



# GUIDANCE NOTICE

## Scale D Medical Cabinet

**This Guidance Notice provides details of the medical supplies and equipment required under the National Standard for Commercial Vessels (NSCV) for Class 1B vessels. A Scale F First Aid Kit is also required.**

This Guidance Notice is accurate as at 1 March 2014. Please check the current version of the NSCV and maritime legislation, or contact the National Regulator, to confirm current requirements.

### Introduction

This Guidance Notice specifies the minimum medical supplies and equipment necessary to treat minor medical conditions or injuries, or to temporarily stabilise a patient until transfer to medical assistance can be arranged. The supplies and quantities specified may need to be expanded in accordance with the particular risks inherent to the voyage, the length of the voyage, access to medical facilities, the cargoes carried, and the number of persons on board. Owners and operators should obtain medical advice in specifying medical supplies for their vessels.

If you are unsure of the nature or seriousness of an illness or injury, radio medical advice should be sought and, if necessary, medical evacuation by helicopter should be initiated. If a child requires treatment, radio medical advice should be sought as the medical inventories are designed for adults.

Please note the following:

- Persons administering first aid should possess as a minimum a current first aid qualification in accordance with the NSCV Part D. Persons administering the supplies under Scale D should have the competency of a Shipmaster Medical Qualification or an Advanced First Aid Certificate including training in administering injections (IMI and SCI), splinting with vacuum and air splints, and manual resuscitation.
- Medical supplies must not exceed the expiry date specified by the manufacturer or supplier of the product.
- Antibiotics must always be supplied in original packages or patient courses. Other products such as analgesics and creams will be considered adequate if an opened package contains at least 50 per cent of the original quantity, and the remaining product is uncontaminated and unaffected by any expiry date as a result of any seal being broken.

- Medication should be provided in original, sealed blister or foil packs where possible.
- All products must carry instructions and directions for use in English and clearly state the adult dose where applicable to enable safe and effective use of the medication for the intended purpose(s).

### Medical cabinet

- All vessels must be provided with a medical cabinet of suitable size, design and construction for storing medical supplies.
- The cabinet must be located either:-
  - in a separate compartment adjacent to the hospital accommodation;
  - where hospital accommodation is not provided, adjacent to the vessel officers' accommodation; or
  - in a dry and cool space accessible to the Master and a nominated crew member.
- The cabinet must be provided with:
  - an outer door, fitted with an efficient lock;
  - an inner cupboard, independently locked, for storing special drugs (noted in the table below with the symbol “\*” or “#”);
  - a dispensing counter or table, with an impervious surface, which may be a shelf in the medical cabinet;
  - suitable storage space for medicines and measuring devices, which facilitate identification of various items; and
  - illumination by electric light from inside or immediately outside the cabinet.
- The cabinet must be clearly identified on the outer door with an appropriate sign or sticker.
- The cabinet must be cleaned and checked every three (3) months.

