

هيئة الصحة - أبوظبي  
HEALTH AUTHORITY - ABU DHABI



**Book 3:  
Practice of Human Medicine /  
Private Health Facilities /  
Practice of some Medical  
Professions by Persons other  
than Physicians and Pharmacists**

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Book 3: Practice of Human Medicine /  
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**Federal Law No (7) of 1975 Concerning  
the Practice of Human Medicine**

**Federal Law No (2) of 1996 Concerning  
Private Health Facilities**

**Federal Law No (5) of 1984 Concerning  
the Practice of some Medical  
Professions by Persons other  
than Physicians and Pharmacists**



**Federal Law No (7) of 1975  
Concerning the Practice of  
Human Medicine**

# Federal Law No (7) of 1975 Concerning the Practice of Human Medicine

We, Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates,

Upon consideration of the Provisional Constitution,

And Federal Law No. (1) of 1972, concerning the Jurisdictions of Ministries and the Powers of Ministers, as amended,

And based upon the proposal of the Minister of Health, the approval of the Cabinet and the Federal National Council, and the ratification of the Supreme Council of the Federation,

Have promulgated the following Law:

## Chapter One Licensing and Registration of Physicians

### Article 1

No person shall practise the profession of human medicine in companies, clinics, private hospitals, or private establishments or facilities in the United Arab Emirates unless he is licensed to practise this profession by, and is registered with, the Ministry of Health in accordance with this Law.

A decision of the Minister of Health shall specify what is purported by the human medicine profession.

## Article 2

The applicant for the license to practice the profession of human medicine shall be a doctor who holds a Bachelor of Medicine (Bsc(bachelor's degree)) from one of the faculties of medicine, in the Arab or foreign countries, recognized by the state of that faculty. Furthermore, it is required that he had the training year (internship) or what equals it after getting that degree.

If the applicant is not a citizen of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) who requested to be licensed to practicing the profession as a general practitioner, in addition to the provisions mentioned in the above paragraph, he shall have practiced the human medicine profession for a period not less than two years after the training year (the internship) or its equivalent.

## Article 3

The application for a licence to practise the profession of human medicine shall be submitted to the Ministry of Health accompanied by the following documents:

1. Original copies of the academic certificates attained by the applicant or an official document confirming attainment thereof with a certified translation into Arabic if the certificates or documents are issued in a foreign language.

These certificates shall be attested by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the country where the applicant obtained the certificate or the document, and by the UAE diplomatic or consular missions in that country, if any.

2. An official document attested by the competent authorities confirming the applicant's date of birth and nationality.
3. A certificate from the authorities of the country where the applicant worked prior to applying for a licence, confirming that he is of good conduct and that no criminal judgment has been previously passed against him due to a crime of misconduct or breach of trust, or barring him from practising the profession. This certificate shall be attested by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the country where the doctor obtained it and also by the UAE diplomatic or consular missions in that country, if any.
4. An official document certified by the competent authorities confirming that the applicant has practised the profession of human medicine for a period of not less than two years after completing the training year (internship year) or equivalent if the applicant is a non-UAE national and has applied for a licence to practise the profession as a general practitioner; if the applicant desires to be registered as a specialist physician in one of the medical disciplines, he shall meet the requirements that are specified by a decision of the Minister of Health.
5. A certificate confirming the applicant's health fitness to practise the profession, issued by a committee comprising three native UAE nationals and formed by a decision of the Minister of Health.
6. Three photos for the applicant, size 4x6.

## Article 4

There shall be established at the Ministry of Health a committee called the "Medical Licensing Committee". It will be chaired by the undersecretary of the Ministry of Health and shall comprise the following:

1. Director of Curative Medicine, Ministry of Health.
2. Director of Preventive Medicine, Ministry of Health.
3. Head of Medical Licensing Section, Ministry of Health.
4. A legal advisor from the Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs to be nominated by the Minister of Justice.

The Minister of Health shall issue a decision forming the committee and determining the compensation of its members. This committee shall examine the applications for licences to practise the profession and, as such, shall take all necessary measures to verify the authenticity of the documents enclosed with the application, assess the applicant's certificates and equate them with the certificates required for practising the profession, in accordance with the rules as specified by a decision of the Minister of Health.

The committee shall decide on the application for licence within forty five days from the date of its submission, and shall forward its recommendations to the Minister of Health. The Minister shall issue a decision to grant, or refuse to grant, a licence.



The Minister's decision to refuse to grant a licence shall be justified.

## Article 5

An applicant whose application is rejected may appeal to the Minister of Health within thirty days from the date that he is notified of the rejection. The decision of the Minister with regard to the appeal shall be final.

## Article 6

A register shall be established in the Ministry of Health to enter the names physicians who are licensed to practise the medical profession. This register shall be divided into the following:

1. A register of general practitioners
2. A register of specialist physicians

Entry in the register shall be effected after payment of the prescribed fee.

