

Government of West Bengal Directorate of Health Services (PH & CD Branch) Swasthya Bhavan, Salt lake GN -29, Sector -V, Kolkata-700091

Memo No. HPH/9M-21/2020/99

Dated: Kolkata, the 28th April, 2020

<u>CIRCULAR</u>

In continuation of this Department Circular No. HPH/9M-21/2020/97 dated 27.04.2020, it is hereby clarified that test for Covid-19 before planned surgery, as is mentioned in Point no. 8 of the said document, is not to be considered as mandatory for all cases.

Cases of planned surgery, if having symptoms suggestive of Covid-19 or is a close contact of a confirmed Covid-19 case, will be tested for SARS-CoV-2 before the surgery. Pre-surgery test may also be done if a case of planned surgery comes from a red zone for Covid-19.

In case of emergency surgery, the surgical intervention may be undertaken with standard precaution for the surgery team. Sample for test of SARS-CoV-2 may be sent in accordance with the same criteria as above.

Rest of the directives given in the said circular for emergency surgery (Point no. 9) and other issues may please be followed.

Director of Health Services

Govt. of West Bengal

Director of Medical Education Govt. of West Bengal