

CHAPTER 134.

COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

List of subsidiary legislation.

1. Orders in Council: Medical Districts.
2. The Medical Board (Election) Regulations.
3. The Specialist Officers (Consultation) Regulations.
4. Regulations: Professional services of Medical Officers in Country Districts.
5. The Counter Prescribing Conditions Regulations.
6. The Sicknurses and Dispensers (Training and Examination) Regulations.
7. The Sicknurses and Dispensers (Payment of Fees) Regulations.

MEDICAL DISTRICTS.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL

made under section 12.

Authority.

1929 Edition.

1. The Canje-Highbury Medical District shall consist of that portion of Administrative District No. 1 comprised within the following boundaries: From Plegt Anker on the east bank of the Berbice River to the north side of the East Coast Berbice Canal, and up both banks of the Canje Creek, and on the west bank of the Berbice River from Berenstein to, but exclusive of, Standvastigheid.

1929 Edition.

2. The Port Mourant Medical District shall consist of that portion of Administrative District No. 1 comprised within the following boundaries: From the northern side of the East Coast Berbice Canal beginning at Seawell Bridge to and inclusive of No. 36 or Neville.

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3. The Skeldon Medical District shall consist of that portion of Administrative District No. 1 comprised within the following boundaries: From, but exclusive of, No. 36 or Neville to Orealla on the left bank of the Courantyne River.

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4. The Cotton Tree Medical District shall consist of that portion of Administrative District No. 2 comprised within the following boundaries: From and inclusive of Standvastigheid on the left bank of the Berbice River to, but exclusive of, Brahn on the west coast of Berbice.

5. The Mahaicony Medical District shall consist of those portions of Administrative Districts Nos. 2 and 3 comprised within the following boundaries: From and inclusive of Brahn on the west coast of Berbice in Administrative District No. 2 to and inclusive of Rebecca's Lust on the Mahaicony coast in Administrative District No. 3 and up the Abary and Mahaicony Creeks as far as the settlements extend.

1929 Edition.

6. The Mahaica Medical District shall consist of that part of the Colony comprised within the following boundaries—

O. in C.
27th Apr.,
1931.

From the common boundary between Plns. Rebecca's Lust and Harmony Hall to the common boundary between Vigilance and Friendship (the western boundary of Pln. Non Pareil *cum annexis*) and up both banks of the Mahaica Creek as far as the settlements exist.

7. The Buxton Medical District shall consist of that part of the Colony comprised within the following boundaries—

O. in C.
27th Apr.,
1931.

From the common boundary between Vigilance and Friendship (the western boundary of Plantation Non Pareil *cum annexis*) to and inclusive of the villages of Kitty and Alexanderville.

8. The Peter's Hall Medical District shall consist of that portion of Administrative District No. 1 comprised within the following boundaries: On the right bank of the Demerara River, from the northern side-line dam of La Penitence to and inclusive of Craig Village.

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9. The Demerara River Medical District shall consist of that portion of the Demerara River, inclusive of the tributaries on both banks thereof, extending from Little Mallali Falls downwards as far as the southern boundary of Pln. Coverden on the right bank and the southern boundary of Pln. Vreed Stein (*cum annexis*) on the left bank.

O. in C.
13th June,
1922.

10. The West Bank, Demerara, Medical District shall consist of that part of the Colony comprised within the following boundaries—

O. in C.
27th Apr.,
1931.

From the common boundary between Plantations Nouvelle Flanders and The Best to the common boundary between Plantations Vreed Stein (*cum annexis*) and Jacob's Lust on the left bank Demerara River.

O. in C.
38 of 1943.
3rd July,
1943.

11. The West Coast, Demerara, Medical District shall be that portion of the Colony comprised within the following boundaries—

Commencing from the common boundary between Plantations Nouvelle Flanders and The Best, thence along the coast to the mouth of the Essequibo River, thence up the right bank of the Essequibo River to the southern boundary of Maripa, thence along a line from the back boundary of Maripa to the junction of the Boerasirie Canal with the Boerasirie River, thence along the northern edge of the Boerasirie Canal, thence along the back boundaries of Plantations Versailles, Malgre Tout, Klien Pouderoyen and Swan-en-Schultz, thence along the northern boundary of Plantation Swan-en-Schultz to the common boundary between Plantations Nouvelle Flanders and The Best.

O. in C.
38 of 1943.
3rd July,
1943.

12. The Wakenaam-Leguan Medical District shall be that portion of the Colony comprised within the islands of Wakenaam and Leguan.