A decision shall be issued by the Minister of Health to organize the register and specify the data to be included therein.

## Article 7

The decision for licensing the practice of profession shall be handed over to those whose names are entered in the register of physicians at the Ministry. The Ministry shall periodically publish a list of the names of physicians registered with it, and any amendments thereto, as it deems appropriate.

## Article 8

If the physician becomes afflicted with an illness or a disability and, as a result, loses his health fitness to practise the profession, totally or partially, his licence shall be revoked or the duty assignments he is permitted to perform be limited commensurate with his health fitness, by a decision of the Minister of Health upon the recommendation of the committee provided for in clause (5) of article three.

Based upon the proposal of this committee, the Minister may modify his decision depending on the development of health condition of the physician.

## Chapter Two Laboratories, Clinics, and Private Hospitals

### Article 9

No medical labs for bacterial, chemical, organic, or food analysis or the like, as well as imaging, ionized isotopes, or physiotherapy clinics or private hospitals, may be established except with a licence from the Ministry of Health in accordance with the terms and conditions that shall be specified by a decision of the Minister of Health, provided that the person in-charge of the facility shall be a specialist in his field.

### Article 10

A decision shall be issued by the Minister of Health specifying the hygienic and technical conditions of the clinics of physicians. Every physician who is licensed to practise the profession in the United Arab Emirates and desires to establish a private clinic must notify

the Minister of Health, by registered mail, of the address of the clinic he has selected for his business prior to commencement of work.

The Ministry shall have the right not to permit the physician to practise his profession in that clinic if , after inspection, it is found that the clinic does not meet the hygienic and technical conditions, and can direct him to supplement deficiencies therein.

The provisions of this article shall apply everytime there is a change of the location of the clinic.

## Article 11

If the physician who owns the clinic leaves the United Arab Emirates for any period of time, he shall close down his clinic throughout the period of absence. He shall also notify the Ministry of Health accordingly and in writing, unless he has requested the ministry to license another physician who meets all conditions to work in his clinic during his absence, and the Ministry of Health has approved this request in writing.

## Chapter Three Duties and Responsibilities of a Physician

### Article 12

Every physician who is licensed to practise the profession shall discharge their duties with the accuracy and honesty dictated by the profession of medicine, and shall uphold the dignity and honor of the profession.

## Article 13

A physician may not disclose a private secret that becomes known to him due to the practising of the profession, whether entrusted to him by the patient or otherwise brought to his attention.

However, this prohibition shall not apply in the following cases:

1. If disclosure is upon the request of the concerned person.
2. If disclosure is in the interest of the husband or wife and is made to either one personally.
3. If disclosure is made in an attempt to prevent a crime, in which case disclosure shall be made to the appropriate authorities only.
4. If the physician is assigned by a life insurance provider to perform examinations on its clients, in which case disclosure shall be made to the concerned insurance provider only.

## Article 14

If a physician suspects that a patient has a communicable disease, he must inform the Ministry of Health within a maximum of twenty four hours so that appropriate preventive measures can be taken.

If a patient is suspected to have a disease requiring a quarantine, the patient's address should be verified and reported once the case is detected if it is not possible to detain the patient in the clinic.

The diseases that require quarantine are: plague, cholera, smallpox, typhus, yellow fever, intermittent fever and any other epidemic diseases requiring quarantine, as determined by a decision of the Minister of Health.

## Article 15

Without prejudice to the provisions of article (11) hereof, a physician licensed to practise the profession in the United Arab Emirates may not have more than one clinic and may not have a clinic in a pharmacy, a drug warehouse, a medical publicity office or in any place annexed to any of these places or connected thereto in any way.

## Article 16

A physician may not lodge patients in his clinic except in emergency care cases and where there are no government or private hospitals, provided that a patient's stay at the clinic in this case shall not exceed forty-eight hours, until he is transferred to

his home or to the nearest hospital.

## Article 17

A physician may not perform any surgical operation that requires giving a patient an anesthetic of any kind except after obtaining an authorization to do so from the Ministry of Health. The authorization shall not be given except after verifying that the capabilities required for performing such operations are available.

## Article 18

A physician may not sell medicines to patients except in emergency care cases. He also may not participate with an owner of a pharmacy, a drug warehouse or a publicity office in promoting medicines for personal benefit, or in directing patients to buy medicines from a specific pharmacy.

In no case may medical samples be sold.

## Article 19

A physician may not promote onself, directly or through others, or by any means of publication or publicity.

He may announce in the newspapers the location of his clinic, whether upon commencement of business thereat, or re-locating, or travelling or returning from a vacation which exceeds one month. The announcement shall be for a period not exceeding one week and in a manner devoid of any publicity.

## Article 20

A physician shall be prohibited from writing medical prescriptions using unfamiliar symbols or signs, or give a report or a certificate which is untrue.

