



Government of Tripura
Department of Health & Family Welfare
Office of the Chief Registrar of Births & Deaths
Health Directorate Building, 1st floor,
P.N. Complex, Gurkhabasti, P.O. Kunjaban
Agartala : Tripura

Tele fax: Ph: 0381-222-5001,
No. F.10.(95) – SBHI/2021/

E-mail: sbhi.tripura@gmail.com
Dated 8/9 September' 2021.

C I R C U L A R

Subject :- Regarding Guidelines to provide a copy of Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) to the next of kin of deceased in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgment dated, 30th June 2021.

Your attention is invited to the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW) Government of India vide F.No.C 18018/11/2021-DMCell dated, 30/8/2021 in compliance to Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment dated, 30th June 2021 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 539 and 554 of 2021 . A copy of the above mentioned guidelines is attached herewith for ready reference .

All the registration authorities are hereby requested to provide a copy of Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (Form-4/4A) ,stating the exact cause of death , i.e. "Death due to Covid -19" on request to the next of kin of deceased who died due to Covid-19 and while providing the copy of MCCD (Form 4/4A) the Registrar/or the Officer specified ,may also mention the name of the next of kin of deceased along with the date in the remarks column of the respective **DEATH REGISTER** to whom the copy of MCCD (Form 4/4A) has been provided .

In cases where the MCCD is not available or the next of the kin of the deceased is not satisfied with the cause of death given in MCCD (Form 4/4A), and which are not covered by the aforesaid scenarios, the District level Covid-19 Death Ascertaining Committee (CDAC) will issue the official document for Covid-19 Death in the prescribed form (Annexure-II) enclosed herewith .

This is issued as per circular vide No.8/2/2017-VS(MCCD) dated, 3/9/2021 of Govt . of India, Ministry of Home Affairs , ORGI , New Delhi.

D. S. S.
3/9/21

Chief Registrar of Births & Deaths
(Ex Officio Jt. Secretary &
Director of Health services)
Govt. of Tripura, Agartala .

To :-All Concerned

1-68) The Addl. District Registrar of Births & Deaths (BDOs/Sub-ZDOs) _____ West /South /North /Dhalai /Khowai /Sepahijala /Gomati /Unakoti for information with a request to circulate the same to the Registrars of Births & Deaths under your jurisdiction .

69--89) The Registrar of Births & Deaths / (Executive Officer) _____ /Municipal Council/Nagar Panchayet West/ South/ North/ Dhalai/ Khowai/ Sepahijala/ Gomati/ Unakoti for information & necessary action .

- 90-91) The Municipal Commissioner/ Registrar of Births & Deaths , Agartala Municipal Corporation , Agartala for information & necessary action .
- 92) Nodal Officer, Law Cell , Directorate of FW&PM
- 93-- 105) The Medical Superintendent,/Registrar of Births & Deaths of AGMC & GBP Hosp./IGM Hosp./Cancer Hosp.-Agartala/TMC & BRAM Hospital- Agartala/ Kherangbar Hospital(CHC), TTAADC- Khumulung / Khowai District Hospital – Khowai/ Dist. Hospital, Gomati, Tepania – Udaipur/South District Hospital- Santirbazar / Unakoti District Hospital, Gournagar - Kailasahar /North District Hospital – Dharmanagar / Kulai Dist. Hospital – Dhalai , Ambassa Tripura for information & necessary action .
- 106-114) The Chief Medical Officer, West /South /North/ Dhalai/ Sepahijala /Khowai /Gomati /Unakoti for information with a request to circulate the same to all the Registrar of Medical Institution (CHC/PHC) under the jurisdiction of respective CMOs for their information & necessary action .
- 115-129) The Sub-Divisional Medical Officer/ Registrar of Births & Deaths of , Melaghar SDH (Sonamura) /Bishalgarh SDH / Kanchanpur SDH/Amarpur SDH/Belonia SDH/T.S. Sub-Div. Hospital-Udaipur / Sabroom SDH / RGM Memorial SDH-Kailasahar /BSM SDH-Kamalpur/ Gandacharra SDH/ Chailengtha SDH (Longtharai - Velly) Teliamura SDH – Teliamura for information & necessary action .
- 130) The Medical Officer In- Charge , Tuikarma TTAADC Hospital , Santirbazar , South Tripura District for information & n/a .
- 131) Website of Health & F.W. Department, Govt. of Tripura .

