



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
SHIPPING DEPUTY MINISTRY TO THE PRESIDENT

Circular No. 27/2021

25 June 2021

SDM 5.13.09
SDM 21.11.02

Owners and Managers of ship flying the Cyprus flag
Shipmanagers operating in Cyprus

Subject: Vaccines against the COVID-19 virus

1 Vaccination of seafarers¹ against the COVID-19 virus (vaccination or vaccines) in the countries where they have their respective place of shore-based residence before they proceed to join a ship, to commence or recommence their sea service, remains the preferred option.

1.1 However, as measures should be taken to permit access to vaccination for seafarers, in particular, of the ones who are already serving on board, Cyprus has decided to make, as from 1 July 2021, a number of vaccines against the COVID-19 virus available on a first come first serve basis, as long as, the stock last to those seafarers serving on board ships which:

- (1) are flying the flag of Cyprus; and
- (2) are managed by a legal entity based² and taxed³ in Cyprus, if the ship in question calls at a Cyprus port, anchorages or roadstead located with the territory of Cyprus.

1.2 The vaccines provided will have an Emergency Use Listing by the World Health Organization (WHO) and will be approved for use within the European Union.

1.3 Vaccination should be offered to all seafarers serving on board on a non-discriminatory basis, and this includes seafarers who are scheduled to be repatriated.

1.4 In relation to seafarers serving on board ships flying the flag of Cyprus, compliance with the requirements of local legislation with respect to vaccination is not addressed and remains the obligation and responsibility of the Company and the master.

2 Applications for the provision of vaccines should be addressed to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health through the Permanent Secretary of the Shipping Deputy Ministry, using the model provided in Annex 1, by the Designated Person of the Company⁴ operating the ship.

¹ "seafarers" includes all persons serving on board employed or engaged for duties on board for the business, working or service of the ship.

² "based" means having the place from which is managed and operated in Cyprus.

³ In accordance with the Merchant Shipping (Fees and Taxing Provisions) Laws of 2010 to 2020.

⁴ "Company" means the owner of the ship or any other organization or person such as the manager, or the bareboat charterer, who has assumed the responsibility for operation of the ship from the

2.1 The application must be posted, or hand delivered to the Shipping Deputy Ministry or send by e-mail if it concerns seafarers employed on ships:

- (1) flying the flag of Cyprus to cyflag-vaccine@dms.gov.cy; or
- (2) ships referred in paragraph 1.1(2) to cymanage-vaccine@dms.gov.cy.

2.2 The Shipping Deputy Ministry will consider only applications it receives (irrespective of the date they bear) on or after 1 July 2021.

2.3 The application will be construed as indicating and attesting that the seafarers named in the application have individually voluntarily granted an informed consent to be vaccinated and have authorized the person making the application to request the vaccines on their behalf.

2.4 The vaccines to be provided will be those available on the date the application is processed by the Ministry of Health. There will be no choice as to the manufacturer of the vaccine. Applications or expressions for the provision of specific vaccines will not be considered and will be ignored as void.

3 The vaccines in question will be made available at no cost to the seafarers serving on board. The vaccines will be provided at free of any charge, at the point of collection designated by the Ministry of Health. The company requesting the provision of the vaccines is responsible and must make all the necessary arrangements and formalities for the collection, transport, storage, and administration of the vaccines and to cover all related cost and not to charge the seafarers.

3.1 The vaccines provided cannot be traded or sold and are for the exclusive use and administration of the seafarer for whom are requested.

4 Vaccines should be administered by trained and qualified professional personnel in accordance with the requirements of the relevant legislation.

4.1 Where the seafarer to be vaccinated is unable to speak the language spoken by the professional administering the vaccination, a person should be provided who should be able to speak a language understood by the seafarer concerned and the professional administering the vaccine.

4.3 During the vaccination and immediately subsequently, the seafarer may show signs or have an allergic or anaphylactic reaction. Thus, there should be available a person who will be able to provide the advisable first aid and the arrangements for calling the Accident & Emergency Services should be known.

5 The vaccination should be recorded:

- in the Vaccination Card provided by the Ministry of Health; and/or
- under “Other Vaccinations” in the International Certificate of Vaccination and Prophylaxis prescribed by the International Health Regulations, 2005.

owner of the ship and who on assuming such responsibility has agreed to take over all the duties and responsibilities imposed by the International Safety Management Code.

5.1 The master should return the Record of Vaccination to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health through the Permanent Secretary of the Shipping Deputy Ministry, using the model provided in Annex 2.

5.1.1 The Record of Vaccination will serve as a proof of vaccination and any verification of vaccination or other information requested in this respect will be based on the information provided in the record.

5.1.1 With respect to sending the Record of Vaccination, the provisions of paragraph 2.1 apply *mutandis mutadis*.

5.2 If the issue by Cyprus of proof of vaccination in an electronic or other format, other than the one outlined in paragraph 5, is required this should be requested. In such a case, all decisions will be based on the information provided in the Record of Vaccination.

6 Following vaccination a variety of non-allergic or non-anaphylactic symptoms or other reactions have been experienced as a result of which seafarers required time off work during the period of 24-48 hours following vaccination.

6.1 The master should take such an eventuality into account when planning the vaccination of the seafarers serving on board. He/she is expected to make contingency plans for addressing and managing the situation which may evolve and for ensuring that a safe deck and engine room watch is provided at all times.

7 This note covers some but not all the issues to be addressed in relation to the vaccination of seafarers serving on board. Issues which are not explicitly addressed in this note are and remain the responsibility of the designated person and of the master of the ship which have the duty to prudently and promptly address these.



Neophytos Papadopoulos
Permanent Secretary

Annex 1

Model of Application

[Date]

Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Health
through
Permanent Secretary
Shipping Deputy Ministry

I hereby request to be provided with vaccines/vaccination⁵ against the COVID-19 virus for the following persons employed or engaged on board:

Name of ship	
Call Sign	
IMO Number	
Port of registry	
Company ⁶	

Number ⁷	Surname or family name	Given name(s)	Rank or rating	Nationality	Place and date or birth	Number of Identity Document
1						
2						
3						

⁵ Delete as appropriate.

⁶ In accordance with the Safety Management Certificate, which should be attached.

⁷ The table may be replaced by sending those for which vaccines are requests using the form provided for Crew List (IMO FAL Form 5).

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X						
Y						

I state that I am the Designated Person, I am duly authorized to make this request and to declare, on behalf of the Company, that the Company assumes the responsibility for making the necessary arrangements and formalities for vaccinating the seafarers named above.

Name(s) and Surname	
Visitors address	
Telephone number	
After office hours telephone number	
E-mail address	
Signature	

Annex 2

Model of a Record of Vaccination (please complete a separate return for each day)

[Date]

Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Health
through
Permanent Secretary
Shipping Deputy Ministry

The following persons employed or engaged on board have been vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus:

Name of ship	
Call Sign	
IMO Number	
Port of registry	

Number ⁸	Surname or family name	Given name(s)	Rank or rating	Nationality	Place and date or birth	Number of Identity Document	Signature
1							
2							

⁸ The information to be provided are the same as those on the Crew List (Imo FAL form 5). However, the column on the right is additional and must be signed by each of the seafarers vaccinated for which the Record of Vaccination will provide a testimony.

3							
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X							
Y							

Vaccine used and dose	
Date of vaccination	
Place of vaccination	

For the person administering the vaccines

I hereby certified that I have vaccinated the persons named above.

Name(s) and Surname		
Visitors address		
Telephone number		
E-mail address		
Signature		

For the master of the ship

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct.

Name(s) and Surname	
Signature	
Stamp of the ship	