## Article 21

A physician may not refrain from treating a patient or giving medical aid to an injured person unless his condition falls outside the physician's field of specialization. In such a case, the physician must give necessary first aid to the injured person and direct him to the nearest hospital, if he so desires.

## Article 22

A physician may not perform an abortion or prescribe anything that may induce an abortion. However, if a continuing pregnancy poses a risk to a pregnant woman's life, an abortion may be performed in this case under the following conditions:

a - Abortion shall be performed by a specialist gynecologist with the approval of another physician who is specialized in the cause of abortion.

b - A report shall be written by the concerned physicians indicating the cause of abortion. It shall be signed by the patient's husband or guardian as a proof of consent to the abortion procedure. Each of the concerned parties shall keep a copy of the report.

## Article 23

A physician shall be prohibited from performing any act contrary to mutual respect among members of the medical profession. In particular, no physician may degrade the dignity or scientific or moral stature of a colleague, or seek illegitimate means to replace him in treating a patient or in any act related to the profession.

## Article 24

If, for any reason, a physician feels that he has to stop treating a patient, he must give the patient a report of the information that he believes to be necessary for the continuation of treatment. A physician must, in the event of death of one of the patients under his care, notify the concerned medical authorities of the death and its causes, upon occurrence of death and his knowledge thereof. He shall give the successors at their request a certificate of the causes of death.

## Article 25

A physician shall not be responsible for the result of the treatment of a patient if it is found that he provided the necessary medical care and employed all means that are usually employed by an

ordinary person in his field in diagnosing the disease and prescribing treatment.

## Article 26

A physician shall be responsible in any of the following cases:

1. If he commits an error which results in harming a patient, and this error is due to his ignorance of technical matters that every physician is supposed to be familiar with, whether in terms of diagnosing a disease or prescribing the appropriate treatment.
2. If he commits an error which results in harming a patient, and this error is due to his negligence or refrainment from providing due care.
3. If he conducts on the patient scientific researches or experiments that are not technically approved and which result in harming the patient.

## Chapter Four Penalties

### Article 27

Without prejudice to any more severe punishment provided in the Penal Code or any another law, a confinement sentence for a period of not less than one year and not more than three years, and a fine of not less than one thousand Dirhams and not more than ten thousand Dirhams, or either of these penalties, shall be imposed on:



1. Any person not satisfying the legal requirements which qualify him to obtain a licence to practise the profession who practices any business falling under the banner of the human medical profession.
2. Any person who submits false documents or data, or seeks illegal ways which result in him being unrightfully granted a licence to practice the human medicine profession.
3. Any person not licensed to practise the human medicine profession who uses bulletins, posters or banners or any other means of publication thus leading the public to believe that he is entitled to practise the human medicine profession.
4. Any person not licensed to practise the human medicine profession who is found in possession of medical devices or equipment, unless it is proved that their existence is due to a venture other than the practice of the human medicine profession.

In all cases, the court shall order the closure of the clinic and the confiscation of tools, machines, and materials related to the practice of the profession.

The licence issued to the physician shall be deemed expired and his name deleted from the register of physicians as of the date of handing down the final judgment.

## Article 28

A fine of not less than one thousand Dirhams and not more than five thousand Dirhams shall be imposed on any person satisfying the legal conditions which qualify him to obtain a licence to

practice the profession who practises the profession before obtaining the licence.

The court, in this case, shall order the closure of the physician's clinic until he obtains the licence.

## Article 29

Subject to what is provided for in Article (22) of this Law, a confinement sentence for a period of not more than four years shall be imposed on every physician who deliberately proceeds to abort a pregnant woman by giving her medicines or using means leading to an abortion, or directing her to using such means, whether the abortion is or without her consent. If the abortion results in the death of the pregnant woman, the punishment shall be imprisonment for a period of not less than five years and not more than ten years.

In all cases, the court shall order the confiscation of all tools, machines and materials in the clinic that are related to the practice of the profession, and the closure of the clinic for a period equal to that of the sentence.

The foregoing provisions shall not prejudice the right of the committee provided for in Article (4) of this Law to withdraw the license granted to the physician to practise the profession and delete his name from the register of physicians.

## Article 30

Any other offense against the provisions of this Law shall be considered a disciplinary offense and shall be examined by the committee mentioned in Article (4) of this Law.

The disciplinary penalties that may be imposed on the offending physician are:

1. Reprimand
2. Warning
3. Suspension from work for a period not exceeding one year
4. Withdrawal of licence and deletion of name from the register of physicians.

The committee shall submit its decisions to the Minister of Health for approval. The committee's decisions shall not prejudice the criminal liability that may result from the offense.

## Chapter Five General Provisions

### Article 31

The Ministry of Health shall have the right to inspect the medical clinics, private hospitals, laboratories, and any other place where the medical profession is practised.

The employees assigned for this purpose by the Minister of Health shall have the status of judicial officers with regard to the offenses committed against this Law or its implementing decisions. In the course of performing their duties they may request the assistance of the police, if necessary.