## Items to be stored in medical cabinet

Description	Qty	Notes	Comments
Adrenaline 1-1000 1ml ampoules	5	†	Sudden allergic reaction
<i>Adrenaline 300mcg/0.3mL auto-injector</i>	1	†	
<i>Adrenaline 500mcg/0.3mL auto-injector</i>	1	†	
Antibiotic ointment 15 g or 20 g	1	* †	Infected wound
<i>Mupirocin 2% ointment 15g</i>	1	* †	<i>Ointment preferred for dry wounds</i>
<i>Mupirocin 2% cream 15g</i>	1	* †	<i>Cream preferred for weeping wounds</i>
<i>Povidone-Iodine 10% ointment 25g</i>	1	* †	<i>Ointment preferred for dry wounds</i>
<i>Povidone-Iodine 5% cream 20g</i>	1	* †	<i>Cream preferred for weeping wounds</i>
Amoxicillin 500mg caps	20	* †	Oral antibiotic
<i>Cephalexin 500mg capsules (also for penicillin allergic patients)</i>	20	* †	
Doxycycline 100mg capsules or tablets	21	* †	Oral antibiotic
<i>Clarithromycin 250mg tablets</i>	28	* †	
Benzyl penicillin 600mg with WFI 2mL	5	* †	Antibiotic injection
<i>Procaine Penicillin 1.5g syringe</i>	5	* †	<i>Premixed</i>
<i>Ceftriaxone 1g Vial (with Lignocaine 1% ampoules)</i>	5	* †	<i>Lignocaine 1% is the recommended diluent</i>
Chloramphenicol eye ointment 4g	1	* †	Eye antibiotic
<i>Tetracycline 1% eye ointment 5g</i>	1	* †	
Glyceryl trinitrate 400mcg spray	1	†	Angina / heart pain
<i>Glyceryl Trinitrate 600mcg Sublingual tablets 100</i>	2	†	<i>Discard pack 90 days after opening</i>
Morphine 10mg/ml ampoules	5	* † #	Severe pain, only with medical advice
<i>Morphine Sulfate 5mg/1mL ampoules</i>	10	* † #	
<i>Pethidine 100mg/2mL ampoules</i>	10	* † #	
Naloxone 0.4mg/ml minijet	5	* †	Morphine antagonist
<i>Naloxone 400mcg/1mL ampoules</i>	5	* †	
Paracetamol 500mg / Codeine 30mg tablets	20	* †	Moderate-severe pain also cough suppression
<i>Paracetamol 500mg/Codeine Phosphate 15mg tablets</i>	20	* †	<i>Do NOT exceed EIGHT tablets in ONE day</i>
Prochlorperazine 5mg tablet	25	* †	Nausea, giddiness
<i>Ondansetron 4mg tablets</i>	30	* †	
Prochlorperazine 25mg suppositories	5	* †	Vomiting, giddiness
<i>Ondansetron 8mg wafer</i>	10	* †	<i>Wafers to be placed on top of the tongue</i>
<i>Prochlorperazine 3mg Buccal tablets</i>	50	* †	<i>Absorbed through the buccal cavity</i>
Prochlorperazine 12.5mg/mL ampoules	10	* †	Severe seasickness
<i>Metoclopramide 10mg/2mL ampoules</i>	10	* †	
<i>Prednisolone 5mg tablets</i>	20	* †	Only with medical advice
<i>Dexamethasone 0.5mg tablets</i>	30		
Prednisolone 5mg tablet	20	* †	Only with medical advice
Salbutamol inhaler	1	†	Asthma attack
<i>Terbutaline 500mcg/dose metered inhaler</i>	1	* †	
Sodium chloride and glucose or dextrose compound, powder sachets, 4.9 g approx.	20	†	Rehydration
<i>Glucose/Citric Acid/Potassium Citrate/Sodium Chloride powder sachets 4.76g</i>	20	†	
Scalpel, sterile, disposable	5		
Scissors, stainless, blunt/sharp 12.5 cm	1		
Syringe with needle, sterile disposable 1mL	5		
Syringe with needle, sterile, disposable 2mL or 3mL, 23G or 25G	5		
Isopropyl alcohol swabs	10		
Appropriate additional first aid, medicinal antidotes and other additional treatments as specified by the manufacturer, supplier or other authorised body or publication, including the material safety data sheets relating to the hazardous chemical or goods		As specified	Required on vessels carrying as cargo, or in shipboard use, any quantity of a hazardous or dangerous chemical or goods as defined under the International Maritime Goods Code.
List of contents, brief instructions for use, expiry dates and last check dates	1		Stowed within or adjacent to the cabinet

Notes: † Expiry dated

\* Requires prescription

# Requires separate locked storage and recording in controlled drug register

*Items shown in italics are considered an equivalent substitution when the medication required by the standard is unavailable.*

### Items that may be stored separately, but should be readily accessible to the crew

Description	Qty	Notes	Comments
Splint set, vacuum or air inflation	1		
Neck collar, multi-size, rigid, fully adjustable	2		
BVM air resuscitator	1		
Medical Log Book	1		To record the use of all medicines, first aid and medical incidents, including the name of the patient, date and time, condition, and treatment.
SAE Defibrillator (Laerdal First Aid unit or similar)	1		
Stretcher for helicopter evacuation / ship board use	1		
First Aid Oxygen Unit (Oxyport or equal)	1		
Ships Captain's Medical Guide, Current Edition	1		
Controlled Drug Register	1		