

THE MINUTE OF NATIONAL DRUG AND THERAPEUTIC COMMITTEE MEETING – 2024

Meeting Details

Date : 05.07.2024
Time : 11.00 a.m.
Venue : Auditorium, Medical Research Institute

Participants:

1. Dr. Asela Gunawardena – Director General of Health Services
2. Dr. G. Wijesuriya – Deputy Director General (Medical Supplies)
3. Dr. Dedunu Dias – Director (Acting) ,Medical Supplies Division
4. Dr. B.A.O. Wijewickrama – Deputy Director , Medical Supplies Division
5. Dr. I. Malwenna – Regional Director of Health Services – Gampaha
6. Director – Teaching Hospital, Lady Ridgeway Hospital for Children
7. Dr. S.S.P. Godakandage – on behalf of Director, Family Health Bureau
8. Prof. Rohini Fernandopulle – Professor in Pharmacology
9. Prof. P. Galappaththy – Professor of Pharmacology
10. Dr. Sandya Somaweera – Consultant Anaesthesiologist
11. Dr. Nipunika Senadheera – Consultant Haematologist
12. Dr. Vindya Gunasekera – Consultant Pediatric Nephrologist
13. Dr. Darshana Sirisena – Consultant Neurologist
14. Dr. Amila Fernando – Consultant ENT Surgeon
15. Dr. Geethika Patabendige – Consultant Microbiologist
16. Dr. Nuragh Joseph – Consultant Oncologist
17. Dr. Gunendrika Kasthuriratne – Consultant Rheumatologist
18. Mr.Gopi Krishantha de Silva – NMRA
19. Mr.H.M. Pushpakumara – Senior Assistant Director ,MSD
20. Ms. L.C. Wanniarachchi – Assistant Director (Pharmaceuticals) ,MSD
21. Mrs.K.S.K. Weerasekara – Assistant Director (QA) ,MSD
22. Mr.H.U.Ranthunga – Assistant Director (Stores) ,MSD
23. Mr.S.A.A. Sandarapperuma – Assistant Director (ICT),MSD
24. Mr.Priyankara Perera – Assistant Director (M&C) ,MSD
25. Mrs.Senani Ammuduwege – Assistant Director (Lab) ,MSD
26. Mr.M.P.W.De Soyza – Assistant Director (Surgical 3) ,MSD
27. Mr. K.P.H. Sandaruwan – Superintendent Pharmacist ,MSD
28. Mr.P.K.K.Susantha – Head (Planning),MSD
29. Mr. H.M.D.N. Bandara – HSCO (Pharmaceutical),MSD
30. Mrs.N.K.K. Wijesinghe – HSCO (Surgical),MSD
31. Mrs.S.U. Karavita – In-charge QA ,MSD
32. Mr.M.A.C.M. Ihjas – Officer (ICT) ,MSD
33. Mr.Chanaka Basnayake – Officer (ICT) ,MSD
34. Mrs.Y.N.L. Abeywardane – Pharmacist ,MSD
35. Mrs.H.T.U.N.Premarathna – Pharmacist ,MSD
36. Mr.M.C. Senarathna – Pharmacist ,MSD
37. Mrs.M.I. Shamila – Pharmacist ,MSD

Excused:

1. Deputy Director General (Medical Services-I)
2. Deputy Director General (Medical Services-II)
3. Deputy Director General (Laboratory Services)
4. Deputy Director General (Planning)
5. Deputy Director General, National Hospital – Colombo
6. Deputy Director General, National Hospital – Kandy
7. Deputy Director General (Dental Services)
8. Deputy Director General (Finance-I)
9. Chairman, National Medicines Regulatory Authority
10. Chairman, State Pharmaceutical Cooperation
11. Chief Executive Officer, National Medicines Regulatory Authority
12. Provincial Director of Health Services, North Western Province
13. Provincial Director of Health Services, Central Province
14. Provincial Director of Health Services, Southern Province
15. Regional Director of Health Services, Batticaloa
16. Regional Director of Health Services, Jaffna
17. Regional Director of Health Services, Matara
18. Director, National Cancer Institute, Maharagama
19. Director, Teaching Hospital, Jaffna
20. Director, District General Hospital, Matara
21. Director, National Cancer Control Programme
22. Director, National Medicines Quality Assurance Laboratory
23. Prof. Guwani Liyanage, Professor in Paediatrics
24. Dr. G. Mayurathan, Consultant Cardiologist
25. Dr. Mathu Selvarajahm, Consultant Nephrologist
26. Dr. Ananda Wijewickrama, Consultant Physician
27. Dr. Suranga Manilgama, Consultant Physician in Internal Medicine
28. Dr. Indira Kahawita, Consultant Dermatologist
29. Dr. Manjula Wijewardane, Consultant Urologist
30. Dr. Kapila Bandutilleke, Consultant Vitreoretinal Surgeon
31. Dr. Chamila Ranawaka, Consultant Gastroenterologist
32. Dr. Duminda Ariyaratne, Consultant General Surgeon
33. Dr. Bodhika Samarasekera, Consultant Pulmonologist
34. Dr. Chaminda Garusinghe, Consultant Endocrinologist
35. Dr. Chaminda Mathota, Consultant Gynecologist
36. Dr. Prabath Wickrama, Consultant Psychiatrist
37. Dr. Anuprabha Wickramasinghe, Consultant Psychiatrist
38. Dr. Pubudu C. Perera, Consultant in Restorative Dentistry
39. Dr. Chandani Peiris, Consultant Pathologist
40. A Nursing officer appointed by the Director Nursing