### Article 32

Physicians, who had been licensed by the health or municipal departments in any of the member emirates of the Federation to

practise the human medicine profession prior to this law coming into force, shall continue to practise the profession provided that they shall submit to the Ministry of Health, within a maximum of three months from the date of this Law coming into force, the documents necessary for them to get registered and issued new licences.

If these documents are not submitted within the above cited period, the licences issued to them to practise the profession shall be deemed expired.

## Article 32 bis

The fees prescribed for issuing the licenses in accordance with the provisions of this Law shall be as follows:

1. Licence to practise human medicine and dentistry	
500 (Five hundred) Dirhams	Issuance of licence
250 (Two hundred fifty) Dirhams	Renewal of licence
2. Licence to open a private hospital	
- 50 beds or less	
5000 (Five thousand) Dirhams	Issuance of licence
2000 (Two thousand) Dirhams	Annual renewal of licence
- 51 to 100 beds	
8000 (Eight thousand) Dirhams	Issuance of licence
3000 (Three thousand) Dirhams	Annual renewal of licence
- Over 100 beds	
10000 (Ten thousand) Dirhams	Issuance of licence
5000 (Five thousand) Dirhams	Annual renewal of licence

3. Licence to open a private clinic

1000 (One thousand) Dirhams

Issuance of licence

500 (Five hundred) Dirhams

Annual renewal of  
licence

4. Licence to open a medical, imaging or dental laboratory

1000 (One thousand) Dirhams

Issuance of licence

500 (Five hundred) Dirhams

Annual renewal of  
licence

The cabinet, upon the proposal of the Minister of Health, can amend the fees prescribed under this article. If the amendment is to increase these fees, then the amendment shall not exceed 50% of the said fees.

## Article 33

The Minister of Health shall implement this Law and shall issue the necessary implementing regulations and decisions.

## Article 34

Any provision contrary to this Law is repealed.

## Article 35

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force thirty days after the date of its publication.

## Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan President of the United Arab Emirates

Issued by Us at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi

Date: 16 Shawwal , 1395 Hijri

Corresponding to: 21/10/1975

**Federal Law No (2) of 1996  
Concerning Private Health Facilities**

## Federal Law No (2) of 1996 Concerning Private Health Facilities

We, Zayed Bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates,

Upon consideration of the Provisional Constitution,

And Federal Law No (1) of 1972, concerning the Jurisdictions of Ministries and the powers of Ministers, as amended,

And Federal Law No. (7) of 1975, concerning the Practice of Human Medicine, as amended by Federal Law No. (4) of 1981,

And based upon the proposal of the Minister of Health, the approval of the Cabinet, and the ratification of the Supreme Council of the Federation,

Have promulgated the following Law:

### Article 1

In applying the provisions of this Law, the following words and expressions shall have the definitions set forth opposite each one, unless the context requires otherwise:

State	: The United Arab Emirates
Ministry	: The Ministry of Health
Minister	: The Minister of Health
Concerned Authority	: The Concerned Directorate at the Ministry

Medical Licensing Committee	: The Medical Licensing Committee mentioned in Law No. (7) of 1975 concerning the practising of the human medicine profession
Clinic	: A place established by a licence from the Concerned Authority to receive patients and provide them with health care; it shall be attended by one human medicine physician or dentist who are licensed to practise the profession
Public Clinic	: The Clinic where one or more of the general practitioners or physicians receive patients and provide them with the required health care
Specialized Clinic	: The Clinic where one or more specialist physicians, in one medical specialization, primarily work
Polyclinic	: The clinic where more than one specialist physician, in different medical specializations, primarily work
Hospital	: The medical facility established by licence from the Concerned Authority to receive patients, perform the medical examinations on them, treat them and have them stay during treatment
Convalescent Home	: The medical facility established by a licence from the Concerned Authority to receive patients and have them stay for recuperating after treatment
Testing Centers	: Laboratories, Imaging centres and other



Rehabilitation Centres : Dental manufacturing and fitting workshops; optic,audiology and phoniatics centres; physiotherapy centres; prosthetics manufacturing and fitting workshops etc.

## Article 2

The provisions of this Law shall apply to all private medical facilities operate within the State.

There shall be considered a private medical facility every place designated for performing medical examinations on patients, diagnosing their diseases, treating or nursing them, admitting them for convalescence , or assuming any activity related to treatment or to rehabilitation after treatment, whether it is owned or managed by natural or juridical persons.

## Article 3

No natural or juridical person may establish, operate, or manage any private medical facility within the State except after obtaining a licence from the Concerned Authority in accordance with this Law.

## Article 4

No person other than UAE nationals may be granted a licence to establish or operate public clinics, polyclinics, or hospitals.

