

09 DEC 2015

**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA  
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

No.13305/F1/2015/H&FWD

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 27/11/2015

**CIRCULAR**

Sub:- Health & Family Welfare Department – Instruction on Drug Prescription & Local Purchase – Reg.

Ref:- 1) G.O.(Rt)No. 1895/2014/H&FWD dated 09/06/2014.  
2) Letter No.MSA 2/61705/2015/DHS dated 07/09/2015 of Director of Health Services, Thiruvananthapuram.

As per the Government Order referred above, all the Head of Departments of Health Department were directed to write as far as possible the generic names of drugs and chemicals preferably in capital letters to avoid false dispensing of drugs. It was also ordered that as quality assurance of drugs also needs to be ensured, the prescriber can also name a few of the commercial names as an adjunct to the main prescription and since, no guidelines are currently available for surgical consumables and implants, extreme caution is to be exercised while prescribing and ensure quality by detailing wherever required. The order also specified that all prescriptions should be vetted by the Store Officers and non-availability certified for procurement from outside to ensure that majority of the prescriptions are honoured by concerned hospital. The Hospital Superintendents shall display the common costly drugs, that are not available in stock on a day to day basis and a weekly update shall be made available to all clinical unit heads.

2) Govt. have introduced free generic drug supply scheme with the intention to minimise the out-of-pocket expense for medical treatment from Govt institutions. Accordingly, an Essential Drug List (EDL) was prepared and institutions were directed to intend drugs from the EDL on an annual basis. Kerala Medical Services Corporation Limited is the procurement and distribution agency for the State.

3. It has come to the notice of Government that some Medical Officers are still prescribing branded drugs despite the availability of generic preparation of the same drugs in the institution. It has also come to the notice that some Medical Officers requested Hospital Superintendents and Charge Medical Officers for the local purchase of certain FDCs and drugs. Therefore, the following instructions are issued for strict compliance:-



(i) No Pharmaceutical company representative should be permitted to visit Medical Officers during OP time or in the Casualty department. The stickers/posters of the Pharmaceuticals should not be displayed in the hospital premises.

(ii) Store Verification Officers should ensure that supervisory register is maintained in all institutions. During visits, they should enter salient observations in this register like cold chain maintenance, other storage conditions, stock book maintenance, date expired drugs, condemnation status, local purchases, indents etc.

(iii) HMC and RSBY funds shall be utilized to improve the infrastructure of drug stores, such as air-conditioning of the drug store.

(iv) Any drug that is supplied by KMSCL and available in the pharmacy should not be prescribed. Medical Officers should not prescribe unethical and unscientific Fixed Drug Combinations (FDCs). Only WHO approved FDCs should be prescribed.

(v) Superintendents/Medical Officers in charge should regularly visit the drug stores. Any problem that cannot be tackled by the institutions should be formally informed to the DMO.

(vi) All DMOs should convene a meeting at district level every month to review the drug position in major hospitals, CHCs and PHCs. In this meeting, the drug position, KMSCL supply, local purchases made during the month, comparison of local purchase with the previous month, details of drug procured through local purchase etc. should be specifically and thoroughly reviewed. This meeting should be properly minuted and the minutes should be sent to the DHS within a week after the meeting.

Any laxity in compliance with the above instructions will be viewed seriously.

**Dr. K. ELLANGOVA**  
**Secretary to Government**

To

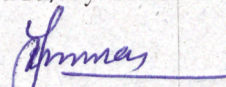
The Director of Health Services, Thiruvananthapuram.  
The Director of Medical Education, Thiruvananthapuram.  
The Director of Ayurvedic Medical Education, Thiruvananthapuram.  
The Director, Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram.  
The Director, Malabar Cancer Centre, Moozhikkara P.O, Thalassery, Kannur  
The State Mission Director, National Rural Health Mission, Thiruvananthapuram  
The Director, Indian System of Medicines, Thiruvananthapuram  
The Principal & Controlling Officer, Govt. Homoeopathic Medical College,  
Thiruvananthapuram.  
The Director of Homoeopathy, Thiruvananthapuram  
The Managing Director, Kerala Medical Services Corporation Ltd,  
Thiruvananthapuram

(PTU)



The Principal Accountant General (Audit), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram  
The Principal Accountant General (A&E), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram  
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