

GENERAL INFORMATION	
KEYWORDS	Marine medical certificate, heart disease, diabetes, cholesterol, implantable cardiac defibrillator (ICD), medication
FILE NO.	MQ-0497-28
SECTOR (Marine or Aviation)	Marine
SPECIFIC JOB	Unknown
DIAGNOSIS (Primary, Secondary, etc.)	Cardiomyopathy
REVIEW	
DATE OF DETERMINATION	March 19, 2019
MEMBER	Dr. Robert Perlman
DETERMINATION	Minister's decision is confirmed.
REASONS FOR THE DETERMINATION	Refusal to issue a marine medical certificate — The applicant suffers from cardiomyopathy. The condition was progressive and deteriorated over time. He was also on treatment for diabetes, which required taking insulin, and was also taking medication to control his heart failure and high cholesterol. The applicant was initially issued a medical certificate with geographic restrictions for one year due to concerns about his heart condition. Eventually, a cardiac defibrillator was implanted in the applicant, and to date, he has had no episodes of cardiac arrhythmia. However, according to the international directives of 2013, the wearing by a seafarer of an implantable cardiac defibrillator is incompatible with the safe and efficient execution of routine and emergency tasks, due to the risk of incapacitation. Transport Canada had warned the applicant that if he received an implantable cardiac defibrillator, he would be considered unfit under the terms of the international directives. In making its decision, the Minister of Transport must consider the safety and security of the seafarer, his co-workers, the vessel and the general public. For these reasons, the member confirms the Minister's decision.
APPEAL	
DATE OF DECISION	
MEMBERS	
DECISION	
REASONS FOR THE DECISION	
OTHER/COMMENTS	