

CORRESPONDENT'S ADVICE

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

27 MAY 2021

Coronavirus, COVID-19

The following information was received from our correspondent on 27 May:

QUOTE

Since March of 2020 Trinidad has taken quite stringent measure to combat the spread of covid and the borders of Trinidad and Tobago are closed and it requires the specific approval of the Minister and national security for anyone to enter and leave Trinidad. As such crews are not permitted to leave their vessels and normal crew changes can not be done in Trinidad with very specific approved exceptions. I can be contacted for any specific guidance on this.

The effect of this predominately relates to medical attention for crew members requiring medical attention. In minor instances we have been able to get approval for treatment on board and in some cases virtual treatment of crew. Crew may only seek medical treatment ashore in the case of medical emergencies and it has to be arranged with the approval of the ministry of health so this can result in time critical delays.

Covid related crew illnesses will result in the vessel being quarantined for possibly extended periods.

At present the condition is very severe as Trinidad is experiencing a severe outbreak of the covid virus resulting in the hospital system being overwhelmed and Trinidad is currently in a state of emergency which includes curfew times.

UNQUOTE

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