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# COMMISSIONERATE

## Health & Family Welfare Services

No. DD/SSU/Covid-19/17/ 2019-20

Date : 09.04.2020

### Circular

Sub: Unauthorized food distribution in the govt. hospitals – Banned.

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The government hospitals in the State are providing good and wholesome food to the inpatients. There is a dietician in the hospitals to assist the administration in this regard. However, it has been observed that many food items are allowed inside the hospitals un-authorizedly, which is not correct. The hospital premises and all the service area including the wards are restricted areas for all practical purposes. That being the case allowing the outside food into the hospital wards becomes unacceptable act in the interest of the health of the inpatients. In most of the cases the patients are prescribed particular diet as per their ill-health in order to facilitate early recovery. Therefore, the following strict guidelines are hereby issued for the information and compliance by all the hospitals providing diet to the inpatients.

1. All groceries, dairy, bakery and poultry products, vegetables and fruits, shall be of good quality while procurement, which shall be monitored by the Dietician and Area Food Safety Officers.
2. The room where the food items are stored shall be clean, hygienic and free from rodents and insects.
3. No food item shall be kept on the floor at any cost and appropriate storage facilities shall be in place for which there is no dearth of funds. Even ARS funds can be utilized for this purpose.
4. The kitchen and the washing cubicle shall also be maintained clean and hygienic as per Kayakalpa specification.

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5. The health and hygiene of the food handlers shall not be compromised for whatever the reasons. Their medical examinations and sanitary counselling shall be held periodically.
6. No out-side food and beverages shall be allowed inside the restricted area of the hospital service area and wards on regular basis anytime during the day or night. This restriction should not be broken even in occasions wherein some or the other celebrities and fans make it a habit to distribute fruits, milk etc. to the patients directly. Though the intentions are applaudable, there may be chances of bringing infections into the wards and patients leading to a hazardous situations. The donors in such occasions shall be motivated to contribute to the ARS fund and the hospital procurement system shall take the responsibility of getting the desired food items for distribution among the patients as per medical advice.
7. The responsibility of enforcing this activity of prevention of out-side food and beverages shall be given to the hospital security team which shall be implemented in toto.

This advisory is given by invoking the provisions of the Epidemic Diseases Act 1897 and the regulations thereon.

  
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**Commissioner**

**Health & Family Welfare Services**

To:

1. All the District Surgeons and Superintendents of the Medical College Hospitals.
2. All the District Health & Family Welfare Officers, for strict compliance in their jurisdictional hospitals.
3. All the Superintendents of K.C.G., Jayanagar, C.V. Raman Nagar & Gosha Hospital, Bangalore & Lady Goshen Hospital, Mangaluru.

Copies to:

1. Additional Chief Secretary, Health & F.W. Dept.,
2. Mission Director, NHM
3. Director of Health & FW Services.
4. Director, Medical Education
5. Joint Director, AB-ArK & OSD, IEC