

# **Misuse of Drugs (Approved Institutions, Medical Observation and Treatment and Rehabilitation) Regulations**

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### **MISUSE OF DRUGS ACT (CHAPTER 185, SECTION 44)**

#### **MISUSE OF DRUGS (APPROVED INSTITUTIONS, MEDICAL OBSERVATION AND TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION) REGULATIONS**

**Rg 3**

**G.N. No. S 168/1976**

**REVISED EDITION 1999**

(1st July 1999)

[20th August 1976]

## **Citation**

**1.** These Regulations may be cited as the Misuse of Drugs (Approved Institutions, Medical Observation and Treatment and Rehabilitation) Regulations.

[\[S 522/2019 wef 01/08/2019\]](#)

## **Definitions**

**2.** In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“inmate” means a drug addict or abuser who is an inmate of an approved institution;

“medical officer” means a registered medical practitioner who is for the time being appointed by the Commissioner of Prisons to perform the functions of a medical officer under these Regulations;

*[S 407/2003 wef 26/08/2003]  
[S 522/2019 wef 01/08/2019]*

“supervision officer” means any person appointed by the Minister under regulation 15;

*[S 522/2019 wef 01/08/2019]*

“suspected drug addict” means a person who is ordered by the Director under section 34(1) of the Act to be committed to an approved institution.

*[S 522/2019 wef 01/08/2019]*

## **Superintendent**

3.—(1) Subject to any directions of the Minister, an approved institution shall be under the general charge and supervision of a Superintendent.

(2) The Superintendent of an approved institution —

- (a) is responsible for the control, discipline and occupation of the suspected drug addicts and inmates of the approved institution; and
- (b) may issue general orders which must be observed by the suspected drug addicts and inmates of the approved institution.

*[S 522/2019 wef 01/08/2019]*

## **Medical examination**

4. Every suspected drug addict and inmate shall, upon admission to an approved institution, be examined by a medical officer as soon as possible.

*[S 522/2019 wef 01/08/2019]*

## **Detoxication**

5.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), every inmate must, upon completion of the inmate’s medical examination, undergo a period of detoxication.

(2) An inmate must not be subjected to detoxication if the inmate is certified by a medical officer to be medically unfit to do so.

(3) However, the inmate mentioned in paragraph (2) must undergo a period of detoxication as soon as the inmate is found fit to do so by a medical officer.

(4) The period of detoxication mentioned in paragraphs (1) and (3) must not exceed 7 days.

(5) The Minister may for special reasons exempt any inmate from undergoing detoxication.

*[S 522/2019 wef 01/08/2019]*

### **No medication to be taken during medical examination or observation or period of detoxication**

6.—(1) A suspected drug addict must not take any medication during the period of the suspected drug addict's medical examination or observation unless, in the opinion of a medical officer, it is necessary to do so.

(2) An inmate must not take any medication during the period of detoxication mentioned in regulation 5(1) and (3) unless, in the opinion of a medical officer, it is necessary to do so.

*[S 522/2019 wef 01/08/2019]*

### **No visitors during medical examination or observation or period of detoxication**

7. No person is allowed to visit —

- (a) a suspected drug addict during the suspected drug addict's medical examination or observation; or
- (b) an inmate during the inmate's period of detoxication mentioned in regulation 5(1) and (3).

*[S 522/2019 wef 01/08/2019]*

### **Examination of suspected drug addicts and inmates for infectious diseases**

8.—(1) The Commissioner of Prisons or the person appointed under section 36(1)(b) of the Act may, at any time, require any suspected drug addict or inmate of an approved institution to undergo a medical examination by a medical officer for the purpose of ascertaining whether the suspected drug addict or inmate is suffering from, or is a carrier of, any infectious disease.

(2) Where a suspected drug addict or an inmate refuses to undergo the medical examination mentioned in paragraph (1) or refuses to provide any sample necessary for the purpose of such examination, the medical officer conducting the medical examination must immediately give a written notification to the Superintendent of the approved institution.

(3) The Superintendent of the approved institution may, upon receiving the written notification mentioned in paragraph (2), direct —

- (a) that the suspected drug addict be separated from other suspected drug addicts and inmates until such time when the suspected drug addict undergoes the medical examination mentioned in paragraph (1); or
- (b) that the inmate be separated from other suspected drug addicts and inmates until such time when the inmate undergoes the medical examination mentioned in paragraph (1).

(4) Where a suspected drug addict or an inmate of an approved institution has been ascertained to be suffering from, or is a carrier of, any infectious disease under this regulation, the medical officer must immediately give a written report to the Superintendent of the approved institution.

(5) The Superintendent of the approved institution must, upon receiving the written report mentioned in paragraph (4), direct —

- (a) that the suspected drug addict be separated from other suspected drug addicts and inmates until a medical officer certifies that the suspected drug addict is free from infection or the risk of spreading the infectious disease to other persons is eliminated; or
- (b) that the inmate be separated from other suspected drug addicts and inmates until a medical officer certifies that the inmate is free from infection or the risk of spreading the infectious disease to other persons is eliminated.

(6) In this regulation, “infectious disease” means any of the diseases specified in the First Schedule to the Infectious Diseases Act (Cap. 137) and includes any other disease —

- (a) that is caused or is suspected to be caused by a micro-organism or any agent of disease;
- (b) that is capable or is suspected to be capable of transmission by any means to human beings; and
- (c) that the medical officer has reason to believe, if left uninvestigated or unchecked, is likely to result in an epidemic of the disease.

*[S 522/2019 wef 01/08/2019]*

### **Confidentiality in handling of suspected drug addicts and inmates with AIDS and other sexually transmitted disease**

9. Where, in consequence of any action taken under regulation 8, any person is aware or has reasonable grounds for believing that a suspected drug addict or an inmate (each called in this regulation the relevant person) has Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome or is infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus or is suffering from a sexually transmitted disease or is a carrier of that disease, the person shall not disclose any information which may identify the relevant person except —

- (a) with the consent of the relevant person;
- (b) in accordance with regulation 8;
- (c) when ordered to do so by a court;
- (d) to any person who is treating, caring or handling the relevant person;