



SOUTH AFRICAN MARITIME SAFETY AUTHORITY
MARINE NOTICE NO 5 OF 2021

www.samsa.org.za

146 Lunnon Road, Hillcrest, Pretoria 0083

PO Box 13186
 Hatfield 0028
 Tel: +27 12 366 2600
 Fax: +27 12 366 2601
 Email: marinenotices@samsa.org.za

ISSUE DATE	10 March 2021	EXPIRY DATE		REFERENCE	SM6/5/2/1
MEDICAL CHEST AND FIRST AID KITS TO BE CARRIED ONBOARD.					

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, SKIPPERS, OWNERS, MANAGERS AND OPERATORS OF VESSELS

<u>Affected Marine Notices</u>			
<i>Cancelled or superseded</i>	13 of 1991	<i>Read in conjunction with:</i>	
SUMMARY			
The purpose of this marine notice is to advise South African vessels >25 GT and foreign flagged vessels operating in South African waters of the requirements for medical equipment onboard.			

1. Application

- 1.1** South African vessels >25 GT are required to carry medicines and medical equipment as per the Ships’ Medicines and Medical Appliance Regulations, 1991, as amended, available from the SAMSA website.
- 1.2** In addition, all vessels in South African waters are required to comply with the requirements of the Maritime Occupational Safety Regulations, 1994, available from the SAMSA website.

Regulation 5(1) requires that a portable first-aid kit is made available at or near the workplace where the employees are engaged and that there is readily available at that workplace, a person qualified in practical first aid. The contents of the first aid kit are defined in regulation 5(2).

2. Port Operations vessel exemption

- 2.1** In terms of section 4(c) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1951 (Act 57 of 1951) any vessel over 25 gross tons whose area of operation is no more than a 15nm radius (depending on Class of vessel) from the reference point to such port may, on application to the Principal Officer, be exempted from the provisions of The Ships’ Medicines and Medical Appliances Regulations, 1991, provided they are equipped as follows:

PERSONS ON BOARD		
Less than 40	More than 40	
1	2	Wound Cleaner (200ml bottle)
1	2	Wound/burn cream (25gm tubes)
3	6	Wound dressings (150mm x 100mm)
3	6	Wound dressing (20mm x 150mm)
20	40	Self adhesive wound dressing (assorted)
2	4	Elastic adhesive would dressings (25mm x 1m)
4	6	Crepe bandages (75mm x 450mm)
4	6	Roller bandages (50mm x 3,5m)
4	6	Triangular bandages (sides 90mmx base 130mm)
1 set	1 set	Splints (suitable for neck, arms and legs)
2	2	Disposable CPR protective mouthpiece

- 2.2** The master or owner of every vessel shall ensure that
 - 2.2.1** The medical supplies are replenished as soon as practicable after supplies have been used, and
 - 2.2.2** That the medical supplies are properly checked over by a medical practitioner or pharmacist at least once per year and a certificate issued which must be readily available onboard.

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