

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Public Health Service
Centers for Disease Control
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

DIVISION OF QUARANTINE CIRCULAR NO. 106 (REVISED)

TO : Officers in Charge, U.S. Quarantine Stations, State and
Territorial Health Officers, and Others Concerned

FROM : Director, Centers for Disease Control

SUBJECT: Distribution and Format of the Uniform Stamp for Validating
International Certificates of Vaccination

Quarantine Division Circular No. 106 (Revised) dated July 14, 1977, is hereby superseded.

INTRODUCTION

The Uniform Stamp was adopted by the Conference of State and Territorial Health Officers in October 1960, and its use was implemented in all States by 1965, to validate International Certificates of Vaccination against Smallpox and Cholera. Since September 1, 1977, the Uniform Stamp has also been used to validate International Certificates of Vaccination or Revaccination against Yellow Fever.

In the United States, all licensed physicians and those practicing under authority of a Federal agency are authorized to vaccinate international travelers. Yellow fever vaccine may be administered only at a designated Yellow Fever Vaccination Center. Smallpox has been deleted from the World Health Organization's International Health Regulations; smallpox vaccination should not be given.

The seals and stamps approved for validating International Certificates of Vaccination against Cholera and Yellow Fever in the United States are: 1) the seal of the Public Health Service, for vaccinations at PHS facilities; 2) the seal of the Department of State, for vaccinations at Department of State facilities; 3) the stamp of the Department of Defense, for vaccinations at military facilities; 4) The National Aeronautics and Space Administration stamp; and 5) The Uniform Stamp issued by State and Territorial Health Officers to health departments and physicians licensed by the State.

CONTROL MEASURES

1. The health officer or physician to whom a Uniform Stamp is issued for validation of International Certificates of Vaccination against Cholera and Yellow Fever should be fully knowledgeable concerning the procedures necessary for issuing a valid document. Written instructions with illustrations are included in "Health Information for International Travel" issued annually as a supplement to the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report.
2. The Uniform Stamp should be used to validate only those Certificates issued by the approved non-Federal physician or medical facility.
3. The Uniform Stamp should be kept in a safe place when not in use and must not be loaned.
4. Loss or theft of a Uniform Stamp must be reported immediately to the State or Territorial Health Officer, and to the Division of Quarantine, Center for Prevention Services, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, Georgia 30333.
5. Continued need for the possession of the Uniform Stamp should be reestablished periodically, preferably at least once each year.
6. The Division of Quarantine may sample travelers' International Certificates of Vaccination periodically at ports of entry. Improperly prepared Certificates bearing the Uniform Stamp will be returned to the Health Officer of the State or Territory in which they were issued.
7. Each State and Territory should maintain a listing of Uniform Stamp holders and corresponding identification codes. A duplicate listing should be filed with the Division of Quarantine.

FORMAT OF THE UNIFORM STAMP

The format of the Uniform Stamp is as follows:

Example:

OFFICIAL VACCINATION	Line 1 Official Vaccination
GEORGIA	Line 2 (State name)
10 089 10080	Line 3 (Identification code)
U. S. A.	Line 4 U. S. A.

The size of the stamp face should not exceed 5/8" x 1-1/4" due to the limitation of space provided for validation in the International Certificates of Vaccination.

IDENTIFICATION CODES

1. For stamps issued to State and Territorial and local Health Departments, the identification code shall consist of geographic location codes as specified in the latest edition of the IBM Reference Manual - Numerical Code for States, Counties and Cities in the United States. Guidelines for establishing a coding system are:

a. For stamps used within the State and Territorial Health Department, or issued to its field office(s), the code shall consist of the two digit State code followed by 000, followed by the code number for the city in which the office is located.

Example: Pennsylvania State Department of Health
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 37-000-1590

b. For stamps issued to county health departments, the identification code shall consist of the two digit State code, followed by a three digit county code, followed by the code number for the city in which the office is located. The four digit IBM code for cities will be preceded by the number 1.

Example: Allegheny Health Department
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 37-003-13040

c. For stamps issued to city health departments, the code shall consist of the State code, followed by the county code, followed by the city code, followed, if needed, by one or two digits indicating area office(s).

Example: Harrisburg Department of Health 37-043-1590-2

d. For stamps issued to health departments in cities which are not shown in the IBM code book, the State may add the names of the cities at the end of the State listing in the code book and assign city codes in the 8000 series, allowing a 10 digit spacing between assigned numbers.

Example: New Township, Allegheny County
Pennsylvania 37-003-8000

Newboro, Northumberland
County, Pennsylvania 37-097-8010

e. United States possessions and territories listed below are recognized by the following identification codes:

American Samoa	70
Guam	80
Puerto Rico	100
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands	120
Virgin Islands	130
Wake Island	140

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2. For a Uniform Stamp issued to a private or industrial physician, the identification code shall consist of the physician's State medical license number.

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