

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA  
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

No.Health.229/93/195,

Dated Shillong, the 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2020.

**ORDER**

**Screening tuberculosis in ILI and SARI Clinics**

In response to the COVID pandemic, patient attendance in general OPD has reduced almost to less than a half of regular days due to different Government advisories, protocols, lock down and fear of contracting COVID. **These factors have, in spite of laboratory remained fully operational, reduced sputum examination and T.B. case notification.** Field activities of health workers also significantly gone down or completely halted leading to reduction in referral of presumptive T.B. cases from field staffs.

The mater should be considered on priority basis and effective measures to be taken by the Medical Officers of PHC, CHC and District Hospital to take the opportunity of the ILI and SARI Clinics for screening of tuberculosis as well, because the clients of these clinics have similar respiratory symptoms like that of pulmonary TB. Screening for T.B patients should be also done during house hold visits. Emphasize on contact tracing of T.B. patients.

Lab Tech will use simple PPE like hand gloves, N95 mask, face shield and plastic apron for examination of samples from Non-COVID cases. Due to safety reason, sputum sample will not be collected from COVID +ve cases and people with history of high risk exposure till molecular test result is -ve for COVID.

The VHND (Village health & nutrition day) should also be utilized, for generating awareness on TB as well as referring TB cases for examination. ANM / ASHA will talk for a few minutes on symptoms of TB, where to seek help, importance of early treatment, regular and complete treatment, respiratory hygiene, BCG vaccination and also on different schemes of Government of India for TB patients. Chapter on TB is included in the training module for ASHAs and ANMs and most of them are trained & retrained.

Respective Deputy Commissioners and D.M. & H.O. to kindly supervise the above mentioned activities.

Sd/-

Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya,  
Health & Family Welfare Department

**Memo No. Health.229/93/195-A,**

**Dated Shillong, the 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2020.**

**Copy to:-**

1. The Private Secretary to Health Minister, Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information of Minister.
2. Private Secretary to Chief Secretary for kind information of the Chief Secretary.
3. The Commissioner & Secretary/Secretary, Health & F.W. Department.
4. The Deputy Commissioners, East Khasi Hills, Shillong/West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin/Ri Bhoi District, Nongpoh/ West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai/West Garo Hills District, Tura / East Garo Hills District, Williamnagar/South Garo Hills District, Baghmara/North Garo Hills, Resubelpara/South West Garo Hills, Ampati/East Jaintia Hills, Khliehriat/South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat.
5. Mission Director, National Health Mission, Meghalaya, Shillong.
6. Director of Health Services (MI)/(MCH & FW)/(Research), Meghalaya, Shillong.

7. Director of Information & Public Relation for wide circulation in the Print/Electronic Media of the State.

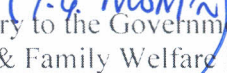
8. Joint Director of Health Services (MCH & FW) I/c IDSP, Meghalaya, Shillong.

9. Joint Director of Health Services (Surgeon Superintendent), Civil Hospital, Shillong/  
Medical Superintendent (Jt.DHS) Ganesh Das Hospital, Shillong/ Joint Director of Health  
Services (Garo Hills Division) Tura/State T.B. Officer-cum-Superintendent, R.P. Chest  
Hospital, Shillong/Project Director, Meghalaya AIDS Control Society, Pasteur Hills, Polo,  
Shillong

10. Superintendent, Civil Hospital, Jowai /Tura/MCH Hospital, Tura/Tirot Sing Memorial  
Hospital, Mairang/100 Bedded Hospital, Nongpoh /Nongstoin/ Williamnagar/ Khliehriat/  
MIMHANS, Shillong.

11. District Medical & Health Officer. East Khasi Hills, Shillong/West Khasi Hills,  
Nongstoin/Ri Bhoi District, Nongpoh/ West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai/West Garo Hills  
District, Tura / East Garo Hills District, Williamnagar/South Garo Hills District,  
Bagmara/North Garo Hills, Resubelpara/South West Garo Hills, Ampati/East Jaintia Hills,  
Khliehriat/South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat.

By Orders etc.,

  
Joint Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya,  
Health & Family Welfare Department