

SHIP SANITATION INSPECTIONS – FOCUS AND PRIORITIES 2021

City of Porvoo, Environmental Healthcare Department is local port health authority in charge of doing the sanitary inspection and issuing the sanitary certificates of the ships required by the International Health Regulations (IHR/2005). Inspections are carried out in the ports of

- **Kilpilahti/Skoldvik (FISKV)**
- **Tolkkinen (FITOK)**
- **Loviisa (FILOV)**

International Ship Sanitation Certificates are of particular importance for the prevention and control of public health risks on board ships on international voyages. According the IHR-regulations the operators shall facilitate the inspection. **All cases of illness that are indicative of an infectious disease, or evidence of a public health risk on board, must be reported by the ship's master to the competent authority at port before arrival by filling in the Maritime Declaration of Health MDH-form** (see PortNet and IHR Annex 8).

Request for Ship Sanitation Inspection is done by e-mail: ymparistoterveydenhuolto@porvoo.fi

Attachments:

- Name and Imo number of the vessel
- Previous Ship Sanitation Certificate SSCEC/SSCC (scanned copy)
- Any necessary additional information concerning especially the health status on board (eg. case of illness with high fever). When needed, also the Maritime Declaration of Health must be filled.

The role of the port health authority is to inspect the vessel and ascertain the sanitary condition of areas inspected and recommend and/or require corrective actions when applicable. The inspections are based on and follow the WHO Handbook for inspection of ships and issuance of ship sanitation certificates guidelines and codes.

The priorities agreed by the Porvoo port health authority for the 2020 audits are:

- **Area 2. Galley, pantry and service areas**
 - **Code 2.2.1 Dedicated hand-washing station in galley, equipped with instructions, liquid soap and disposable paper towels**
- **Area 3. Stores**
 - **Code 3.4.3 food stored at above the deck (15 cm) and protected from water entry / contamination**
- **Area 5 Hospital facilities**
 - **Code 5.1.1 hospital used only for medical purposes**
 - **Code 5.2.3 adequate sharps and biomedical collectors**
 - **Code 5.6.1 Medical Log Book available and entries up to date**
- **Area 7. Solid and medical waste**
 - **Code 7.1.1 garbage record book available and entries are up to date. Documents contain required disposal and incinerator information**
- **Area 9. Potable water**
 - **Code 9.1.1 valid water quality analysis - less than 1 year old (obs. national regulation: Report must be given by authorized laboratory and not more than 1 year old)**
 - **Code 9.14.5 Legionella prevention: cold water less than 25°C and hot tap water temperature 50 - 65°C**

Inspections are performed office days from 08:00 (8 am) to 16:00 (4 pm) local time. All inspections are subject to availability of resources and advance notice is required. Inspections outside the office hours and during public holidays must be agreed separately and additional charges apply.

Price for Ship sanitation Certificate

- **during the office hours (08:00 – 16:00)** **231 €**
- **outside office hours/public holidays** **462 €**

Ship Sanitation Control Exemption Certificate (SSCEC) is issued when no evidence of a public health risk is found on board and the competent authority is satisfied that the ship is free from infection and contamination, including vectors and reservoirs.

Ship Sanitation Control Certificate (SSCC) is issued when evidence of public health risk, including sources of infection and contamination, is detected on board and the required control measures have been satisfactorily completed.

SSCECs and SSCCs are valid for maximum of six months. This period may be extended by one month when the inspection cannot be accomplished at the port in question. Extension must be issued always by competent local port health authority.

Contact info:

a) Porth Health authority / City of Porvoo - Environmental Health Care

E-mail: ymparistoterveydenhuolto@porvoo.fi

Web page: <https://www.porvoo.fi/ship-sanitation-1>

b) International Health Regulations IHR 2005 (Maritime Declaration of Health - MDH annex 8)

Free download: <http://www.who.int/ihr/publications/9789241596664/en/>

c) WHO Handbook for inspection of ships and issuance of ship sanitation certificates

(Includes information about Codes of area)

Free download:

[Handbook for the inspection of ships and issuance of ship sanitation certificates \(who.int\)](#)

WHO Handbook available in **English, Estonian, French, German, Russian, Spanish and Turkish**

d) List of the official WHO ports authorized to issue SSCEC/SSCC certificates:

[IHR POE List \(who.int\)](#)