Copy for information to :-

- 1) P.S. to the Principal Secretary Health & F.W. Deptt , Govt. of Tripura for kind information of Principal Secretary H. & F.W. please .
- 2) The Deputy Registrar General India (CRS), Office of the R.G. , India, Ministry of Home affairs , V.S. Division , West Block, R.K. Puram, New Delhi, -110066 for information .
- 3) Director of Family Welfare & Preventive Medicine (State Nodal Officer- COVID) for information please.
- 3) Director of Census Operation , Directorate of Census Operation, Tripura , Ram Nagar Road No-1, By Lane -2(Left Side).P.O. Ram Nagar, Agartala, Tripura, Pin – 799002 for information please .
- 4-11) The District Registrar of Births & Deaths (DM & Collector) West- Agartala /Khowai -Khowai/Sepahijala -Bisramganj/Gomati -Udaipur/South- Belonia /Unakoti - Kailasahar/North- Dharmanagar/Dhalai - Ambassa for information please .
- 12-16) The District Registrar of Births & Deaths (Zonal Development Officer), West Zone- Khumulung /Khowai Zone – Khowai / South Zone- Birchandramanu/North Zone- Machmara/Dhalai Zone – Ambassa for information please.

Handwritten signature and date: 8/9/21

Chief Registrar of Births & Deaths

Bo (stat)
for n/a pat
Area
4/9/21

P-33

Supreme Court Matter



No. 8/2/2017- VS (MCCD)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, INDIA
V.S. Division, West Block -I, R.K. Puram, New Delhi - 110066
E-mail: manojISS9.rgi@gov.in

Dated: 03-09-2021

CIRCULAR

Subject: Guidelines to provide a copy of Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) to the next of kin of deceased in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgement dated 30th June 2021.

Your attention is invited to the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (M/o H&FW), Government of India vide F.No.C.18018/11/2021-DMCell dated 30.08.2021 in compliance to Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement dated 30th June 2021 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 539 and 554 of 2021. A copy of the above mentioned guidelines is attached herewith for ready reference.

2. As you are aware that under section 10 of the Registration of Births and Deaths (RBD) Act, 1969, the medical practitioner attending the deceased at the time of last illness, issues a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) in Form 4 for hospital in-patients or Form 4A for non-institutional deaths. The Registrar under State/UT Rule (Model Rule 7 framed under section 10(3) of the RBD Act) is required to forward Form 4/4A to the Chief Registrar or the officer specified by him in this behalf by the 10th of the month immediately following the month to which the certificates relate.

3. In view of the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement dated 30th June 2021 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 539 and 554 of 2021 and the above mentioned guidelines of M/o H&FW, Government of India dated 30.08.2021, you are requested to issue direction to all registration authorities under your

[Handwritten signature]

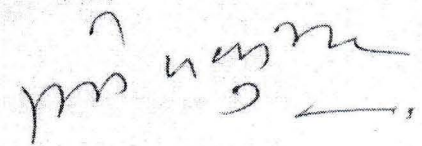
D. No. 47/SND/18/11
12/6/21-ND

charge, to provide a copy of Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (Form 4/4A), on request, to the next of kin of the deceased, if available with the Registrar. In case it is not available with the Registrar, he shall get it from the Chief Registrar or the officer specified by him in this behalf under the said State/UT Rule (Model Rule 7) and make it available to the next of kin of the deceased. The Registrar may also mention the name of the next of kin of deceased along with the date in the remarks column of the respective death register to whom the copy of the MCCD (Form 4/4A) has been provided.

