

Singapore, 12 November 2004

Appendix 1

A ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES GOVERNING TRAVELLERS BRINGING PERSONAL MEDICATIONS INTO SINGAPORE

The Health Sciences Authority has been the agency in Singapore, since it was formed in Year 2001, to issue letters of authorization to travellers travelling into or on transit in Singapore carrying personal medications containing controlled substances. The controlled substances consist of the narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances specified in the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 respectively, and any other substances that are controlled as controlled drugs in Singapore but are not controlled internationally. The scheme is also applicable to Schedule III items specified in the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961.

2 The letter of authorization is issued on request to the travellers as an administrative measure to track the controlled substances that is brought into Singapore for personal use by travellers. The travellers are permitted to bring a maximum of three months' supply of the controlled preparations when they arrive in Singapore, and exemption may be given on a case by case basis to patients who need more than 3 months' supply during travel.

3 The traveller will have to submit the following documents in order to apply for the letter of authorization:

- (a) A copy of the traveller's flight details and intended duration of stay in Singapore. Travellers who are in Singapore on transit will also have to apply for the letter of authorization to have controlled substances with them on transit;
- (b) The brand/proprietary name, active ingredients present in the medications (or generic/name), as well as the dose to be taken;
- (c) A letter from the traveller's attending physician certifying the need for the medications and the specific medical condition concern;
- (d) The total quantity of each medication that will be brought into Singapore; and
- (e) The traveller's address, contact and fax numbers

4 A suitably trained officer will assess the application submitted by the traveller to determine if the letter of authorization should be issued to the traveller. Travellers will not be allowed to bring controlled substances of unknown therapeutic use into Singapore. The officer will also assess if the dosage regime prescribed for the traveller is within recommended clinical practice for the intended therapeutic treatment. The letter of authorization issued, upon successful application, will consist of the following details:

- (a) Name and address of traveller;
- (b) Duration of stay in Singapore;
- (c) Name of preparation, and the active pharmaceutical ingredient(s) present in the preparation;
- (d) Total quantity of preparations that is allowed to be brought into Singapore; and
- (e) A statement specifying that it is illegal for the traveller to sell or supply the preparations while they are in Singapore or on transit

5 The traveller will have to declare all the medications that he has brought into Singapore upon arrival, and present the doctor's letter and the letter of authorization issued to him to the Customs officer.

6 The traveller will have to retain the documents throughout his visit and present them again at departure on request by the Customs officers. Any remaining quantities of medicine brought in should be taken out of Singapore in the original packing and with any dispensing label intact.

7 These information can also be found on the HSA website at <http://www.hsa.gov.sg/html/consumer/00000000000000001439.html>

8 ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES GOVERNING TRAVELLERS BRINGING PERSONAL MEDICATIONS OUT OF SINGAPORE

HSA currently does not have a formal system of tracking persons who bring personal medications containing controlled substances out of Singapore.