

Appendix 3: Occupational Diver Medical Assessment Questionnaire

Occupational divers in New Zealand must undergo a full diving medical examination (using NZ Occupational Diving Examination — Examination Findings) every 5 years, or as determined by the Diving Medical Consultant (DMC). The full diving medical examination will be carried out by a Designated Diving Doctor (DDD), the completed medical examination results must be forwarded to Diving Hyperbaric Medicine Services immediately. If the applicant is deemed fit to dive, a medical clearance certificate will be issued by the DMC. If not, the DMC will request further evaluation by an appropriate medical specialist.

During the interim four-year period, an Occupational Diver Medical Assessment Questionnaire is to be completed **annually** by the diver. This is to ensure that a continuous record of the diver's medical history is maintained. This questionnaire is part of the medical assessment of fitness for occupational diving. It is regarded as an acceptable assessment by the Health and Safety Service of the Department of Labour for medical clearance of occupational divers working in New Zealand **provided a full medical examination is completed every 5 years (or as determined by the DMC)**. This meets the requirement of AS/NZS 2299 Part 1 2007 as well as the Health and Safety in Employment Regulations (regulation 49).

Once completed, this questionnaire (and examination if completed) must be mailed to the **Diving Hyperbaric Medicine Services, PO Box 32139, Devonport, Auckland. Fax: (09) 445 5941. email: divemeds@gmail.com** together with a cheque for the processing fee of \$- 5.00. Cheques should be made payable to "Diving Hyperbaric Medicine Services". All assessments will be processed within 10 working days and if the applicant is deemed fit to dive, a medical clearance will be issued to the diver at their last recorded address. Any queries about this process should be in writing to the above postal address, or emailed to, **d.gorman@auckland.ac.nz** or **divemeds@gmail.com**.

The full medical shall be completed in the year of application for a certificate of competency, or renewal of a certificate of competency, to ensure those medical records and certificates of competency records are aligned with each other. A medical clearance (within the last six months) will need to be produced at the time of applying for a certificate of competency.

Where a diver suffers an accident, illness, a change of medication, or any medical circumstance which is likely to affect their medical fitness to dive, a new **full** medical assessment must be completed prior to recommencing work.

Diving Hyperbaric Medicine Services may also consider an appropriate medical clearance obtained overseas as part of this process. This should be discussed directly with Diving Hyperbaric Medicine Services by email divemeds@gmail.com.

Diving Hyperbaric Medicine Services will endeavour to send out a medical clearance within 10 working days of receipt to the diver if deemed fit to dive. If not, the DMC will refer the applicant to a DDD for further medical investigations.

Surname: _____ Usual Diving Doctor: _____

First names: _____ Usual Family Doctor: _____

Postal Address: _____ Usual Employer: _____

_____ E-mail Address: _____

Phone No: _____ Fax No: _____

Date of birth: ____ / ____ / ____

Diver occupation: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Please answer the following questions with 'yes' or 'no' (in most cases) in PEN

1. How many compressed gas underwater dives have you made in the last year?
 Beyond 30 metres? Using mixed gases?
 Using: Nitrox Heliox Trimix Other
2. For how many years have you engaged in compressed gas diving?
3. Have you had any health problems that are related to underwater diving (including decompression illness)?
 If yes, please provide details (including dates, treatment received and location of any treatment facilities):

4. Have you had or do you have any physical, psychological (e.g. fears of confined spaces or water) or mental health conditions that may affect your ability to undertake compressed gas underwater diving?
 If yes, please provide details:

5. Have you been hospitalised (including mental health facilities)?
 If yes, please provide details (including operation):

6. In the past 12 months have you had :
 Chest X-ray? Lung function test?
 Challenge tests for asthma? Hearing tests?
 If yes, please provide details (including why the tests were done):

7. Are you taking any medication on a regular or occasional basis?
 If yes, please provide details:

8. Are you allergic to any agents, drugs or substances?
 If yes, please provide details:

9. What other occupations or sports do you take part in?

10. *(Females only)* Are you or may you be pregnant?
11. Do you or have you had asthma? No / Rarely / Often
 If yes, please provide details:

