

F. No Z.212020/37/2020-PH
Government of India
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Public Health Division

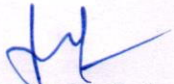
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated 20th March, 2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Minutes of the consultation meeting taken by Secretary (H) to discuss on engagement and solicit the cooperation of Professional Medical Association in tackling the COVID-19 outbreak in the country.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 19.03.2020 under the chairpersonship **Ms. Preeti Sudan Secretary (Health and Family Welfare)** on the above mentioned subject for information.

Encl. As Above


(Joginder Pal)

Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel:- 23061213

Copy to:-

1. Dr. Harish Kumar Pemde, Joint Secretary, Indian Academy of Pediatrics
2. Dr. Rajeev Kumar Chug, Secretary Indian Dental Association
3. Dr. Kumar Rajan, North Technical Advisor, Indian Dental Association
4. Dr. Rajan Sharma, National President, Indian Medical Association
5. Dr. Ghanshayam Pangtey, Representative, Association of Physicians of India
6. Dr. N V Kamat, Principal Advisor, Indian Medical Association
7. Dr. Rajesh Deshwal, president Association Indian Laboratories
8. Dr. Neeraj Jain, Vice President, Association Indian Laboratories
9. Dr. Girdhar Gyani, DG Association of Health Care providers India
10. Dr. Raman Kumar National President Academy of Family Physicians of India
11. Dr. Adresh Pratap Singh, RDA AIIMS President New Delhi
12. Dr. Shivaji, President, FORDA
13. Dr. Girish Tyagi, President Dental Medical Association
14. Dr. Lakshmi Mittal, Joint Secretary, FORDA
15. Dr. Sunil Arora, Gen. Secretary, FORDA
16. Dr. Sumedh Sondonshiv, Past President FORDA
17. Dr. Srinivas Raj Kumar Gen. Secretary, RDA AIIMS New Delhi
18. Dr. Parv Mittal, President, RDA MAMC and LNJP Hospital New Delhi

19. Dr. Pawanindra Lal, Secretary, AMMC Resident ASI New Delhi
20. Dr. Tarun Mittal, Sir, Ganga Ram Hospital Association of Surgeons of India
21. Dr. Rana M Rajneesh, RML Hospital New Delhi
22. Dr. Chandrakant S Pandav, Indian Public Health Association
23. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Rai, President, Indian Public Health Association
24. Dr. Anil Kumar, President, Indian Association of Epidemiologists
25. Sh. K. Chandra BPL Medical technology,

Copy for information:-

1. PPS to Secretary (H) / PPS to Secretary (DHR) & DG(ICMR)
2. PPS to SS(H) / PPS to SS(AS)
3. PS to JS(LA) / PS to JS(GM) / PS to JS(SS)/PPS to DGHS
4. Director EMR/ Director, NCDC / CMO (IH)/ PS to DS(PH)

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19.03.2020
UNDER THE CHAIRPERSONSHIP OF MS. PREETI
SUDAN, SECRETARY, HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE.**

A Consultation meeting with the professional Medical Associations was held under the Chairpersonship of Ms. Preeti Sudan, Secretary, Health and Family Welfare at 3.00PM on 19.03.2020 to discuss management of, and soliciting co-operation of the medical fraternity in combating COVID-19 outbreak in the country.

2. The list of participants is attached.
3. Initiating the discussion, Secretary (H) presented a broad overview of COVID-19 situation in India and emphasized need for preparedness to combat Covid-19 as the disease has spread to more than 160 countries. She solicited co-operation of Medical fraternity and appealed to all members in holding hand together to break the chain of infection and prepare as a team to further contain the spread of the COVID-19 in the country. She assured all participants that While, appreciating the phenomenal work done by the various stakeholders in particular of the fraternity of the doctors, nurses, paramedics, etc. she expressed her concern as how to protect the medical fraternity who is at the forefront in fighting COVI-19. With the above objective, she appeal to the Members of the Associations present in the meeting to share their ideas and to suggest measures
4. Indian Medical Association informed that a 24 x 7 Helpline on COVID1-9 Epidemic – Talk to a Doctor (+ 91 9999672238; +91 9999672239) has been made functional. Further, it was informed by the Ministry that a helpline number has also been created in AIIMS for doctors. Doctors may contact the helpline for any clarification regarding clinical management of COVID-19 cases.