## Article 5

In partnership with a UAE national partner, non-UAE national physicians who have previously worked in the field of health services within the State for at least five years in the case of specialists, and at least two years in the case of consultants, may be licensed to establish Specialized Clinics. In this case, the physician granted the license must practise the profession himself.

## Article 6

A person who runs a private medical facility shall be a physician licensed to practise the profession of medicine in the State. However, the management of the Hospital, Polyclinic or Convalescent Home may be assigned to an administrator who is specialized in hospital administration. Also, the management of the Convalescent Home may be assigned to an experienced person in this field.

The management of laboratories, imaging centres, dental manufacturing and fitting workshops, optical centres, prosthetics fitting workshops and other testing and rehabilitation centres may be assigned to a technician with a high qualification in the same specialization and licensed by the Concerned Authority to practise the profession.

## Article 7

If the manager of the private medical facility resigns from his job or is absent for more than two weeks, the owner of the facility shall assign another person to replace the absent manager. He shall notify the Concerned Authority of the name of the new manager within two weeks from the date of absence of the former manager, otherwise the facility may be closed temporarily until

such time as a new manager is appointed.

If , for a period of over two months, a new manager for the private health facility is not appointed nor a person assigned to replace the absent manager during his absence, the Minister of Health, upon the proposal of the Concerned Authority, may issue a decision to revoke the licence of the facility.

## Article 8

The technical and health requirements and the licensing procedures for establishing, operating, or managing the private medical facility shall be determined by a decision of the Minister of Health upon the proposal of the Concerned Authority.

## Article 9

The Medical Licensing Committee shall be competent to decide on the applications for the licensing, operation, or management of the private medical facilities.

The Committee shall decide on the licence application within sixty days from the date of its submission. If the Committee decides to refuse to grant the licence, its decision must be justified.

The decisions of the Medical Licensing Committee shall be approved by the Minister or his designee.

The applicant or his legal representative shall receive a copy of the decision granting a licence, once approved.

## Article 10

Any person having an interest in the case may appeal the decision to deny a licence to establish, operate, or manage a private medical facility.

The appeal shall be submitted to the Minister ,in writing, within thirty days from the date that the denial decision is delivered, and the Minister's decision on the appeal shall be final.

## Article 11

The licence to establish, operate, or manage the Clinics and the Testing and Rehabilitation Centres shall be for a term of one year. It may be renewed for similar terms upon the request of the concerned party. The renewal application shall be submitted to the Competent Authority at least one month before the expiry of the licence.

The licence to establish or operate the Hospitals and Convalescent Homes shall be for a term of five years. It may be renewed for similar terms upon the request of the concerned party. The renewal application shall be submitted to the Competent Authority at least six months before the expiry of the licence.

## Article 12

There shall be kept at the Ministry a special register for registering the private health facilities. The licensing applications shall be entered in this register by serial number and submission date. The private health facilities licensed to operate within the State shall also be entered in this special register together with any amendments thereto. a decision of the Minister upon the proposal of the Competent Authority.

The register and the date contained therein shall be regulated by a decision of the Minister upon the proposal of the Competent Authority.

## Article 13

The licence to establish the health facility shall be considered expired by force of law in any of the following cases:

1. The facility's ownership is transferred to a person other than in whose name the licence was issued.
2. The facility remains closed for a period of six consecutive months without an excuse acceptable to the Medical Licensing Committee.
3. The facility fails to commence its activity after the elapse of over six months from the date of licensing.
4. Dissolution of the organization or assembly or liquidation of the company to whom the licence was issued.

## Article 14

The private health facility may not be moved to another location, nor its plan, based on which the licence was issued, changed except after the approval of the Competent Authority.

## Article 15

The Medical Licensing Committee shall be competent to examine the occurrences which constitute offenses against the provisions of this Law and its implementing decisions.

The Committee shall notify the offender, whether it be the owner of the private health facility or its manager or the person responsible for its operation, to appear before it, at least three days prior to the Committee's meeting.

The notice shall include a statement of the offenses, subject of examination. The offender must appear before the Committee on the specified date. If, despite the notice, the offender fails to appear before the Committee, the Committee shall have a right to decide on the offense in his absence.

## Article 16

Without prejudice to the criminal liability resulting from the same occurrence, subject of offense, the Medical Licensing Committee may impose on the facility manager or the person responsible for its operation, one of the following disciplinary punishments:

- Warning
- Suspension from work for a period not exceeding one year
- Revocation of the licence

The Committee may impose on the private health facility owner one of the following disciplinary punishments:

1. Warning
2. Closure of the facility for a period not exceeding sixty days. If the offense is repeated, the facility may be shut down for periods of not more than a total of six months in a year.
3. Revocation of the facility licence.

None of the disciplinary punishments provided in this Article may be imposed except after the offender is questioned and his

defense made. If he fails to attend or if he attends without making a defense, the punishment may be imposed based on the papers, and the Committee shall submit its decision on the punishment to the Minister for approval.

