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COMMISSIONERATE Health & Family Welfare Services

No: MVBDCP/COVID/EST/43/2023

Date: 27th March 2023

CIRCULAR

Subject: **Covid 19 – Proactive steps to minimize the spread of SARS Cov-2 and Influenza cases: Regarding.**

Reference: Proceedings of 199th meeting of State Covid 19 Technical Advisory Committee, Dated: 23rd March 2023.

In view of a spike in Influenza cases & rise of Covid-19 cases in the past 2 weeks in the country and the state, following key recommendations are listed for early compliance and follow-up.

- The focus on 5-fold strategy of *Test-Track-Treat-Vaccination & Covid Appropriate Behavior (CAB)* should be continued.
- Laboratory Surveillance & testing of all *Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI)* cases needs to be enhanced.
- Effective monitoring of *IRI/SARI* cases and testing for *Influenza, SARS-CoV-2 and Adenovirus* needs to be followed up.
- Availability of required *Drugs & Logistics* for Influenza & Covid-19 cases, across Healthcare facilities along with availability of *sufficient beds & human resources* needs to be ensured.
- *Wearing of masks in hospital premises* by patients, health professionals and health workers should be ensured by the concerned.
- *Wearing of masks* is highly recommended when *senior citizens and those with co-morbidities* visit crowded areas including closed spaces and poorly ventilated places.
- *Mock drills at Healthcare Facilities* should be conducted at prescribed intervals to confirm the functional status of equipments and to ensure readiness for all exigencies. Separate instructions in this regard shall be issued.
- The exercise of *whole genome sequencing (WGS)* for tracking of newer variants should be expedited to evoke timely response. The suitable samples should be sent i. BMCRI, ii. NIMHANS and iii. NCBS.

The State / District Health Authorities and BBMP Health Authorities need to ensure that the above mentioned points are complied with and monitored in the larger interest of Public Health.

RL 27.3.23
(Randeep D.)

Commissioner

Health & Family Welfare Services

To:

1. The Special Commissioner – Health, BBMP, Bengaluru
2. The Deputy Commissioners of all districts
3. CEO, ZP of all districts

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4. The District Health and Family Welfare officers of all districts
5. The District Surveillance Officers of all districts
6. The Mission Director-National Health Mission
7. The Director, Health & Family Welfare Services

Copy for kind information to:

1. Chief Secretary, GoK
2. The Chief Commissioner – BBMP, Bengaluru
3. The Principal Secretary to Govt, Department of Health & F Welfare Services, Vikasa Soudha, Bengaluru.
4. PS to Hon'ble Minister for HFW and Medical Education.

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