

	GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA DEPARTMENT OF MARINE SERVICES AND MERCHANT SHIPPING (ADOMS) Circular 01-004-12 Medical Certificate	Document	Circ. 01-004-12
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		Reference	1. STCW 1978, as amended, Reg. I/9, Section A-I/9 2. Antigua and Barbuda Merchant Shipping Act

Circular letter to:

**all masters, ship owners, managing owners, filing agents and crewing companies;
all ships registered under the flag of Antigua and Barbuda W.I.**

A review of the 2010 Amendments to the STCW Convention 1978, as amended, as well as the requirements of the Maritime Labour Convention, have resulted in changes to the procedures adopted by the Antigua and Barbuda Department of Marine Services (ADOMS) in so far as they affect seafarer's medical certificates.

All seafarers are required to have on board a valid medical certificate and it is the responsibility of the ship's Master to verify that all seafarers, on joining have valid medical certificates. The Conventions mandate that such a certificate is valid for a maximum of two years and must be issued by a medical practitioner authorised in his/her country for the issue of seafarer's medical certificates.

The previous practice of requesting submission of an Antigua and Barbuda Medical Report Form (FO-CO2) with every application for an endorsement or a seafarer's book, or related documentation has been discontinued. From the date of this Circular applicants for these documents should present a valid seafarer's medical certificate with their application. . Acceptable certificates are:

- 1) A seafarer's medical certificate issued in accordance with STCW 1978, as amended, or in accordance with ILO 73 by a medical practitioner authorised to issue such certificates in the country of issue provided that country is a signatory to the STCW Convention or the ILO 73 or ILO 147 Conventions (or the Maritime Labour Convention when it comes into force) , or
- 2) A seafarer's medical certificate (Form FO-CO2) issued by a medical practitioner authorised by ADOMS in Antigua and Barbuda.

Where there may be doubt as to the recognition and authorisation of a medical practitioner to issue seafarers' medical certificates, ADOMS may request that evidence of approval is presented. This may take the form of an official statement from the administration or other evidence such as a print out from the official list of approved doctors for that country.

July 2012

**Department of Marine Services
and Merchant Shipping
Antigua and Barbuda W.I.**

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