4. A copy of direction issued in this regard may be sent to this office for record.

5. This issues with the approval of Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India.

Encls: As above



(Manoj Kumar)
Deputy Registrar General

To,

The Chief Registrar of all States/UTs

Copy to:

1. Home Secretary, Government of India
2. Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India
3. The Chief Secretary, States / UTs
4. Member Secretary, NDMA, Government of India
5. Director General, ICMR, Government of India

Internal circulation:

1. PS to RGI & CC / Add. RGI / DDG
2. Deputy Registrar General (CRS)
3. Director of all DCOs
4. Technical Director (EDP)

P-31

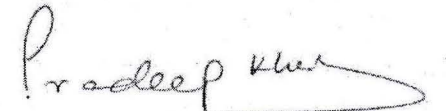
F. No. C.18018/11/2021-DMCell
Government of India
Ministry of Health & FW
(Disaster Management Cell)

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 3rd September 2021

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

In pursuance of Hon'ble Supreme Court directions vide orders dated 30.06.2021 in the in W. P. (C) No. 554/2021 titled Reepak Kansal Vs. Union of India & Ors. and W. P. (C) No. 539/21 titled Gaurav Kumar Bansal Vs. Union of India & Ors, wherein Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed to issue simplified guidelines for issuance of Death Certified/official document stating the exact cause of death, i.e., "Death due to Covid-19", to the family members of the deceased who died due to Covid-19, I am to enclose herewith "Guidelines for Official Document for COVID19 Death".

This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.



(Dr. Pradeep Khasnobis) 3/9/21
DDG, DM Cell
Tel: 011-23060777

Enclosure as above

Addl. Chief Secretary (Health)/Principal Secretary (Health) of all States & UTs

Copy for information to:

1. Sr. PPS to Sec (H)
2. Sr PPS to Member Secretary, NDMA,
3. Sr.PPS to Sh. Govind Mohan, Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs
4. Sr. PPS to AS (H)
5. Sr, PPS to JS (LA)

Government of India

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare & Indian Council of Medical Research Guidelines for Official Document for COVID19 Death

(Issued in compliance to the Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 30.06.2021 in
WP(Civil) No. 539 and WP (Civil) 554 of 2021)

I. Background

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare have been issuing specific guidelines to States/UTs based on World Health Organization's (WHO) guidelines & global best practices on reporting Covid deaths. Relevant officers in States/UTs have also been trained on correct recording of deaths related to Covid-19. Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 539 and 554 of 2021 directed the Central Government to issue simplified guidelines for issuance of Official Document relating to COVID-19 deaths to the family members of the deceased, who died due to COVID-19. Hon'ble Court had directed that such guidelines may also provide the remedy to the family members of the deceased who died due to COVID-19 for correction of the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death/Official Document issued by the appropriate authority.

2. Guiding Principles

- i. COVID-19 cases, for the purpose of these Guidelines, are those which are diagnosed through a positive RT-PCR/ Molecular Tests/ RAT OR clinically determined through investigations in a hospital/ in-patient facility by a treating physician, while admitted in the hospital/ in-patient facility.
- ii. Deaths occurring due to poisoning, suicide, homicide, deaths due to accident etc. will not be considered as COVID-19 deaths even if COVID-19 is an accompanying condition.

