

## COVID-19 – U.S. Reporting Procedures

The COVID-19 disease continues to spread globally and is a major concern to maritime shipping, most notably the cruise industry. COVID-19 has already spread via U.S. West Coast ports and threatens ports in the U.S. Caribbean and Alaska. In response to numerous inquiries concerning reporting requirements and procedures when arriving to ports in the USA or its territories, we have recapped the governing regulations and have attached a reporting form.

Reporting requirements for death and illness onboard a vessel are contained in Title 42 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 71.21:

- (a) The master of a ship destined for a U.S. port **shall report immediately** to the quarantine station at or nearest the port at which the ship will arrive, the occurrence, on board, of **any death or any ill person** among passengers or crew (including those who have disembarked or have been removed) during the 15-day period preceding the date of expected arrival or during the period since departure from a U.S. port (whichever period of time is shorter).
- (b) In addition to paragraph (a) of this section, the master of a ship carrying 13 or more passengers **must report 24 hours before arrival** the number of cases (including zero) of acute gastroenteritis (AGE) in passengers and crew recorded in the ship's medical log during the current cruise. All cases of acute gastroenteritis (AGE) that occur after the 24 hour report must also be reported not less than 4 hours before arrival.

According to the 42 CFR 71.1, the CDC has defined an **ill person** as someone who if onboard a vessel:

- (A) Has a fever a measured temperature of 38 °C (100.4 °F) or greater; or feels warm to the touch; or gives a history of feeling feverish) accompanied by one or more of the following: Skin rash, difficulty breathing or suspected or confirmed pneumonia, persistent cough or cough with bloody sputum, decreased consciousness or confusion of recent onset, new unexplained bruising or bleeding (without previous injury), persistent vomiting (other than sea sickness), headache with stiff neck; **or**
- (B) Has a fever that has persisted for more than 48 hours; **or**
- (C) Has acute gastroenteritis, which means either diarrhea, defined as three or more episodes of loose stools in a 24-hour period or what is above normal for the individual, or vomiting accompanied by one or more of the following: One or more episodes of loose stools in a 24-hour period, abdominal cramps, headache, muscle aches, or fever (temperature of 38 °C (100.4 °F) or greater); **or**
- (D) Has symptoms or other indications of communicable disease, as the Director may announce through posting of a notice in the Federal Register.

Masters must report deaths or ill persons to the nearest U.S. CDC Quarantine Station with jurisdiction over the port of arrival via telephone or fax using the attached Maritime Conveyance Illness or Death Investigative Form. Use one form per person and do **not** fill out or submit the Section 5 unless requested to do so by the Quarantine Station.

**If the nearest U.S. CDC Quarantine Station cannot be reached or does not confirm receipt of the report within 24 hours, the Master must telephone the CDC Emergency Operations Center at +1-770-448-7100, or send an email to the Maritime Activity Administrator: [MaritimeAdmin@cdc.gov](mailto:MaritimeAdmin@cdc.gov)**

**Current CDC Quarantine Stations are as follows:**

**Anchorage Quarantine Station**

Jurisdiction: All ports in Alaska  
Phone: +1-907-271-6301 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1-907-271-6325

**Atlanta Quarantine Station**

Jurisdiction: All ports in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, & Tennessee  
Phone: +1-404-639-1220 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1-404-209-3937

**Boston Quarantine Station *\*New York Station is temporarily covering Boston***

Jurisdiction: All ports in Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, & Rhode Island.  
Phone: ***See New York Station***  
Fax: ***See New York Station***

**Chicago Quarantine Station**

Jurisdiction: All ports in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin  
Phone: +1-773-894-2960 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1-773-894-2970

**Detroit Quarantine Station**

Jurisdiction: All ports in Michigan, Kentucky and Ohio  
Phone: +1-734-955-6197 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1-734-955-7790

**Honolulu Quarantine Station**

Jurisdiction: All ports in Hawaii, Guam, Pacific Trust Territories  
Phone: +1-808-861-8530 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1-808-861-8532 OR 808-861-8533

Houston Quarantine Station

Jurisdiction: All ports along the entire Texas coastline, & Louisiana  
Phone: +1- 281-230-3874 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1- 281-230-3879

Los Angeles Quarantine Station

Jurisdiction: All ports in Southern California, except San Diego  
Phone: +1- 310-215-2365 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1- 310-215-2285

Miami Quarantine Station

Jurisdiction: All ports in Florida, Alabama, Mississippi  
Phone: +1- 305-526-2910 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1- 305-869-1495

New York Quarantine Station

Jurisdiction: All ports in New York, Connecticut, Vermont  
Phone: +1- 617-561-5701 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1- 617-561-5708

***\*New York Station is also temporarily covering Boston QS ports***

Newark Quarantine Station

Jurisdiction: All ports in New Jersey  
Phone: +1- 973-368-6200 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1- 973-368-6204

Philadelphia Quarantine Station

Jurisdiction: All ports in Pennsylvania and Delaware  
Phone: +1- 215-365-6401 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1- 215-365-5419

San Diego Quarantine Station

Jurisdiction: All ports in San Diego, California  
Phone: +1- 619-692-5665 (daytime), 866-638-9753 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1- 619-692-8821

San Francisco Station

Jurisdiction: All ports in Central and Northern California  
Phone: +1- 650-876-2872 (24-hour access)  
Fax: +1- 650-876-2796

#### San Juan Quarantine Station

Jurisdiction: All ports in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands

Phone: +1- 787-253-7880 (24-hour access)

Fax: +1- 787-253-4671

#### Seattle Quarantine Station

Jurisdiction: All ports in Washington and Oregon

Phone: +1- 206-553-4519 (24-hour access)

Fax: +1- 206-553-0855

#### Washington D.C. Quarantine Station

Jurisdiction: All ports in Washington D.C, Maryland, Virginia & West Virginia

Phone: +1- 703-661-1320 (24-hour access)

Fax: +1- 703-661-5095

For further guidance from the CDC concerning reporting requirements, visit their webpages as follows:

- **Passenger vessels:**

- 1) <https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/cruise/reporting-deaths-illness/index.html>

- 2) <https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/cruise/reporting-deaths-illness/how-calculate-influenza-influenza-like-illness-case-outbreak-threshold-cumulative-reports.html>

- **All other vessels:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/cargo/reporting-deaths-illness/index.html>

Attached is the latest guidance. *Kindly note that the CDC occasionally updates its webpage on Interim Guidance for Ships on Managing Suspected COVID-19 and we recommend it be checked on a regular basis.* The webpage link is:

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/maritime/recommendations-for-ships.html>

We strongly recommend that Masters of all vessels trading to the USA read, understand and implement this guidance. Masters are encouraged to consult the CDC Emergency Operations Center with any questions or concerns regarding medical risk assessment, clinical management, and infection control by contacting them at +1-770-488-7100 or email address [eocreport@cdc.gov](mailto:eocreport@cdc.gov).

Please share this Circular with the Masters of all vessels in your fleet that trade, or may trade, to ports in the USA.

As always, feel free to contact us whenever questions or concerns arise regarding maritime security risk management.

*End of Circular*

**ATTACHMENTS:**

***U.S. CDC - Maritime Conveyance Illness or Death Investigative Form***  
***CDC Interim Guidance for Ships***