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குடும்ப சுகாதார பணியகம்
சுகாதார அமைச்சு

Family Health Bureau
Ministry of Health

මගේ අංකය
எனது இல
Our Ref. No.

FHB/CNU/01/Gen/2020

ඔබේ අංකය
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දිනය
திகதி
Date

09.10.2020

All Provincial Directors of Health Services
All Regional Directors of Health Services
All Heads of Institutions
All Medical Officers of Health

Re: "Guidelines on De-worming Children and Pregnant Women against Soil Transmitted Helminths in Community Setting 2019-2022"

With reference to the General Circular No. 01-58/2018 on Guidelines on De-worming Children and Pregnant Women against Soil Transmitted Helminths in Community Setting 2019-2022;

As per the above circular guideline, the period of implementation in the intermediate risk districts will cease at the end of December 2020 and high risk districts at the end of December 2022.

However, within districts categorized as intermediate or low risk, if there are schools/communities considered to be at risk of high transmission of STH infection because of poor sanitation etc in such instances the Medical Officer of Health can decide in consultation with RDHS, CCP, MOMCH to execute the strategies for "high/intermediate risk areas" as applicable for children under five years and primary school children.

Further, as clearly specified in the said guideline under "Additional measures to control STH transmission" the below mentioned activities to be ensured in all areas irrespective of the degree of transmission;

- The disposal of all human faeces (including that of infants and young children) in water-sealed latrines in order to minimize environmental contamination. Provincial authorities to take action to initiate the latrine construction programme especially in high risk areas
- Use of foot wear to prevent hookworm infections
- Food and water sanitation
- Personal hygiene and hand washing
- Environmental sanitation
- Health education, especially to school children and mothers in high transmission areas
- Symptomatic individuals to seek immediate medical advice

The above decision was taken by an expert panel based on the data available from the STH survey conducted in 2017 and the improved sanitary conditions in the country.

With regard to the ordering of Mebendazole through the Pronto System for year 2021 please adhere to following instructions;

- for the districts of Colombo and Nuwaraeliya which are considered high risk areas where the deworming programme will continue till the end of 2022, the annual requirement to be correctly calculated as per the above circular guideline
- for all other districts only necessary stocks for preventive deworming in any high risk pockets in the area to be requested. The minimum amount to be ordered may be calculated as 1% of the under five population in a MOH area.



Dr. Chithramalee de Silva

Director Maternal and Child Health

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MBBS. MSc, MD Community Medicine

Director Maternal and Child Health

Family Health Bureau

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Director Estate and Urban Health

Director Nutrition

Director Health Promotion Bureau

Director Epidemiology Unit

Director Environmental & Occupational Health and Food Safety

Director Medical Research Institute

Director Anti Filariasis Campaign

Director Medical Supplies