

### For further information, contact:

#### Ministry of Health and Social Development

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# Immigration Medical Examinations Work Permit Applicants



## **INTRODUCTION:**

The purpose of the Immigration Medical Examination is to verify that in accordance with Schedule 4 (Regulations(2))b of the Immigration and Passport Regulations revision date 30 June, 2013, the person is deemed free of any contagion or infectious disease which makes entry in to the Virgin Islands dangerous to the community. For this purpose, the Ministry of Health requires that person be certified free from the following communicable diseases as identified by the International Health Regulations 2005:

- 1. Tuberculosis
- 2. Acute febrile illness including:
  - a) Yellow Fever
  - b) Malaria
  - c) West Nile Virus
  - d) Plague
  - e) Viral Haemorrhagic Fever

Information on chronic conditions is also collected by the examining physician for the purpose of adequate referral.

Persons requiring the Immigration Medical Examination can opt to have it done in their current country of residence using the form provided or upon entry into the BVI. If medical

examinations are completed overseas, the form needs to be reviewed and verified by any physician registered in the Virgin Islands who will then complete the relevant certificate for forwarding to the Chief Immigration Officer.

#### The Medical Examination:

Normally, persons under the age of 15 are not required to undergo chest x-rays or blood tests but they must undergo a general physical examination and any necessary vaccination. The medical examination will include a medical history, physical examination, chest x-ray, and where appropriate, blood tests.

The physical examination will include at a minimum, examination of the eyes, ears, nose, throat, extremities, heart, lungs, abdomen, lymph nodes and skin. The physician will also be required to document medical history. The applicant should therefore discuss their medical history, current conditions, or any other conditions, as well as any medicines being taken.

The immigrant medical examination is intended to screen for certain medical conditions and should not be considered a complete physical examination or be considered to take the place of a complete physical examination. During the physical examination, if health issues are found that require follow up, these are not part of the immigration medical examination and may be subject to additional costs.

#### Medical Conditions and History:

#### Mental Issues:

If you have mental or learning disabilities, you must provide an outline of your problems and any special arrangements for education or supervision to facilitate adequate referral.

A history of harmful or violent behavior resulting in injury to self, other persons, animals or property must be reported and additional information provided. Where this behavior is related to any psychiatric, medical drug or alcohol related problem, it must also be reported.

A history of hospitalisation for any psychiatric, mental health, or substance abuse problems must also be reported and information provided.

#### **Tuberculosis:**

If you have ever been treated for or suffered from any form of tuberculosis, you must provide additional information certifying that you have received a full course of treatment including which drugs were used and for how long.

You should provide copies of any previous medical reports, including x-ray reports and films to compare with x-rays that will be taken as part of the immigrant medical examination.

#### **Chronic Medical Conditions:**

If you are currently taking treatment for any chronic medical conditions, you should be prepared to provide the physician with detailed information and the names of current medications you are taking. If you are not sure, it is advised that you obtain a report from your current physician to take to the examining physician.



