

# **Diphtheria Immunisation Ordinance**

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**Bill No: 125/1961**

***Read the first time: 22nd February 1961***

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**Diphtheria Immunisation Ordinance**

**Bill No. 125/1961**

*Read the first time on 22nd February 1961.*

An Ordinance to provide for compulsory immunisation against diphtheria for certain children.

Be it enacted by the Yang di-Pertuan Negara with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Singapore, as follows: —

**Short title and commencement**

**1.**—(1) This Ordinance may be cited as the Diphtheria Immunisation Ordinance, 1961, and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may by notification in the *Gazette* appoint.

(2) The Minister may appoint different dates for the coming into operation of different provisions of this Ordinance.

**Interpretation**

**2.** In this Ordinance —

- “booster diphtheria inoculation” means further inoculation against diphtheria of a person who has received one or the other of the complete courses of inoculation prescribed by regulations made under this Ordinance;
- “guardian” in relation to a child means any person who has for the time being the charge of, or control over, the child and includes the parent of the child;
- “infectious disease” has the same meaning as in the Quarantine and Prevention of Disease Ordinance (Cap. 147) and includes any other disease, which the Minister, by notification in the *Gazette* issued under the provisions of the said Ordinance, declares to be included within the said expression;
- “inoculation” means the inoculation against diphtheria of such preparation or preparations as may from time to time be prescribed by regulations made under this Ordinance, on such number of occasions, with such intervals of time between such occasions, if more than one, as may from time to time be prescribed, and administered in such manner as may be prescribed;
- “intra dermal test” means such test or tests as may be prescribed by regulations made under this Ordinance for the purpose of determining the susceptibility of a person to diphtheria;
- “medical certificate” means a certificate signed by a medical officer or a medical practitioner;
- “medical officer” means a medical practitioner in the service of the Government;
- “medical practitioner” means a medical practitioner registered under the Medical Registration Ordinance (Cap. 191);
- “nurse” means a nurse registered under the Nurses Registration Ordinance (Cap. 194);
- “primary diphtheria inoculation” means the inoculation of a person who has not been previously immunised against diphtheria.

### **Intra dermal tests and inoculation to be carried out by medical officers, medical practitioners and nurses**

3.—(1) No intra dermal test or inoculation shall be carried out except by medical officers, medical practitioners, nurses employed by the Government and nurses working under the supervision of medical practitioners.

(2) A record of every intra dermal test and inoculation shall be kept in the manner prescribed by regulations made under this Ordinance.

### **Certificate of inoculation to be sent to Assistant Director of Medical Services**

## **(Health)**

4. Every medical officer or medical practitioner, who has inoculated a child or has had a child inoculated under his supervision as provided in subsection (1) of section 3 of this Ordinance, shall within seven days of such inoculation transmit by post or otherwise to the Assistant Director of Medical Services (Health) a certificate in such form as the Director of Medical Services may prescribe and deliver a duplicate thereof to the guardian of such child.

### **Primary diphtheria inoculation**

5. Upon the coming into operation of this Ordinance, primary diphtheria inoculation shall be compulsory for every child residing in Singapore —

- (a) within twelve months of birth; or
- (b) who is under the age of seven years and who has not been previously immunised against diphtheria.

### **Booster diphtheria inoculation**

6. Upon the coming into operation of this Ordinance, booster diphtheria inoculation shall be compulsory for every child residing in Singapore who has received primary diphtheria inoculation —

- (a) upon such child attaining the age of four years:

Provided that an interval of three years has elapsed since the administration to such child of primary diphtheria inoculation, but if such interval does not exceed three years and the child has passed the age of four years and has not attained the age of six years, booster diphtheria inoculation may be administered between the period of thirty-six to forty-two months of the primary diphtheria inoculation; and

- (b) upon such child entering a primary school, within twelve months of entering such school.

### **Postponement of primary diphtheria inoculation or booster diphtheria inoculation**

7. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 5 and 6 of this Ordinance, primary diphtheria inoculation or booster diphtheria inoculation may be postponed at the discretion of the Assistant Director of Medical Services (Health) in respect of any child as regards whom a medical certificate is presented to the effect that such child —

- (a) has already undergone inoculation whether before or after the coming into operation of this Ordinance; or