O. in C.
24th Feb.,
1922.
38 of 1943.
3rd July,
1943.

13. The Essequibo Medical District shall consist of that portion of the County of Essequibo comprised within the following boundaries—

Commencing from the mouth of the Supenaam River and extending northwards along the left bank of the Essequibo River and the Essequibo Coast to the Cozier's Canal. Thence along the Cozier's Canal to the Pomeroon River, thence along the left bank of the Pomeroon River to and inclusive of the Pomeroon Road at Charity, thence by the watershed on the right bank of the Pomeroon River to the source of the Capoey Creek, thence along the watershed between the Pomeroon River and the Iteribisci and Supenaam Rivers to the source of the Supenaam River and thence along the left bank of the Supenaam River to its mouth.

O. in C.
19th Dec.,
1921.

14. The Pomeroon Medical District shall consist of the area bounded as follows—

on the north by the Atlantic Ocean;

on the east by the watershed of the tributaries on the right bank of the Pomeroon River and the watershed between the Supenaam and Pomeroon Rivers as far as the source of the first named;

on the west by the right bank of the Moruka River from its mouth upwards to the junction of the Manawarin River and thence upwards along the right bank of the said Manawarin

River to the junction of the unnamed tributary which runs in a south-westerly direction as shown on the 1913 Map of the Colony; thence along the right bank of the said unnamed tributary to its source and thence southward along the eastern watershed of the Waini River to the watershed of the tributaries of the left bank of the Cuyuni River;

on the south by that portion of the watershed of the tributaries of the left bank of the Cuyuni extending between the western and eastern boundaries.

15. The North Western Medical District shall consist of the area bounded as follows—

O. in C.
19th Dec.,
1921.

on the north by the Atlantic Ocean;

on the east by the right bank of the Moruka River from its mouth upwards to the junction of the Manawarin River and thence upwards along the right bank of the said Manawarin River to the junction of the unnamed tributary which runs in a south-westerly direction as shown on the 1913 Map of the Colony; thence along the right bank of the said unnamed tributary to its source and thence southward along the eastern watershed of the Waini River to the watershed of the tributaries of the left bank of the Cuyuni River;

on the west by that portion of the boundary line between the Colony and Venezuela extending from Point Playa and the watershed of the Akarabisi River;

on the south by a line running from the source of the Akarabisi River along the watershed of the tributaries of the left bank of the Cuyuni River to meet the eastern boundary.

16. The Bartica Medical District shall consist of that portion of Administrative District No. 8 comprised within a radius of five miles from Her Majesty's Penal Settlement.

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17. The Georgetown Medical District shall consist of that portion of the Colony within Administrative District No. 3, or East Demerara, and comprised within the following boundaries: On the north by the Atlantic Ocean, on the south by the northern sideline dam of Plantation La Penitence, on the east by the public road between Plantations Kitty and Thomas, and by the Vlissengen Road and inclusive of the Lodge Village, on the west by the right bank of the Demerara River.

1929 Edition.

MEDICAL BOARD (ELECTION).

REGULATIONS

Regs. 13th
Apr., 1937.
25th May,
1939.

made by the Medical Board under section 18 and approved by the Governor in Council on the 13th April, 1937, and amended on the 25th May, 1939.

Short title.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Medical Board (Election) Regulations.

Interpreta-
tion.

2. In these regulations—

“ the Board ” means the Medical Board established under the provisions of the Colonial Medical Service Ordinance;

“ the Secretary ” means the Secretary to the Board.

Notification
of vacancy
in Board
and nomina-
tion of
candidates
for election.

3. (1) Whenever a vacancy exists in the Medical Board as regards the members who are to be elected, the Secretary shall, within seven days after such vacancy occurs, cause a notice to be published in the Gazette and one other newspaper, fixing a day for the nomination of duly qualified persons to fill the vacancy and specifying whether the vacancy must be filled by a medical practitioner in private practice or otherwise.

(2) Such nomination day shall be not more than seven days after the day on which such notice is first published.

(3) Every medical practitioner registered in accordance with the provisions of the Colonial Medical Service Ordinance, and no other person, shall be entitled to nominate in writing addressed to the Secretary a candidate for election and to vote at any consequent election.

(4) If only one person is nominated and accepts nomination that person shall be deemed to be elected, but if more than one person is nominated the Secretary shall immediately notify the persons nominated of their nomination and request their acceptance or refusal thereof in writing within seven days. Where a person who has been nominated fails to notify his acceptance or refusal thereof within seven days he shall be deemed to have refused nomination.

