



(A)

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM,  
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (A) DEPARTMENT  
DISPUR, GUWAHATI- 781006

No: HLA 563/2004/Pt (A)/6847

Dated the 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2012

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR OF ASSAM

NOTIFICATION

Whereas Govt. of Assam is committed to providing quality and affordable health care to all its citizens and accordingly has been providing essential medicines to all of the OPD and IPD patients in all Government Hospitals free of cost. As such an Essential Drugs List for District Hospitals, Sub-Divisional Civil Hospitals, FRUs, CHCs, PHCs was notified in 2007-08.

Whereas Government has been procuring generic supplies for dispensing through the pharmacies of it's health institutions. Policies of the Govt. of India also envisage prescription and dispensing only generic drugs through Public Health Facilities. Generic drugs usage has also been emphasized by the World Health Organization (WHO). However, instances of Non-generic medicines being prescribed in Public Health Facilities continue to be reported leading the patients to buy costlier non-generic drugs from the open market.

Whereas, Govt. of Assam either through DHS, DME or NRHM, Assam has been providing most of the drugs required for treatment of various diseases/disorders etc that are commonly found in the patients frequenting the Public Health Facilities and as such, it is utmost essential to ensure that no medicines are prescribed requiring the patient to procure any medicine from the Open Market, as:-

1. Such medicines are already being supplied by the Govt. and
2. Non-generic medicines are available at much higher price than generic medicines in the open market.

As such, in the interest of promotion of welfare of the patients to ensure providing them that adequate medicines at most reasonable rates and to curb the unethical practice of prescription of non-generic medicines, it is hereby ordered that Doctors/Medical Officers, RHP in any Medical College and Hospitals, District Hospitals, Sub-Divisional Civil Hospitals, FRUs, Community Health Centres (CHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Mini PHCs, State Dispensaries, Urban Health Centres or any other Govt. Health Institutions shall henceforth prescribe only generic medicines except in the rare circumstance where no generic alternative is available. However, under no circumstances would any non-generic medicines shall be prescribed, generic counterpart of which is available in the EDL.

To ensure that only generic drugs are so prescribed and dispensed, Health Authorities in the respective Health Institutions viz. Principal in case of Medical Colleges, Superintendent, in case of Civil Hospitals, SDM&HO/M&HO, In-charge of other Public Health Facilities shall carry out on a quarterly basis audit of at least 10% of all the prescriptions made by the Doctors of their respective Health Institutions. Further, as considerable time has elapsed since the last Essential Drugs List (EDL) was notified and newer schemes for mothers and children have been notified, viz. JSSK, it is imperative to notify the Essential Drugs List (EDL) afresh. As such, a fresh Essential Drugs List is hereby notified as annexed.

DHS, DME and MD, NRHM Assam shall ensure that no shortage of drugs and medicines as notified in the EDL as mentioned above, is allowed to occur in any of the Public Health Institutions so as to ensure



(3)


GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM,  
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (A) DEPARTMENT  
DISPUR, GUWAHATI- 781006

-2-

that any generic drugs prescribed by any Doctor is actually available in the Pharmacy of the said Health Institution.

DHS & DME with assistance from NRHM, Assam will also ensure setting up of a Store at each of the District Hospital and Medical College Hospital premises where generic drugs shall also be available on sale. Govt. will not endeavour to promote generic drugs Store in all Govt. Hospital starting from PHCs to Medical Colleges.


**Encl:-** EDL (Essential Drug List) for SC-28 Nos. of Medicines/PHC-107 Nos. of Medicines/CHC- 122 Nos. of Medicines/ DH- 240 Nos. of Medicines

  
(Prateek Hajela, IAS)  
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
Health & Family Welfare Dept.  
Dispur, Guwahati- 6

Memo No: HLA 563/2004/Pt(A) / 6848-6861  
Copy to:-

Dated the 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2012

1. The Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Health & Family Welfare Deptt. for favour of information.
2. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, (Eunus), Health & FW Dept.
3. The Mission Director, NRHM, Assam for information and necessary action.
4. The Director of Health Services, Assam, Hengerabari, Guwahati for information and necessary action.
5. The Director of Health Services, (FW), Assam, Hengerabari, Guwahati for information and necessary action.
6. The Director of Medical Education, Assam, Khanapara, Guwahati-22 for information and necessary action.
7. The Regional Director, Ministry of Health & FW, R.O, Khanapara, Guwahati-22.
8. The Director, RRC (NE), Khanapara, Guwahati- 22 for information.
9. The Principals of All Medical College & Hospitals for information and necessary action.
10. The Joint Directors of Health Services, (All Districts) for information and necessary action.
11. The Sub-Divisional Medical & Health Officers /Medical & Health Officers of all Health Institutions, Assam
12. The Superintendent (All District Hospitals) for information and necessary action.
13. The P.S. to Minister, Health & Family Welfare, Assam, with a request to bring it to the notice of the Hon'ble Minister.
14. Others concerned.

  
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
Health & Family Welfare Dept.  
Dispur, Guwahati- 6