

CHAPTER 158
YELLOW FEVER AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(IMMUNIZATION) LAW

Arrangement of sections

section

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation
3. Liability to be inoculated
4. Inoculation of adults
5. Inoculation of children
6. Power to make rules
7. Health officers to keep records of examinations and inoculations.
8. Certificate to be given
7. Examination and inoculation to be free
8. Penalty
9. Power to make rules
10. Provision for application of Law to any infectious disease.

CHAPTER 158
YELLOW FEVER AND INFECTION DISEASES
(IMMUNIZATION) LAW

A Law to make provision for the compulsory immunization of person against yellow fever and other infectious diseases.

Eastern
Nigeria
Cap 134

[27th August 1991]

1. This Law may be cited as the Yellow Fever and Infectious Diseases (Immunization) Law.
2. In this Law—

Short title

"adult" means a person who is or who appears to be of the age of fourteen years or over;

Interpretation

"child" means a person who is or who appears to be under the age of fourteen years;

"Commissioner" means Commissioner responsible for health matters,

"health officer" includes a medical officer of health, a medical officer, a sanitary inspector or other person acting under the authority, whether general or special, of a medical officer of health whether any of such persons or officers is serving in the medical or health services of the Government or in the service of a local government council and. when so authorized in writing by the Chief Medical Adviser, medical officers of the Nigerian military or naval forces and members of the Rockefeller Yellow Fever Research Institute;

"inoculation" includes reinoculation;

"parent" includes the guardian or any person having the care or custody of a child;

"prescribed area" means an area prescribed under the provisions of section 3 of this Law;

"State" means Enugu State of Nigeria;

"temporary visit" means a stay of seven days or less.

3. (1) The Commissioner may by order direct that all persons or any specified class or classes of persons being or coming within such area in the State as may be prescribed in the order shall be liable to be inoculated against yellow fever

Liability to be inoculated

(2) When any order is made under the foregoing provisions of this section, the provisions of this Law shall thereupon apply in relation to all persons, or the class or classes of persons, specified in the order.

4. Every adult to whom an order made under the provisions of section 3 applies shall within seven days of the coming into force of such order or within seven days of entering into a prescribed area, save on a temporary visit, present himself to a health officer for examination and., if necessary, inoculation against yellow fever and shall subsequently attend at such time and at such place as the health officer may direct for the purposes of such examination and inoculation.

Inoculation of adults

5. The parent of a child to whom an order made under the provisions of section 3 applies shall, if such child is of the age of eighteen months or over at the date on which the order comes into force or on which such child enters into a prescribed area, save on a temporary visit, within seven days of the happening of either event bring such child to a health officer for examination and. if necessary, inoculation against yellow fever and shall subsequently bring such child to such place and at such time as the health officer may direct for the purposes of such examination and inoculation.

Inoculation of children

Power to make rules

6. Without prejudice to the generality of section 4 or 5 the Commissioner may make rules to regulate the procedure whereby adults or children to whom an order under subsection (1) of section 3 applies shall present themselves or be brought for examination and, if necessary, inoculation.

Health officers to keep records of examination and inoculations

7. Every health officer shall for the purposes of this Law keep such records as may be required by the Chief Medical Officer.

Certificate to be given

Examination
and inoculation
to be free

8. A health officer shall on request by any person inoculated under the provisions of this Law issue to such person a certificate of inoculation showing the date and place of inoculation

9. No fee shall payable in respect of any examination or inoculation made or performed under the provisions of this Law.

Penalty

10. Any person who, without reasonable cause the burden of proving which shall be upon him, contravenes or fails to comply with live provisions of this Law or of any rule made thereunder shall be liable, on conviction, for a first offence to a fine of one hundred naira or to imprisonment for six months or to both such fine and imprisonment and on conviction for a second or subsequent offence to a fine of two hundred naira or to imprisonment for one year or to both such fine and imprisonment.

11. The Commissioner may make rules generally for the carrying out of the provisions of this Law and in particular for—

Power to
make rules

- (a) prescribing the forms to be used for any purpose under this Law;
- (b) the duties and powers of any person engaged or employed in the administration of this Law;
- (c) the duties to be performed and the procedure to be adopted by a local government council either generally or in respect of any prescribed area;
- (d) the keeping and examination of books and other records in connexion with the administration of this Law;
- (e) exempting from the provisions of this Law any person or class or classes or persons;
- (f) prescribing the standard of any serum or virus to be used for the purposes of inoculation;
- (g) prescribing the period on the expiration of which reinoculation may be required.

12. (1) If the Commissioner shall by order so declare, the provisions of this Law shall apply, mutatis mutandis, in relation to any disease specified in the order, being an infectious disease as defined in the Public Health Law, as they apply in relation to yellow fever

Provision for
application of
Law to any
infectious
disease (Cap
103).

(2) An order made under subsection (1) of this section shall be laid before the State Houses Assembly at the next meeting thereof after the making of the order. and if a resolution disapproving it is passed by the House before which the order has been laid, the order shall thereupon cease to have effect, but without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done by virtue of the order or to the making of a new order.