



COVID-19 (nCorona) Virus Outbreak Control and Prevention State Cell

Health & Family Welfare Department

Government of Kerala

**AMENDMENT TO THE HEALTH CARE WORKER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
GUIDELINES FOR CENTRES PROVIDING COVID-19 CARE -
No.31/F2/2020/H&FWD- Dated 1st October 2020**

**Ref: Advisory HEALTH CARE WORKER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES
FOR CENTRES PROVIDING COVID-19 CARE No.31/F2/2020/H&FWD Dated 20th
June 2020**

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread and cause significant mortality and morbidity worldwide. More than 33 million cases and 1 million deaths have been reported till date. Though the trend of the pandemic is different in many places, many countries are witnessing a resurgence of the pandemic forcing countries to undertake drastic measures to prevent the growth of the pandemic and save lives and maintain health service delivery.

Kerala state is witnessing a rapid increase in infections and active cases that can potentially affect the health care delivery system in the state for COVID as well Non-COVID illnesses. It is a necessity of the health care delivery system to respond to the huge surge in patients in this unprecedented crisis which is affecting all the aspects of human life.

It is also important that health care workers are available for service delivery so that the service delivery is accessible and continuous to the community. It is in this background that this amendment is being issued based on the recommendations of ICMR and the State Medical Board in the larger public interest.

The following amendment is made to the advisory on Health Care Worker Resource Management Guidelines For Centres Providing Covid-19 Care: No.31/F2/2020/H&FWD- issued 20th June 2020.

1. The tier-2 off duty pool has been abolished and all the off days following continuous duty along with it. All health care workers will continue to get their weekly off, duty off and compensatory off as per the existing service rule. (The weekly off, duty off and compensatory off as was in practice prior to the Covid period i.e. prior to the February 2020).

2. The reserve pool and replacement staff shall be maintained as per need of individual institutions to avoid total close down of hospital in case of inadvertent infection to the staff.
3. The Principals and Superintendents/COVID nodal officers of health care institutions providing COVID care shall do the needful for reorganization of the human resources as per this amendment.
4. The Principal and Superintendents shall ensure rotation of the staff so as to ensure their protection and to give them rest by proper deployment between COVID and Non COVID duties.
5. Refresher training on infection prevention and control (IPC) and use of PPE shall be provided to all categories of staff.
6. Buddy system shall be continued to ensure adherence to IPC guidelines
7. The Institutional Infection control committee shall continue to monitor compliance
8. Exposure to COVID and breach of PPE should be reported to the COVID nodal officer of the institution and head of the concerned department. The Institution medical board to decide about breach of PPE and requirement of quarantine to such staff.
9. Regular quarantine of healthcare workers after performing duty in COVID-19 areas is not warranted. Reference: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt.of India.

<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/AdvisoryformanagingHealthcareworkersworkinginCOVIDandNonCOVIDareasofthehospital.pdf>


Principal Secretary