(5) The Director of Medical Services shall then fix a day for an election to be held at some place in Georgetown between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays excepted, such day to be not less than ten and not more than fourteen days after the date up to which nominations may be accepted or refused:

Provided that if only one of the nominated persons accept such nomination, such person shall be deemed to be elected.

(6) If more than one person accepts nomination the Secretary shall by registered letter notify all persons entitled to vote of the date and place of election and the names of the candidates who have accepted nomination:

Provided that an election shall not be rendered void by the omission to cause notification under this regulation to be made in any particular case or cases. Where any person entitled to vote has not been notified in accordance with the provisions of this regulation he shall nevertheless be entitled to vote at the election.

(7) The Secretary shall enclose in the letter of notification a voting paper in a form approved by the Board, and no vote shall be valid unless it is recorded on such voting paper.

Regs. 25th
May, 1939.

If any person transmits to the Secretary more than one voting paper in respect of any election neither voting paper shall be included in the count.

4. A person entitled to vote at an election for a member of the Board shall record his vote in writing transmitted so as to be delivered at the place of election before four o'clock on the afternoon of the day on which the election is held.

Mode of
voting at
election.

5. (1) The Director of Medical Services shall cause the votes to be counted and stated and the candidate having the most votes, if otherwise duly qualified, shall be deemed to be elected.

Declaration
and
publication
of result of
voting.

(2) Two Government Officers nominated by the Governor in Council shall be present when the votes are being counted, and shall certify in a book kept for the purpose the results of the election.

(3) The Director of Medical Services shall also cause a notice to be published in the Gazette intimating the name or names of the person or persons elected.

(4) Where two candidates secure an equal number of votes, the day of election shall be deemed to be the day on which the vacancy occurred and a re-election in accordance with these regulations shall be held:

Provided that if at such re-election an equality of votes again results, the Medical Board shall have the power to nominate after voting by ballot which of the two candidates shall be deemed to be elected.

SPECIALIST OFFICERS (CONSULTATION).

REGULATIONS

Regs. 15 of
1947.
29 of 1948.
38 of 1952.

*made by the Legislative Council under section 15 (1) on the
11th July, 1947, and amended on the 24th September, 1948 and
11th December, 1952.*

1. These regulations may be cited as the Specialist Officers (Consultation) Regulations.

2. For the purposes of these regulations—

“consultation” means consultation between a specialist officer and a private medical practitioner at the request of the latter which takes place outside a public hospital or other public institution and outside the specialist officer’s official hours of duty;

Schedule.

“specialist officer” means a government medical officer whose post is described in the schedule hereto.

3. Any specialist officer may be called in consultation.

4. The fee for a consultation shall not, except with the approval of the Director of Medical Services, exceed ten dollars and shall be paid into the Treasury by the specialist officer.

Regs. 29 of
1948.

5. (1) Regulation 4 of these regulations shall not apply to the specialist officer who, on the 1st August, 1948, holds the post of Medical Superintendent, Mental Hospital.

(2) The fee for a consultation with such officer shall be as fixed by him and shall not be paid into the Treasury.

Reg. 2.

SCHEDULE.

(As amended by regulations 38 of 1952.)

Surgeon Specialist, Public Hospital, Georgetown.
Senior Physician, Public Hospital, Georgetown.
Assistant Surgeon, Public Hospital, Georgetown.
Medical Superintendent, Mental Hospital.
Medical Superintendent, Leprosy Hospital.
Ophthalmologist.
Medical Officer, Ear, Nose and Throat.
Venereal Diseases Officer and Dermatologist.
Health Officer, Tuberculosis.
Government Bacteriologist and Pathologist.
Radiologist.
Assistant Surgeon, Public Hospital, Berbice.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES OF MEDICAL OFFICERS IN COUNTRY DISTRICTS.

REGULATIONS

made under section 15 by the Governor and Court of Policy on the 14th July, 1908, and amended on the 10th December, 1912.

Regs. 14th
July, 1908.
10th Dec.,
1912.

1. The Government medical officer shall act as medical attendant to all prisons, lock-ups, public dispensaries and police hospitals within his district.

2. He shall attend free of charge—

(a) all members of the Police Force and prison service within his district;

(b) the families of these officers, except when otherwise ordered by the Governor;

(c) all paupers provided with pauper certificates on a form approved by the Governor;

(d) every patient at any estate's hospital who is either an indentured immigrant, or a person of the labouring class employed by the estate, or any of his family residing on the estate and recommended by the manager for free treatment.