12. Do you experience any breathlessness, chest pain or tightness, or wheeze or cough during exercise or at night?
- If yes, please provide details:
-
-
-
13. Have you had any problems with your eyes (difficulty seeing clearly or distinguishing between colours)?
- If yes, please provide details:
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-
-
14. Have you had any problems with ringing in your ears (tinnitus) or with a sense of spinning (either you spinning around or the sense of the room spinning around you)? No / Rarely / Often
15. Have you had any neck, back, bone or joint problems?
- If yes, please provide details:
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-
-
16. Do you or have you experienced numbness and tingling and/or weakness or heaviness in your limbs after diving?
- If yes, please provide details:
-
-
-
17. Do you or have you experienced any form of recurring headaches?
- If yes, please provide details:
-
-
-
18. Do you or have you experienced any form of fits, fainting, turns, epilepsy or convulsion? No / Rarely / Often
- If yes, please provide details:
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-
-
19. Do you or have you experienced any difficulty with your ears when diving or flying?
- If so, please provide details:
-
-
-
20. Do you or have you experienced any form of chronic sinusitis?
- If yes, please provide details:
-
-
-
21. Do you or have you ever suffered any problems with hearing?
- If yes, please provide details:
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-
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22. Do you or have you experienced any state of confusion or impaired conscious level?
If yes, please provide details:

23. Have you ever suffered from a head injury which caused you to lose consciousness?
If yes, please provide details:

24. Do you have diabetes mellitus?
If yes, please provide details, especially noting the medication that you take and if you have had any reactions or unwanted outcomes from this medicine.

25. Have you had any blood or urine tests for sugar?
If yes, please provide details:

26. Do you experience ankle swelling?
If yes, please provide details:

27. Have you experienced unusual beating sensations (palpitations) in your chest?
If yes, please provide details:

28. Have you suffered any heart disease or blood pressure problem?
If yes, please provide details:

29. Have you suffered any bone fractures or joint injuries/disease?
If yes, please provide details:

30. Have you recently had any form of tooth pain related to diving?
If yes, please provide details:

31. Do you or have you had an illness which affects your nervous system (brain and/or nerves)?
If yes, please provide details:

32. Do you have any conditions affecting your blood in any way (e.g. anaemia, problems with clotting, or haemoglobin disorders)?

If yes, please provide details:

33. Do you currently smoke? If so, how many cigarettes/day?

Have you ever smoked? If so, how many years did you smoke for?

How many years since you stopped?

34. Do you or have you suffered from any form of respiratory illness (e.g. pleurisy, coughing up blood), or injury (e.g. collapsed lung — pneumothorax) or infection (e.g. pneumonia or TB)?

If yes, please provide details:

35. Have you undergone any surgery which involved your chest?

If yes, please provide details:

36. Do you suffer sea sickness

If yes, do you ever take medication for the problem?

If yes, please provide details:

37. Approximately how many standard-sized alcoholic drinks do you consume per week?

0-10 11-20 21-30 more than 30

38. Do you currently use, or have you in the past 6 months used recreational drugs?

If yes, please provide details:

