

**PREVENTION OF INFECTION RULES**

This version is out of date

**Subsidiary  
[1976/110]**

Rules made under ss.180 and 337.

**PREVENTION OF INFECTION RULES****[1976/110]**

The following Rules and their corresponding amendments have all been consolidated under the Prevention of Infection Rules.

Amending enactments to the consolidated Rules	Relevant current provisions	Commencement date
<b>Bedding (Disinfection) Rules</b> , of 5.9.1906 amended by regs. of 28.5.1970 LN. 1978/053	r.5	
<b>Hairdressers and Barbers (Public Health) Rules</b> , of 26.5.1955 amended by regs. of 28.5.1970 Act. 1972-05	r.5 r.8	
<b>Infectious Diseases (Burial) Rules</b> , of 26.11.1918 amended by regs. of 28.5.1970 LN. 1978/056	r.2 r.5	
<b>Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Rules</b> LN. 1976/110		
<b>Spitting Rules, of 19.5.1921</b> amended by LN. 1978/060	r.3	
LN. 1988/003	rr. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 16	1.2.1988

ARRANGEMENT OF RULES.

Rule

*Preliminary*

1. Title.

*Diseases connected with Food*

2. Interpretation.
3. Enforcement.
4. Measures by Specialist in Community Medicine.
5. Suspected carriers.

*Hairdressers and Barbers*

6. Interpretation.
7. Enforcement.
8. Cleanliness of premises, instruments, etc.
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10. Powers of inspection.
11. Rules to be exhibited.

*Disinfection of Bedding*

12. Interpretation.
13. Second hand bedding exposed for sale to be disinfected.
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*Spitting*

15. Prohibition of spitting.

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16. Conveyance of bodies of persons who died of infectious diseases.
17. Construction of coffins.

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18. Offences against rules 4 and 5.
19. Offences against rules 8-11.
20. Offences against rules 13, 14, 16 and 18.

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SCHEDULE.

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**Title.**

1. These Rules may be cited as the Prevention of Infection Rules.

*Diseases connected with Food*

**Interpretation.**

2. In rules 4 and 5—

“connected with food”, in relation to an occupation, trade or business, means connected with the preparation or handling of food or drink for human consumption;

“medical examination” includes the making of bacteriological tests and similar investigations.

**Enforcement.**

3. These Rules shall be enforced and executed by the Specialist in Community Medicine and by any person acting under his authority.

**Measures by Specialist in Community Medicine.**

4. If the Specialist in Community Medicine, after considering the information available to him, forms the opinion—

- (a) that a person in Gibraltar—
  - (i) is suffering from food poisoning which may be caused by an infection ; or
  - (ii) is suffering from, or is shown to be a carrier of, any infection mentioned in the Schedule ; and
- (b) that it is desirable for the protection of the public health that measures should be taken to prevent the spread of infection,

he may by notice in writing—

- (i) require the person concerned to discontinue or to refrain from engaging in any occupation connected with food until such person is notified by the Specialist in Community Medicine that the risk of causing infection is removed ;

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- (ii) require that such measures be taken for the protection of the public health as are specified in the notice, being measures which in his opinion are desirable to prevent the spread of infection by the person concerned ; and
- (iii) require the assistance of any other person reasonably' able to assist in securing compliance with any requirement under this rule,

and if the person concerned is already engaged in any occupation connected with food, the Specialist in Community Medicine shall send a copy of any notice served on him under this rule to his employer, if any, and to any other person reasonably able to assist in securing compliance with any requirement under this rule.

**Suspected carriers in food trade.**

5. If the Specialist in Community Medicine has reason to believe that a person engaged in any trade or business connected with food may be a carrier of any infection mentioned in the Schedule he may give notice in writing to such person and to the responsible manager, if any, of the trade or business concerned that for the purpose of preventing the spread of infection he considers it necessary for a medical examination of that person to be made, and such person and the responsible manager, if any, shall give to the Specialist in Community Medicine all reasonable assistance in the matter.

*Hairdressers and Barbers*

**Interpretation.**

6. In these rule–

“the premises” means every part of any premises in which the trade or business of a hairdresser or a barber is carried on.

**Enforcement of Rules.**

7. It shall be the duty of the Specialist in Community Medicine to enforce the provisions of these Rules.

**Cleanliness of premises, instruments, etc.**

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8. For the purpose of securing the cleanliness of the premises and of the instruments, towels, materials and equipment used therein every person carrying on the trade or business of a hairdresser or barber shall cause—