National Drug and Therapeutic committee meeting chaired by Director General of Health Services, held on 05th of July 2024 was carried out as follows.

The welcome speech was made by the Director of Medical Supplies Division.

Then the data analysis of institutional DTC minutes in 3rd quarter, 4th quarter of 2023, 1st quarter and 2nd quarter of 2024 was presented.

Subsequently the discussion forum was started and invited to make suggestions for necessary amendments and policy decisions.

The meeting was conducted for nearly two hours and operational and policy matters were discussed and decisions were taken as follows.

Operational & Policy Matters for Decisions

| No | Issues | Observations | Decision | Responsibilities |
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| 1 | Conduct a research on cost- benefit analysis of high cost Named Patient Biologics with coordinating the representatives from the relevant colleges | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Neurologists have conducted a cost -benefit analysis already for a list of neurology items. Oncologists expressed the necessity of identifying a threshold for the cost-effectiveness by the Ministry of Health. | Send a letter from the DGHS with a deadline for response to the appropriate colleges, associations, and societies. | Presidents of Colleges, |
| 2 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Summarized the MSD received DTC meeting minutes for the 3rd and 4th quarters of the year 2023 and 1st and 2nd quarters of the year 2024. Active participation of relevant staff for DTC is poor | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Observed the number of received DTC minutes were less. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a summary of the conducted DTCs coordinated by the MSD and received DTC minutes. DGHS will discuss the prepared summary of DTC reports at the Director's meeting. DGHS will inform the importance of active participation of the relevant healthcare staff for DTCs at the Director's meeting. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> D/MSD, AD/QA DGHS, All DDGs of Hospitals All Directors of Hospitals |
| 3 | Increasing quality issues of medical supplies. | <p>It is observed the acceleration of quality issues from 2015 to 2023 and observed a significant increase of quality failures in the year 2023.</p> <p>The quality issues up to the month of June of 2024 are less comparing to the year 2023.</p> | Closely follow up with the involvement of MSD quality assurance unit and NMRA | CEO/NMRA ,D/MSD, AD/QA |

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| 4 | <p>The Institutional Levels categorized by the Medical Supplies Division.</p> | <p>D/MSD explained the issue on the current Item level demarcation and the difference in Swastha System. Also D/MSD stated that Formulary Revision Committee is also depended on this categorization. DD/MSD explained the difference in estimation process for pharmaceuticals and surgicals.</p> | <p>DGHS advised to revise the level demarcation as follows. It will be effected from the next formulary revision.</p> <p>Level 1- Primary Medical Care Units (PMCU)</p> <p>Level 2- Divisional Hospitals, District Hospitals</p> <p>Level 3- Base Hospitals B</p> <p>Level 4 (I) - Provincial General Hospitals, Teaching Hospitals, National Hospitals & Specialized Hospitals</p> <p>Level 4 (II) - Base Hospitals A, District General Hospitals</p> <p>Level 5- Specialized Campaigns (Anti-malarial, STD/AIDS control programe, FHB, Blood bank, MRI, EPID Unit, Chest clinic and University Medical Units)</p> | <p>DDG/MSD, D/MSD, AD/QA</p> |
| 5 | <p>Large Number of Orthopaedic Items has been accumulated in surgical stores.</p> <p>- Majority of items without expiry dates, but not utilized by Consultants.</p> <p>- Most of the hospitals are facing with this issue.</p> | <p>DGHS advised to obtain the opinions of Colleges.</p> | <p>DGHS advised to take the maximum utilization of medical supplies provided to the institutions.</p> | <p>All DDGs of Hospitals, All Directors of Hospitals, Sri Lanka Orthopaedic Association, AD/Surgical</p> |
| 6 | <p>Surgical items have been accumulated in surgical stores</p> | <p>1. D/MSD explained the difficulty of counting the accurate remaining stock positions at institutions due to accumulation at the units.</p> <p>2. Committee members explained the reason for duplication of these items during the estimation.</p> | <p>DGHS advised to conduct a survey for the accumulated surgical items, within the institutions.</p> | <p>All DDGs of Hospitals, All Directors of Hospitals, D/MSD, AD/ICT, AD/QA, HSCO (Surgical)</p> |