## Article 17

The person aggrieved by a disciplinary decision may appeal the decision of the Medical Licensing Committee within fifteen days from the date the decision is delivered to him.

The appeal shall be submitted to the Minister, who shall issue his decision thereon within thirty days from the date of submission, and his decision in this regard shall be final.

In all cases, punishments involving suspension from work, closure of facility or revocation of licence may not be imposed before the expiry of the period prescribed for submitting the appeal or deciding on it, as the case may be.

## Article 18

The Medical Licensing Committee may, if it finds that the ongoing operation of the health facility will result in a gross harm, issue a decision ordering a precautionary shutdown of the facility until such time as a final decision is made concerning the criminal liability of its owner.

The decision for shutdown must be approved by the Minister, and shall be enforced upon approval.

The facility owner and any person having an interest in the case may appeal this decision to the Minister of Health. The appeal

shall be examined and resolved on an urgent basis within a maximum of one week from the date of its submission.

## Article 19

The Minister of Justice, in agreement with the Minister of Health, shall issue a decision designating the Ministry's employees who shall have the status of judicial officers in the area of inspecting the private health facilities to verify their compliance with the provisions of this Law and its implementing decisions.

The local authorities in the Emirates and the owners of the health facilities or their designees and the managers of these facilities shall afford these inspectors all assistance to enable them to carry out their duty, including the review of the registers, documents, and the data as deemed necessary.

The Ministry's employees who are designated as judicial officers shall be authorized to enter any private health facility or any place suspected to be practising any medical activity without a licence. They shall investigate all offenses against this law, and refer the offenders to the competent authorities in accordance with the applicable procedures in the State.

## Article 20

Without prejudice to any more severe punishment provided in another law, a confinement sentence for a period of not less than six months and not more than two years, and a fine of not less than ten thousand Dirhams, or either of these penalties, shall be imposed on:



1. Any person who establishes, operates, or manages a private health facility before obtaining a licence from the Competent Authority.
2. Any person who operates a private health facility, which is shut down by a judicial or administrative decision of the Competent Authority, before the causes of shutdown have ceased.
3. Any person who submits false documents or data, or seeks illegal ways which result in him being granted a licence to establish, operate, or manage a private health facility.

## Article 21

A confinement sentence for a period of not less than one month and not more than one year , and a fine of not less than five thousand Dirhams , or either of these penalties, shall be imposed on any person who commits an offense against this Law or its implementing decisions not falling under article (20) herein, without prejudice to any more severe punishment provided in another law.

The court may, in addition to the prescribed punishment, rule to shut down the facility or revoke the licence, as the case may be.

## Article 22

No license may be granted to establish, operate, or manage a private health facility, or renew or amend the licence or make entries in the register of the private health facility reflecting any amendments thereto or producing record statements, except after payment of the prescribed fees.

The fees shall be determined by a Cabinet decision upon the proposal of the Minister.

## Article 23

Prior to commencing its activity, each private health facility shall develop a bylaw of its work system in accordance with the rules, conditions, and data issued by a decision of the Minister upon the proposal of the Competent Authority.

## Article 24

Each private health facility shall keep at its headquarters at least one copy of the following documents:

1. Facility licence
2. Facility structural plans and data
3. Facility bylaw

## Article 25

The obtaining of licences under this Law shall not exempt from obtaining other licences as required by applicable federal and local laws, regulations and rules.

## Article 26

All private health facilities existing in the State shall adjust their status in accordance with this Law within a period not exceeding one year from the date of it coming into force.

## Article 27

All competent authorities, each within its jurisdiction, shall cooperate in the enforcement of the final disciplinary decisions issued under this Law.

## Article 28

Any provision contrary to, or inconsistent with, this Law is repealed.

## Article 29

The Minister shall issue the required decisions for the implementation of this Law.

## Article 30

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force on the day that it is published.

**Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan**  
**President of the United Arab Emirates**

Issued by Us at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi  
Date: 28 Shawwal , 1416 Hijri  
Corresponding to: March 18, 1995

**Federal Law No (5) of 1984 Concerning  
the Practice of some Medical  
Professions by persons other than  
Physicians and Pharmacists**

# Federal Law No (5) of 1984 Concerning the Practice of some Medical Professions by persons other than Physicians and Pharmacists

We, Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, President of the United Arab Emirates,

Upon consideration of the provisional constitution,

And Federal Law No. (1) of 1972 , concerning the Jurisdictions of Ministries and the Powers of Ministers, as amended,

And Federal Law No. (5) of 1974, concerning the practice of the Pharmaceutical Profession and the Trading in Medicines,

And Federal Law No. (7) of 1975, concerning the Practice of Human Medicine, as amended by Federal Law No. (4) of 1981,

And based upon the proposal of the Minister of Health, the approval of the Cabinet and the Federal National Council and the ratification of the Supreme Council of the Federation,

Have Promulgated the following Law:

## Article 1

In this Law, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings set forth opposite each one:

Ministry : The Ministry of Health  
Minister : The Minister of Health

Medical Profession or Professions Committee : The medical Profession or professions listed in the table attached hereto  
: The committee provided for in Article (5) of this Law

Licence : The licence to practise a medical profession issued in accordance with this Law

## Article 2

Subject to the provisions of the above cited Federal Law No. (7) of 1975, concerning the Practice of Human Medicine, and Federal Law No. (5) of 1974, concerning the Practice of the Pharmaceutical Profession and the Trading in Medications, no person other than the physicians and pharmacists shall practise any medical profession except after obtaining a licence in accordance with this Law.