39. Are there any other medical details that affect your diving?

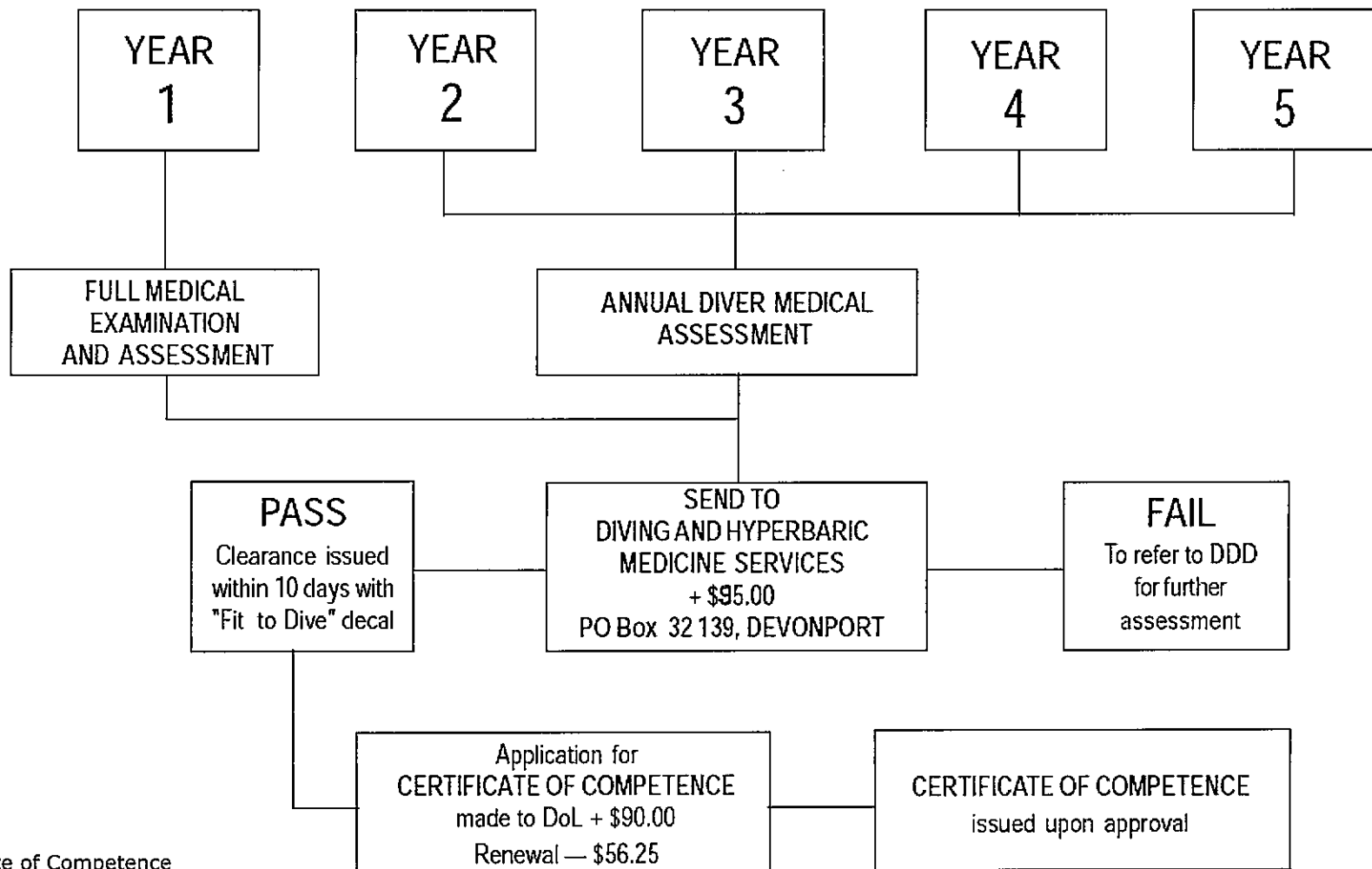
If yes, please provide details:

CONSENT: I understand that access to data contained in my individual occupational diver's medical record is restricted to myself and authorised Department of Labour and medical personnel. I also understand that this data may be used, once de-identified, for research which is specifically designed to detect any increased occupational risks and which has been approved by an accredited ethics committee. I have the right to know the results of any such research. Any other individual or organisation seeking access to my individual details must first provide the Department of Labour with written proof of my approval.

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the above details are true and correct. I also understand my employer and I are required to inform the Department of Labour and a NZ Registered Designated Diving Doctor of any accident or illness that may affect my Diving Fitness. (Refer 3.1 of the Guidelines for Occupational Diving)

Signed: _____ Date: ___ / ___ / ____



COC: Certificate of Competence

DDD: Designated Diving Doctor

Diving Hyperbaric Medicine Services: PO Box 32 139, Devonport , Auckland.

Fax: (09) 445 5941. email: divemeds@gmail.com

DoL: The National Diving Co-ordinator, Workplace Health and Safety,

Department of Labour, Level 3 Westpac Building, 430 Victoria Street,

P.O. Box 19217, Hamilton

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