Government of West Bengal Health & family Welfare Department Swathya Bhawan, Block GN-29, Sector V Salt Lake City, Kolkata – 91

Memo No: A 1336 Dated: 07.04.2020

To The Principal, Medical Colleges (All) The Medical superintendent and Vice Principal (All) The Chief Medical Officer of Health (All) West Bengal

Health Care personnel are at risk of contacting COVID-19 infection while treating the in- patients with less suspect and not tested for COVID-19.

To reduce the risk of the health workers and other in-patients as well, it is advised to create a zone of separation where such low suspect cases will be kept maintaining adequate ventilation and distance for each patient. They should be tested for Covid-19 immediately in case of minimal suspicion and taking measures accordingly.

It may be advised that optimally minimum number of health workers should be posted in such a ward for few days at a stretch to minimise the numbers of exposed staff if any. The suspected patient also may be allocated to specific staff nurse and doctors to minimise exposure to many staff at a time working in the same ward, and to keep a record, so that it becomes possible to identify the exposed staff as and when required.

However the Health workers should take adequate personal protection to minimize chance of contacting the infection while treating any patients of unknown status. They should not stay for long time in close contact with any patients without taking adequate personal protection. Subsequently if any Health worker is found exposed to any positive COVID patient e.g. coming closer of less than one meter distance for more than 15 minutes without wearing PPE & Mask, s/he needs to be quarantined for 14 days and to be tested between 7th and 14th day of close contact.

Director of Medical Education Government of West Bengal

Director of Health Services Government of West Bengal

Memo No: A 1336/1(6) Dated: 07.04.2020

Copy forwarded for kind information and necessary action:

- 1. The Mission director, NHM, West Bengal
- 2. The Additional secretary (PHP), Health & FW Department, West Bengal
- 3. Jt. DHS (PH&CD), West Bengal
- 4. The DDHS (Malaria), West Bengal
- 5. The DDHS (PH), West Bengal
- 6. Office Copy

Director of Medical Education

Government of West Bengal

Director of Health Services

Government of West Bengal