## Article 3

The medical professions that persons, other than physicians and pharmacists, may practise are the ones listed in the table attached hereto.

The Minister of Health shall issue a decision specifying the qualifications and conditions required for obtaining a licence to practise each profession, together with the duties and responsibilities which a licensee must comply with.

## Article 4

The application for licensing shall be submitted to the Committee, and shall enclose the following documents:

1. Original academic certificates of the applicant or an official document confirming attainment of these certificates with certified translation into Arabic if the certificates are issued in a foreign language. These certificates shall be attested by the ministry of foreign affairs in the issuing country, or by the UAE diplomatic or consular office, if any.
2. Attested certificate of previous experiences for non UAE nationals.
3. Official document certified by the competent authorities confirming the applicant's birth date.
4. Certificate of good conduct.
5. Certificate confirming that no final criminal judgment has been previously passed against the applicant due to a crime of misconduct or breach of trust, unless he has been rehabilitated or pardoned by the appropriate authorities.
6. Certificate confirming the applicant's physical fitness to practise the medical profession applied for, issued by a medical board appointed by a decision of the Minister.
7. Certificate confirming the applicant's nationality or a copy of his passport with three photographs, size 4x6 cm.
8. Any other documents as determined by a decision of the Minister.

## Article 5

A committee shall be appointed by a decision of the Minister to

examine the licence applications and perform the other responsibilities under this law. The decision shall specify the operating procedures of the committee.

The committee shall take the necessary measures to verify the authenticity of the documents submitted by the applicant, assess academic certificates and equalize them with the required certificates. The committee shall also take whatever measures to ensure that the applicant is competent to practise the medical profession for which he is being licensed, all in accordance with the rules determined by a decision of the Minister.

## Article 6

The committee shall decide on the licence application and submit its respective recommendations to the Minister within thirty days from the date of submission of application.

The Minister shall issue a decision to grant, or refuse to grant, a licence. The decision to refuse to grant a licence shall be justified. The committee shall notify the applicant of the Minister's decision by a registered mail.

## Article 7

An applicant whose application is rejected may appeal to the Minister within thirty days from the date that he is notified of the rejection by the committee. The decision of the Minister with regard to the appeal shall be final.

## Article 8

A register shall be established in the Ministry to enter the names



of persons, other than physicians and pharmacists, who are licensed to practise the medical professions. The register shall include the following licensee data:

1. Entry number in the register.
2. Name and nationality.
3. Medical profession he is licensed to practice.
4. Academic qualifications and dates of attainment.
5. Details of previous experience.
6. Number and date of Minister's decision granting the licence.
7. Place where the licensed profession is practised.
8. Place of residence.
9. Any other data as specified by a decision of the Minister.

Entry in the register shall be effected after payment of a fee as specified by a decision of the Minister, which shall not exceed two hundred (200) dirhams, and equal fee for annual renewal.

## Article 9

The decision for licensing shall be handed over to the applicant after completion of registration in the register mentioned in the previous article. The Ministry shall periodically publish a list of the names of those licensed to practise the medical professions, and any amendments thereof, as deemed appropriate.

A medical profession may not be practised except after entry in the register and handing over of licence in accordance with this Law.

## Article 10

A licensee must inform the Ministry of any change in his place of

residence or business within a maximum period of one month from the date of change, otherwise the Ministry may cancel his registration.

The Ministry may re-register him in the register if he informs it of the new address, provided that a new registration fee is paid.

## Article 11

If the licensee becomes afflicted with an illness or a disability and, as a result, loses his fitness to practise the profession, totally or partially, he and his employer shall jointly inform the Ministry. The licensee shall refrain from practising the profession until his case is reviewed and decided on by a decision of the Minister, upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The Minister shall issue a decision to either cancel the licence and remove licensee's name from the register, or specify the activities that the licensee may practise, or suspend licensee temporarily from practising the profession due to his health condition.

Based upon the proposal of the Committee the Minister may modify his decision depending on the development of health condition of the licensee.

If the licensee contracts a contagious disease, he and his employer shall jointly inform the Ministry. The licensee shall refrain from practising the profession and shall not resume practice except after the approval of the Ministry.

## Article 12

The licence for practising a medical profession shall be valid for one year, renewable upon expiry. The licensee shall be subject to a medical examination upon renewal of the licence to verify his medical fitness.