3. Scenario based approach and interventions

- i. COVID-19 cases which are not resolved and have died either in hospital settings or at home, and where a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) in Form 4 & 4 A has been issued to the registering authority, as required under Section 10 of the Registration of Birth and Death (RBD) Act, 1969, will be treated as a COVID-19 death. Registrar General of India (RGI) will issue necessary guidelines to Chief Registrars of all States/UTs.
- ii. As per the study by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), 95% deaths take place within 25 days of being tested Covid positive. To make the scope broader and more inclusive, deaths occurring within 30 days from the date of testing or from the date of being clinically determined as a COVID-19 case, will be treated as 'deaths due to COVID-19', even if the death takes place outside the hospital/ in-patient facility.
- iii. However, a COVID-19 case, while admitted in the hospital/in-patient facility, and who continued as the same admission beyond 30 days, and died subsequently, shall be treated as a COVID-19 death.
- iv. In cases where the MCCD is not available or the next of kin of the deceased is not satisfied with the cause of death given in MCCD (Form 4/4A), and which are not covered by the aforesaid scenarios, the States/ UTs shall notify a Committee at district level consisting of Additional District Collector, Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH), Additional CMOH/ Principal or HOD Medicine of a Medical College (if one exists in the district) and a subject expert, for issuance of the Official Document for COVID-19 Death. The Committee will follow the procedure outlined below:

- a. The next of kin of the deceased shall submit a petition to the District Collector for issuance of the appropriate Official Document for COVID-19 Death.
- b. The Official Document for COVID-19 Death will be issued in the format annexed to these Guidelines by the aforesaid district-level Committee after due examination and verification of all facts.
- c. The Official Document for COVID-19 Death shall also be communicated to Chief Registrars of States/UTs and Registrar of Birth and Death, who issued the death certificate.
- d. The Committee shall also examine the grievances of the next of kin of the deceased, and propose necessary remedial measures, including issuance of amended Official Document for COVID-19 Death after verifying facts in accordance with these guidelines.
- e. The applications for issuance of Official Document for COVID-19 Death and for redressal of grievances shall be disposed off within 30 days of submission of the application/ grievance.

Balram Bhargava

[Prof. (Dr.) Balram Bhargava]
Director General,
Indian Council of Medical Research



(Rajesh Bhushan)
Secretary
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Annexure 1 - Brief of ICMR study

Annexure 2 - Format of Official Document for COVID-19 Death

ICMR: COVID-19 Deaths in India, a brief summary

Background

Since its emergence in Wuhan, China in November 2019, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), the causative agent of the disease COVID-19, has spread rapidly around the world. India detected the first case of SARS-CoV-2 infection in the country in the last week of January, 2020. This was followed by the beginning of the first wave, which lasted for about 9 months. A total of 11 million cases and 0.157 million deaths were reported from India during this period¹ with a peak of daily reporting of cases of over 4, 00,000 attained in mid-September, 2020. The current understanding of COVID-19 in India comes largely from disease surveillance, epidemiologic studies and modeling exercise.² The first wave was relatively mild compared to the second wave that followed, from mid-February 2021 onwards, and exhibiting a more explosive spread across the country. Clinical severity in terms of shortness of breath and mortality were experienced in larger proportion during the second wave compared to the first one.

In order to help decide upon the number of days to be considered for ascertainment of death related to COVID, the present document examined mortality series data specific to India.

Databases used to create mortality series pertaining to India

Two databases, as follows, were used to merge the necessary information for creation of mortality series:

- a) Death related data maintained by MoHFW in COVID-19 India Portal
- b) ICMR COVID-19 testing database for SARS-CoV-2.

ICMR-Identification number, which is a common attribute in both the databases, was used to achieve the necessary merger. This helped create a mortality series and assess the time period within which a recorded death took place following the first positive swab test date in this series.

Examination of mortality series from within India

SARS-CoV-2 virus – the causative organism of COVID-19 – results in an acute respiratory viral infection. Data from a cohort of individuals testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection during the second half of 2020 were examined to map the time over a period of three months from being test positive within which deaths (71, 982) occurred.

Days elapsed following the first swab positive date and before death

¹ World Health Organization. *WHO Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard*. Available from: <https://covid19.who.int/region/searo/country/in>, accessed on May 31, 2021.

² Plausibility of a third wave of COVID-19 in India: a mathematical modeling based analysis. *Indian Journal of Medical Research* DOI: 10.4103/ijmr.ijmr_1627_21