

NUISANCE;

SUPPLY;

(5) ANY EXAMINATION OR ANALYSIS OF A WATER

(6) ANY EXAMINATION OR ANALYSIS OF MILK; AND

(7) ANY INQUIRY ABOUT ANY OTHER MATTER THAT THE SECRETARY REQUIRES.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language patterned after Article 43, § 35(a)(1) and the first phrase of the first sentence and, except for the first clause, the second sentence of (2).

This section is revised to list generally the functions of these public laboratories. Although Article 43, § 35(a)(1) lists the duties of the Department as to inquiries, the introductory clause of Article 43, § 35(a)(2) -- "in order to perform these and related functions the Department shall establish ..." -- makes clear that the public health and clinical laboratories are used in connection with the performance of these functions.

Item (1) of this section combines the provisions that relate to inquiries that the Department makes about "infectious diseases" and inquiries that a physician or health officer makes about "infectious and contagious diseases", using the current terminology "communicable disease". Although the term "communicable disease" differs from the term "infectious disease{s}" -- in that it encompasses noninfectious diseases that are transmissible and excludes infectious diseases that are not transmissible -- other provisions clearly focus the public health efforts of the Department on communicable diseases and, thus, of the laboratories as to inquiries.

In item (1) of this section, the defined term "health officer" is substituted for "all local boards of health" to reflect that a laboratory answers an inquiry from a health officer, although a county board of health may have directed that officer to make the inquiry. This substitution also clarifies that inquiries of the Baltimore City Commissioner of Health are answered.

Also in item (1) of this section, the defined term "physician" is substituted for the reference to "all practicing physicians of the State", for