5. During the meeting the following points were deliberating upon where ideas of Medical Associations were invited:

- i) Minimize non-essential electric surgery so that more time and resources can be focused in combating COVID-19.
- ii) Circulate list of manufacturers of PPEs to different associations on e-mail
- iii) Training of master trainers from amongst all Associations in the management of Triage, isolation beds, etc.
- iv) Screening in OPD
- v) It was assured that free medical treatment to residents will be available in case they are infected by corona virus

6. It was broadly agreed that following steps be taken for better and effective management for Corona virus patients:

- a) Try to minimize OPD footfall, minimize non-essential electric surgery
- b) Use students as volunteers
- c) Consultation with routine patients over telephone
- d) Scale up emergency services
- e) Training of non-clinical staff and deploying their services for clinical works in hospitals
- f) Training drill in use of PPE
- g) Unionism, unrest to be prevented at any cost

- h) Each Association to give their point of suggestion in writing so that uniform advisory can be issued without creating panic in public.
- i) Separate flu centers in hospitals to be earmarked which will segregate patients for screening examination and treatment of Corona virus cases
- j) The IMA in Association with other associations of doctors may plan out awareness campaign as well as training programme to the frontline medical workers in accordance with the guidelines available on the web-site of the Ministry
- k) All important information pertaining to COVID-19 is to be shared with IDSP. All pneumonia sample are to be tested. Any unusual increased in H1N1, Influenza etc. cases may be brought to the notice IDSP.

7. Advisory on the above matter will be issued by the Ministry.

8. Secretary emphasized that no patients should be refused medical treatment or should be discharged without complete treatment. Further, the out sources cases must essential be notify to the concerned Government agencies .

9. The Associations made the following suggestions:

- i) Ministry to issue general advisory to people for avoiding non-essential visits to tertiary hospitals/medical centers.
- ii) Information to be issued for consumption of general public must be privatized.

- iii) The Government should evolve a scheme, where death of a private health profession due to getting infection arising out of treatment of CORONA patients should be treated like death of a soldier and adequate compensation may be made by the Government.
- iv) All non-essential inspections in healthcare organizations may be postponed including NABL & NABH audit to facilitate better patient care & to enable hospitals to focus on limiting the spread of COVID-19 infection.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Novel Coronavirus Disease (Covid-2019) Consultation meeting with professional Medical Association**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS:-**

1. Mrs. Preeti Sudan, Secretary (H), Ministry of Health & FW
2. Dr. Balram Bhargava, Secretary DHR & DG ICMR New Delhi
3. Dr. Harish Kumar Pemde, Joint Secretary, Indian Academy of Pediatrics
4. Dr. Rajeev Kumar Chug, Secretary Indian Dental Association
5. Dr. Kumar Rajan, North Technical Advisor, Indian Dental Association
6. Dr. Rajan Sharma, National President, Indian Medical Association
7. Dr. Ghanshayam Pangtey, Representative, Association of Physicians of India
8. Dr. N V Kamat, Principal Advisor, Indian Medical Association
9. Sh. Sanjeeva Kumar, Special Secretary (H) MoHFW
10. Sh. Arun Singal, Special Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
11. Dr. Rajesh Deshwal, president Association Indian Laboratories
12. Sh. Sunil Sharma Joint Secretary Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
13. Dr. Neeraj Jain, Vice President, Association Indian Laboratories
14. Dr. Girdhari Gyani, DG Association of Health Care providers India
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28. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Rai, President, Indian Public Health Association
29. Dr. Anil Kumar, President, Indian Association of Epidemiologists
30. Dr. Sujeet Kumar Singh, Director, NCDC New Delhi
31. Dr. Pradeep Khasnobis, DGHS, MoHFW New Delhi
32. Sh. D.D Maheshwari, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Health and FW