10th Dec.,
1912.

3. (1) He shall, on payment of a sum of eighty dollars per annum by the proprietors or representatives of an estate, render ordinary medical service to the manager and overseers of the estate, their wives and children, and to the consulting engineer, chemist, book-keeper, dispenser, foreman engineer and head panboiler, but not to their wives and children.

(2) Midwifery, major surgical operations and fractures shall not be deemed to be included in ordinary medical service, and in such cases the Government medical officer shall be entitled to charge a reasonable fee.

(3) He shall not be obliged to attend, unless he is paid a reasonable fee, any such person as aforesaid, unless such person resides within the bounds of the estate, and not more than one mile by road from the factory, hospital or manager's residence.

4. He is authorised to charge fees according to the following scales—

(1) to persons in poor circumstances unable to pay for private medical attendance in accordance with the fees in

subsections (2) and (3), on their producing a poverty certificate on a form approved by the Governor—

	\$	c.
(a) if the person presents himself at the residence of the medical officer, at any medical station, public dispensary, estate's hospital or is a patient in such hospital, for each attendance	0	24
(b) if the medical officer is called while passing through a village or along a public road, each attendance	0	30
(c) for a special call if the distance from the medical officer's residence is not more than a mile ...	0	36
(d) for each mile or part of a mile on the outward journey only	0	10

(2) to all persons, such as artisans, sailors, porters, labourers, small farmers, mechanics, seamstresses, etc.—

	\$	c.
(a) under the same conditions as (1) (a) (b) ...	0	48
(b) under the same conditions as (1) (c) ...	1	00
(c) under the same conditions as (1) (d) ...	0	12
(d) calls during the night, <i>i.e.</i> , between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m., may be charged double;		
(e) operations may be charged extra;		
(f) maternity cases, surgical or otherwise ...	5	00
(g) for a medical certificate for leave purposes ...	0	50
(h) for a medical certificate under the Districts		
By-laws regulating the sale of milk	0	24

(3) to all other classes the medical officer may make reasonable charges.

5. No pauper or poverty certificate shall exempt any person receiving or who has received medical relief from his liability for subsequent payment for such relief if it be found that such person is able to pay for private medical attendance in accordance with the fees authorised in regulation 4.

6. Persons provided with pauper or poverty certificates may present themselves for treatment to the nearest medical officer. Those who require to be treated at their homes, however, must call in the medical officer of the district.

7. Pauper and poverty certificates shall be available for one month only from date of issue.

8. The medical officer shall report to the Director of Medical Services any irregularity or impropriety in the issue of any pauper or poverty certificate.

9. The following persons are hereby authorised to give pauper certificates under regulation (2) (c) and poverty certificates under regulation 4 (1)—

(1) members of the Executive Council or Legislative Council;

(2) registered medical practitioners;

(3) justices of the peace;

(4) Ministers of Religion;

(5) members of the Local Boards of Guardians;

(6) Superintendents of Police and Non-Commissioned officers in charge of Police Stations, and District Commissioners;

(7) chairmen of Village and Country Districts.

10. Any dispute or complaint arising out of the foregoing regulations shall be decided by the Director of Medical Services, subject to an appeal to the Governor.

COUNTER PRESCRIBING.

REGULATIONS

made by the Medical Board under section 34 and approved by the Governor in Council on the 17th February, 1925. Regs. 17th
Feb., 1925.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Counter Prescribing Conditions Regulations. Short title.

2. Counter prescribing is hereby defined as the supply of simple remedies for common ailments, not of a serious nature, by a duly licensed chemist and druggist in person in a licensed shop in which is carried on the business of a chemist and druggist. Definition.

3. No special examination or consulting room must be set apart for the examination of patients, nor must any examination be made, either by hand or by instruments, other than a verbal examination as to the symptoms complained of by the patient. Nature of
examination
to be made.

Prohibition
as regards
venereal and
gynaecological
diseases.

4. (i) No chemist and druggist shall be entitled to treat or prescribe for, in any manner whatsoever, any of the venereal diseases or any condition arising therefrom, or to supply medicines or remedies for any such diseases or conditions, except on the prescription of a registered medical practitioner.

(ii) This provision shall also apply to gynaecological diseases or ailments peculiar to women.

Records.