- (a) the surface of all internal walls, partitions and ceilings and the underside of the roof of any room where there is no ceiling to be kept at all times in such repair and to be so painted, distempered, whitewashed or similarly treated in manner appropriate to each such surface and to be so cleansed at such intervals as to maintain the same in a clean condition ;
- (b) the floor of every room to be so constructed or covered as to have a smooth and durable surface and to be cleansed at least once every day on which the trade or business is carried on;
- (c) the floor to be swept as often as may be necessary to prevent the accumulation of hair clippings, neck wool or other litter;
- (d) all hair clippings, neck wool or other litter swept from the floor or otherwise accumulating in connection with the trade or business to be placed in suitable covered receptacles and every such receptacle to be emptied and cleansed as often as may be necessary ;
- (e) every chair or seat to be cleansed as often as may be necessary;
- (f) every shelf, fitting, cabinet or table on or in which instruments, towels or materials used or to be used in the trade or business are placed, to be kept clean ;
- (g) every washbasin and all fixtures and fittings used in connection therewith to be kept clean;
- (h) every metal instrument, tool, shaving brush, hair-brush, comb or other similar instrument or tool and every sponge or other article similarly used and every shaving mug or other similar utensil, to be cleansed immediately before use upon each person so as to ensure that no dirt, soap, lather or other matter remains adhering thereto, and to be kept clean ;
- (i) every towel, neckcloth, face cloth or similar article or hair-net in connection with the trade or business to be clean ;
- (j) every towel, neckcloth, face cloth, hair-net, head pad or other similar article or covering and every piece of neck wool or

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other similar material used in connection with the trade or business to be used only for one person :

Provided that this paragraph shall not operate so as to prevent the subsequent use of any such article, covering or material other than paper or wool which has been sufficiently cleansed; .

- (k) every overall, apron, coat, gown, wrap sheet, cover or other article or protective clothing used for a person, to be clean ;
- (l) any paper or other covering placed on the back of a chair to be clean and used only for one person:

Provided that if the covering consists of a material other than paper or wool which is capable of being adequately cleaned this paragraph shall not operate so as to prevent the subsequent use of such a covering after it has been so cleansed ;

- (m) any styptic not applied by means of a spray or upon fresh cotton or other clean material, to be clean;
- (n) wool or other material which has been used for applying a styptic to any person not to be used on any other person ;
- (o) soap, other than liquid, powdered or tube soap or shaving cream to be thoroughly rinsed before use for each separate person ;
- (p) a fresh supply of clean water for each person to be used for lathering, shaving, washing, shampooing or other similar treatment.

**Cleanliness of persons.**

9. For the purpose of securing the cleanliness of the persons employed in the premises in regard to both themselves and their clothing, any person carrying on the trade or business of a hairdresser or barber shall cause every hairdresser or barber while employed on the premises to keep his hands, his clothes and any overall which he may wear in a cleanly condition.

**Inspection, etc.**

10. Any environmental health officer employed by the Government shall at all reasonable times be afforded free and full power of entry into the premises for the purpose of inspecting the premises and examining whether

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there is any contravention of these rules and any such inspector shall have the like power of entry into any premises in which the Government may have reasonable cause to suppose that the trade of hairdresser or barber is being carried on.

**Copy of Rules to be exhibited.**

11. Every person carrying on the trade or business of a hairdresser or a barber shall keep a copy of these Rules displayed in the premises.

*Disinfection of Bedding*

**Interpretation.**

12. In rules 13 and 14—

“bedding” includes mattresses, bolsters, pillows, blankets, sheets, pillow cases, bed covers, quilts and mosquito curtains.

**Second hand bedding exposed for sale to be disinfected.**

13. No person shall expose used bedding for sale in any public place or auction room unless such bedding shall have been disinfected by the officer appointed for that purpose by the Government since its last use and while the property of the person so exposing it, and shall bear a disinfection seal as originally attached by such officer.

**Inspection of disinfection seal.**

14. The person in charge of such bedding at the place of sale shall exhibit the disinfection seal of any article exposed to any police officer or environmental health officer when required and shall deliver any such article to the purchaser with the seal attached.

*Spitting*

**Prohibition of spitting.**

15. Spitting in public places is prohibited.

*Burial*

**Conveyance of bodies of persons who died of infectious diseases.**



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16. Where any person has died from an infectious disease, the body of such person shall not be conveyed to the place of burial except by means of a hearse, bier, wheeled vehicle or other carriage certified by the Specialist in Community Medicine as suitable for the purpose.

**Construction of coffins.**

17. The body of a dead person shall not be conveyed through any street or public place except when contained in a coffin so constructed or filled with absorbent material as to prevent any nuisance arising therefrom.

*Offences*

**Offences against rules 4 and 5.**

18. A person who fails to comply with the provisions of any notice given under rule 4 or rule 5 or who fails to give such assistance as may be required of him is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of £25 and to imprisonment for three months and to a further fine of £10 for each day that the offence continues after conviction.

**Offences against rules 8-11.**

19. A person who contravenes any provision of rules 8 to 11 (inclusive) is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary against conviction to a penalty of £50 and to a daily penalty of £5 for each day on which the offence continues after conviction therefor.

**Offences against rules 13-16 and 18.**

20. A person who contravenes any provision of rules 13 to 17 is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of £25.

**1950-07**

## Public Health

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#### SCHEDULE.

Rules 4 and 5.

Dysentery  
Enteric fever (typhoid or paratyphoid fever)  
Food poisoning  
Infectious diarrhoea or vomiting