



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No: HFW 134 ACS 2021

Karnataka Government Secretariat
Vikasa Soudha
Bengaluru, dated 3.5.2021.

CIRCULAR

Subject: Guidelines for Rational Use of Oxygen in COVID-19 Hospitals.

Reference: Proceedings of the Clinical Expert Committee Meeting of RGUHS,
Dated. 01-05-2021

The State is experiencing second wave of COVID-19 and as there is a rapid surge of COVID-19 positive cases, the demand for oxygen has also increased multifold in both Government and Private Health care institutions. The date of the consumption of oxygen by the hospitals treating COVID-19 patients has revealed that there is an indiscriminate and wasteful use of oxygen in many hospitals. An optimal use of oxygen needs to be ensured both for a better healthcare of the patient as well as the curtailment of wastage of oxygen as it is a scare resource.

The Clinical Expert Committee of Karnataka chaired by the Vice Chancellor, RGUHS has recommended guidelines for minimizing wastage and rational use of oxygen in health care facilities in the State which is attached as **Annexure**. The guidelines contain details like how to adjust oxygen use to the lowest permissible level and restrict the use of HFNC, along with other advisories.

These guidelines also lay down the responsibility of health team regarding judicial use and the responsibility of the hospital administrators in monitoring and audit of oxygen use. As per the guidelines, each health care facility shall designate an Oxygen Monitoring Team for each shift. Each facility shall also form an Oxygen Audit Committee and submit a report on the use of oxygen pre and post audit to the Expert Committees constituted by the Order No. HFW 276 ACS 2020, dated 29.07.2020. Further, the Expert Committees shall review the action taken by the health care facilities in this regard.

All the healthcare facilities in Karnataka are hereby directed to follow the guidelines in letter and spirit and report compliance to the respective BBMP/District Level Expert Committees.

The district authorities are instructed to disseminate the guidelines to all the health care institutions and monitor the implementation for better utilization of oxygen.

Jawaid Akhtar 3/5/2021
(Jawaid Akhtar)

Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Health and Family Welfare Department

To :

1. The Chief Commissioner, BBMP
2. The Commissioner of police, Bengaluru.
3. The Commissioner, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Bangalore.
4. The Mission Director, NHM Bangalore
5. The Special Commissioner, BBMP.
6. All the Deputy Commissioners in the State of Karnataka.
7. All the Superintendents of police in the State of Karnataka
8. The Director, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Bangalore.
9. The Director, Department of Medical Education, Bangalore.
10. All Divisional / Joint Directors, Health and Family Welfare Department.
11. The Chief Health Officer, BBMP.
12. All the District Health Officers / District Surgeons / Administrative Medical Officers and Taluk Medical Officers and Medical Superintendents of all General Hospitals in Karnataka.

Copy for Kind Information to;

1. Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, Vidan Soudha, Bengaluru.
2. PS to Health and Medical Education Minister, Vidhan Soudha, Bengaluru.
3. Principal Secretary Department of Medical Education, Bengaluru.