## Article 13

The licensee shall perform his job with accuracy and honesty as prescribed by his medical profession.

He shall uphold the dignity and honor of the profession, and comply with the duties and responsibilities as specified by a decision of the Minister in accordance with Article (3) of this Law.

## Article 14

Without prejudice to any more severe punishment provided in another law, a confinement sentence for a period of not less than one year and not more than three years, and a fine of not less than five thousand Dirhams and not more than ten thousand Dirhams, or either of these penalties, shall be imposed on:

1. Any person not satisfying the legal requirements which qualify him to obtain a licence to practise a medical profession who practices any business falling under the banner of this profession.
2. Any person who submits false documents or data, or seeks illegal ways which result in him being unrightfully granted a licence.
3. Any person not licensed to practise the medical profession who uses bulletins, posters or banners or any other means of publication thus leading the public to believe that he is entitled to practise the medical profession.

4. Any person licensed to practise the medical profession who engages a person, that is not licensed to practise this profession, in performing any business related thereto.

In all cases, the Minister may, based on the investigation reports, issue a decision to temporarily close down the place used by the offender for practising the medical profession until such time as a judgment is passed in the crime attributed to him.

If the offender is convicted the prescribed punishment shall be enforced, the place where the medical profession is practiced shut down, and all equipment and devices used in the practice of the profession confiscated.

The licence issued to the convicted person shall be deemed expired and his name deleted from the register as of the date on which the judgment becomes final.

## Article 15

An imprisonment sentence for a period of not less than three months and not more than one year, and a fine of not less than one thousand Dirhams and not more than five thousand Dirhams, or either of these penalties, shall be imposed on any person satisfying the legal requirements which qualify him to obtain a licence to practice the profession who practises the profession before obtaining the licence. The court may, in addition to the prescribed punishment, rule to shut down the place of business used by the offender to practise the medical profession.

## Article 16

Without prejudice to the criminal liability, the Committee shall examine the offenses committed by the licensees against the provisions of this Law or the implementing rules and regulations. The Committee must notify the offender to appear before it at least three days before its meeting. The notice shall include a statement of the offenses attributed to him. The offender must appear before the Committee on the prescribed date, otherwise the Committee may examine the offense and decide on it in his absence.

The Committee may impose one of the following disciplinary actions on the offender:

1. Warning
2. Suspension from practising the profession for a period not exceeding six months.
3. Revocation of licence and removal of name from the register.

None of these punishments may be imposed except after the offender is questioned and his defence made. If he fails to attend without an acceptable excuse, the punishment may be imposed based on the papers, and the Committee shall submit its decision to the Minister for approval.

## Article 17

The person aggrieved by the disciplinary decision may appeal to the Minister against the decision within thirty days from the date that it is issued, or the date that he is notified of it if issued in his absence.

The Minister shall issue his decision on the appeal within thirty days from the date of its submission, and the Minister's decision in this regard shall be final.

Punishments involving suspension, revocation of licence or removal of name may not be enforced before the elapse of the period specified for appeal or that specified for deciding on it, as the case may be.

## Article 18

The Ministry shall have a right to inspect the places where the medical professions are practised, and the employees designated for this purpose, by a decision of the Minister of Justice upon the proposal of the Minister of Health, shall have the status of judicial officers with regard to the offenses committed against this Law or its implementing decisions.

## Article 19

Any person already practising one of the medical professions on the date of this Law coming into force who had been licensed by the health or municipal department in any of the member emirates of the Federation to practise the medical profession prior to this law coming into force, shall continue to practise the profession, provided that he shall submit to the Ministry, within a maximum of three months from the date of this Law coming into force, the documents necessary for him to get registered and issued a new licence, and provided that he satisfies the licensing requirements under this Law.

Should he fail to submit these documents within the above cited period, the licence issued to him to practise the medical profession shall be deemed expired.

## **Article 20**

The Minister shall issue the regulations and decisions necessary for executing the provisions of this Law.

## **Article 21**

Any provision contrary to this Law is repealed.

## **Article 22**

This Law shall be published in the Official Gazette and shall come into force thirty days after the date of its publication.

# **Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan President of the United Arab Emirates**

Issued by Us at the Presidential Palace in Abu Dhabi

Date: 14 Jumada Al Akhera , 1404 Hijri

Corresponding to: March 17, 1984

## Table of Medical Professions

- 1) Nursing
- 2) Midwifery and obstetrics
- 3) Laboratory
- 4) Imaging (examination and treatment)
- 5) Physiotherapy
- 6) Dentistry (treatment- fitting- manufacturing)
- 7) Opticals (manufacturing and fitting)
- 8) Audiology and Phoniatics
- 9) ECG
- 10) Anesthesia
- 11) Nutrition
- 12) Ventilators
- 13) Nuclear medicine
- 14) Orthotics