5. Every chemist and druggist who exercises the right of counter prescribing within the meaning of these regulations shall keep a book in which he shall enter the following particulars—

- (i) name, age and address of person treated;
- (ii) symptoms or disease specified by patient;
- (iii) medicines supplied or treatment recommended;
- (iv) signature of chemist and druggist;
- (v) special remarks.

Notification
of complaint
to patient.

6. The patient must in every case be informed of the complaint for which he is being treated.

Labels.

7. Any medicines supplied under these regulations must be labelled with the date and the full name, address and qualification of the supplier and must give full instructions as to use.

Inspection.

8. Every record book kept under these regulations shall be open at all times for inspection by every member or officer of the Medical Board, or by any district medical officer, Police Officer or any other person duly authorised by the Director of Medical Services or the Commissioner of Police.

SICKNURSES AND DISPENSERS (TRAINING AND EXAMINATION).

REGULATIONS

Regs. 15 of
1951.

made by the Medical Board under section 52 on the 30th May, 1951.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Sicknurses and Dispensers (Training and Examination) Regulations.

2. (1) Every person who desires to be trained as a sicknurse and dispenser shall make application to the Board to be registered as a student.

- (2) Every such applicant shall satisfy the Board—
- (a) that he has attained the age of 18 years;

(b) that he is the holder of a Cambridge School Leaving Certificate or its equivalent; and

(c) that he is of good character.

3. The course of training shall be as follows—

(a) *Practical work*—

three years of training in nursing in the Public Hospital, Georgetown, or in the Public Hospital, Berbice, and one year in the dispensary of a hospital approved by the Board;

(b) *theoretical work*;

the curriculum of studies shall be the same as for nurses; in addition, while the students are in training in a dispensary of a hospital approved by the Board, they shall study Pharmacy and Therapeutics.

4. (1) Registered students in hospitals approved by the Board shall follow the course of training set out in regulation 5 of these regulations.

(2) Registered students in hospitals in estates shall serve three years at those hospitals and shall thereafter undergo training for two and a half years as follows—

(a) one year and six months in the general wards of the Public Hospital, Georgetown, or the Public Hospital, Berbice;

(b) one year in the dispensary of the Public Hospital, Georgetown, or the Public Hospital, Berbice.

5. The examinations for qualification as sicknurses and dispensers shall be arranged as follows—

(a) in the case of students admitted for training under sub-regulation (1) of regulation 4 of these regulations—

(i) *Preliminary Examination*—

as for probationer nurses at hospitals;

(ii) *Final Examination*—

(a) *First part*—

the same as the final examination for nurses after three (3) years of training;

(b) *Second part*—

after a further year of training in Therapeutics and Pharmacy in the dispensary of the Public Hospital, Georgetown, or Public Hospital, Berbice, an examination in Therapeutics and Pharmacy;

(b) students admitted for training under sub-regulation (2) of regulation 4 of these regulations will be exempted from the preliminary examination for probationer nurses but will be required to take—

(a) the final examination for nurses after completing $1\frac{1}{2}$ years of training in nursing in the general wards of the Public Hospital, Georgetown, or the Public Hospital, Berbice; and

(b) the second part of the final examination in Therapeutics and Pharmacy after a further year of training in Therapeutics and Pharmacy:

Provided that no candidate who has failed to pass any part of an examination shall proceed to the next stage of training until he has successfully passed that examination.

6. Anything contained in these regulations to the contrary notwithstanding, the Board may in their discretion permit any person who at the commencement of these regulations was undergoing a course of training as a sicknurse and dispenser at any Government, estate or private hospital, to complete such course of training:

Provided that such person shall make application to the Board to be registered as a student within three months of the commencement of these regulations.

SICKNURSES AND DISPENSERS (PAYMENT OF FEES).

REGULATIONS

Regs. 3rd
Sept., 1924.

made by the Medical Board under section 52 on the 3rd September, 1924.

Short title.

1. These regulations may be cited as the Sicknurses and Dispensers (Payment of Fees) Regulations.

Fee to
accompany
application
to sit
examination.

2. (i) Every application to sit at any examination for sicknurses and dispensers held by the Medical Board must be accompanied by a fee of one dollar.

(ii) Such fee shall be returnable in all cases where the Medical Board decides that such application should be disallowed, but in no other cases.

Fee for
registration
as a
sicknurse
and
dispenser.

3. Where any candidate satisfies the examiners at any examination for sicknurses and dispensers held by the Medical Board, he shall be entitled to registration as a sicknurse and dispenser on payment of a fee of five dollars.