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| | | <p>3. Committee members suggested to making a mechanism to balance the inputs and out puts to the units.</p> <p>4.D/MSD suggested to develop a mechanism for visualize the stock accumulated at units through SWASTHA system.</p> | | |
| 7 | Importance of Patient Counseling | <p>Prof. Galappaththi explained that Colombo South Teaching Hospital is conducting counseling sessions successfully for the discharged patients at the wards by Pharmacists.</p> <p>Earlier it happened at the clinics.</p> <p>Most of the intern-pharmacists portfolios have been covered the Good Practice by displaying and facilitating recordings on patient Counseling.</p> | <p>1. DGHS advised to take the necessary actions promote the rational use of medicines and counseling within the institutions.</p> <p>2. DGHS agreed with suggestion and advised to inform institutional heads to arrange by a circular for Post - Dispensing Counter for clinic patient.</p> | DDG/MSD, All DDGs of Hospitals, All Directors of Hospitals, D/MSD, AD/QA |
| 8 | Accumulation of medicines with short expiry in large quantities | <p>Committee members suggested that requesting only the country needs with a limited shelf life.</p> <p>D/MSD stated that, since noticing this problem from last couple of years, implemented a plan for donor mapping and a guideline has been already circulated via MSD website.</p> <p>NMRA representative, Prof. Rohini Fernandopulle stated that, though the donor is in a stringent country, product manufacturer from a different country also emphasized the importance of registering the donor at NMRA.</p> <p>DGHS explained the reasons for receiving unnecessary stocks of donations and informed that proper discussions were made with the High Commissions' to do the proper donations informing Ministry of Health.</p> <p>A circular has already been issued by Sec. of Health for giving coverage to expired donation stocks.</p> | <p>A donation protocol for the country need to be drafted and is being follow up under Addition Sectary – Medical Services</p> | CEO/NMRA DDG/MSD, D/MSD |

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| 9 | Lack of basic storage facilities (Refrigerators, Air-Conditioned facility ,adequate space for storage,) | D/MSD said that conducting two projects to improve the storing facilities & transportation by funding World Bank & GOSL. DGHS explained that most of the institutions are lack of facilities including enough space. | Progress report should be submitted to DGHS | DDG/MSD, D/MSD |
| 10 | RDHS - Gampaha informed that PMCU requested to prescribe antibiotics for 5 days | DGHS emphasized the rational use of medicines including antibiotics should be promoted always. | NDTC does not agreed for prescribing antibiotics for 5 days | All Head of Institutions |
| 11 | Create a new guideline to pharmaceutical priority list by applying Health Technology Assessment | Prof.P. Galappatthy explained that a guideline for the pharmaceutical priority list (862) and a new requesting format for the medical supplies are being implementing with the collaboration of Professional colleges. | Prof.P. Galappatthy was advised to submit the completed guideline and drafted format . MSD was advised by DGHS to call for a Intercollegiate meeting | Presidents of Colleges and Prof. P. Galappatthy D/MSD, AD/QA |
| 12 | Procurement issue related to the Elasto Plaster. | FRC approved to tail off this item and replaced with Soft cloth liner tapes | 1. Obtain views from FRC regarding reintroduction of Elasto Plaster. 2. The balance quantity of the order should be revoked and proceed since the soft cloth liner tapes are not freely available. | D/MSD AD/QA AD/Surgical |
| 13 | Covid 19 related Surgical consumables have been accumulated in the institutions. | The items which were received during COVID-19 pandemic | DGHS informed to store items with in the shelf life and arrange to distribute among other institution (Agriculture, Veterinary) if needed. | D/MSD, SAD/MSD, AD/Surgical |

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| 14 | Unavailability of dental consumables. | <p>Most of the patients are purchasing the dental consumables from the private sector which are non-registered at NMRA.</p> <p>Bids are not receive for SPC orders due to the unavailability of registered supplies and also WORs are not issuing by NMRA.</p> | <p>DGHS suggested for register dental consumables under Orphan category at NMRA. (Low registration fee). Requested WOR from NMRA.</p> <p>A summary letter regarding this problem should be send to NMRA under signature of DGHS.</p> | CEO/ NMRA, D/MSD, Chairman /SPC, AD(S) |
| 15 | Oral biologics instead of injectables | Rheumatologists preferred oral biologics instead of injectables considering the relative cost-benefit. | Suggested to refer for the FRC and Intercollegiate meetings | President of the College of Rheumatologists |
| 16 | Importance of revise the EML | European countries use the WISE lists for their medication treatment plans. | Suggested the necessity of EML revision. | CEO/NMRA |

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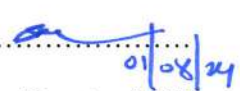
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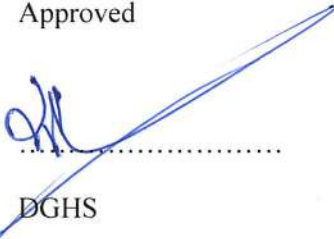
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Approved



DGHS

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