providing protection against infection by the measles virus.

(2) For the purposes of these Regulations, a child is regarded as temporarily unfit for

vaccination against diphtheria or measles (as the case may be) for the period ending on the specified date in the certificate of temporary unfitness in respect of that child.

(3) In these Regulations, a course of primary diphtheria vaccination consists of 3 injections of diphtheria vaccine.

Primary diphtheria vaccination

3.—(1) Subject to this regulation, the parent or guardian of every child must ensure that the child completes a course of primary diphtheria vaccination when the child is 6 weeks of age or older but below 12 months of age.

(2) If a child who is born in Singapore —

(a) leaves Singapore for a period of 6 months or longer without completing a course of primary diphtheria vaccination; and

(b) returns to Singapore before attaining 12 years of age,

the child's parent or guardian must ensure that the child completes a course of primary diphtheria vaccination within the period of 12 months after the date the child returns to Singapore.

(3) If a child who is born outside Singapore arrives in Singapore —

(a) on or after attaining 6 weeks of age but below 6 months of age — the child's parent or guardian must ensure that the child completes a course of primary diphtheria vaccination before the child attains 12 months of age; or

(b) on or after attaining 6 months of age but below 12 years of age — the child's parent or guardian must ensure that the child completes a course of primary diphtheria vaccination within the period of 12 months after the date the child arrives in Singapore.

(4) Where, by reason of temporary unfitness, a child does not complete a course of primary diphtheria vaccination in accordance with paragraph (1), (2) or (3) (as the case may be), the child's parent or guardian must ensure that the child completes the course of primary diphtheria vaccination within the period of 12 months after the specified date in the certificate of temporary unfitness in respect of the child.

Booster diphtheria vaccinations

4.—(1) The parent or guardian of a child who has completed a course of primary diphtheria vaccination (whether in Singapore or elsewhere) (called in this regulation the applicable child) must ensure that the applicable child receives booster diphtheria vaccinations in accordance with this regulation.

(2) Subject to paragraphs (5), (6) and (8), the applicable child must receive the following booster diphtheria vaccinations:

- (a) one injection of diphtheria vaccine within the period of 18 months after the date on which the applicable child completes the course of primary diphtheria vaccination;
- (b) one further injection of diphtheria vaccine after the applicable child receives the booster diphtheria vaccination in accordance with sub-paragraph (a) but before the applicable child attains 12 years of age.

(3) Subject to paragraphs (5), (7) and (8), if the applicable child —

- (a) is born in Singapore and leaves Singapore for a period of 6 months or longer without receiving any booster diphtheria vaccination in accordance with paragraph (2); or
- (b) is born outside Singapore,

the applicable child must receive the booster diphtheria vaccinations mentioned in paragraph (4) when the applicable child returns to or arrives in Singapore, as the case may be.

(4) The booster diphtheria vaccinations mentioned in paragraph (3) are the following:

- (a) one injection of diphtheria vaccine —
 - (i) if the applicable period is less than 12 months — within the period of 18 months after the date on which the applicable child completes the course of primary diphtheria vaccination; or
 - (ii) if the applicable period is 12 months or longer — within the period of 6 months after the date the applicable child returns to or arrives in Singapore, as the case may be;
- (b) one further injection of diphtheria vaccine —
 - (i) unless sub-paragraph (ii) applies, after the applicable child receives the booster diphtheria vaccination in accordance with sub-paragraph (a) but before he or she attains 12 years of age; or
 - (ii) if the applicable child arrives in Singapore on or after attaining 11 years and 6 months of age but before attaining 12 years of age, within the period of 6 months after the date the applicable child returns to or arrives in Singapore, as the case may be.

(5) Paragraph (2) or (3) does not apply if the applicable child starts and completes the