

දුරකථන) 011 2669192 , 011 2675011
தொலைபேசி) 011 2698507 , 011 2694033
Telephone) 011 2675449 , 011 2675280
ෆැක්ස්) 011 2693866
பெக்ஸ்) 011 2693869
Fax) 011 2692913

විද්‍යුත් තැපෑල)
postmaster@health.gov.lk
மின்னஞ்சல் முகவரி)
e-mail)

වෙබ් අඩවිය) www.health.gov.lk
இணையத்தளம்)



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சுவசிரிபாய

SUWASIRIPAYA

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சுகாதார, போசணை மற்றும் சுதேச வைத்திய அமைச்சு
Ministry of Health, Nutrition & Indigenous Medicine

To All
Provincial Directors of Health Services
Regional Directors of Health Services
All Directors of Teaching /Provincial General Hospitals
All Medical Superintendents of District General / Base Hospitals
All Medical Officers in Charge of Divisional Hospitals
All Medical Officers of Health

Health and Emergency Response - Flood and landslide 2016

Due to the heavy showers experienced in most parts of the country during the past few days, several landslides have occurred and large land areas in most parts of the country have been flooded. The health sector has to be on the alert and be proactive to mitigate any communicable disease threat while ensuring urgent and prompt response is provided to minimize further suffering for the people affected.

The health institutions should assist in the Provincial/District emergency response plans which are coordinated by the District Disaster Management Units. Please bring to the notice of all staff in your Province/District/Institution to ensure that the following urgent actions are taken during this emergency period.

- Take urgent steps to prevent spread of communicable diseases resulting by floods according to the letter dated 18th December 2012, which requires data to be sent on disease surveillance and information on flood affected areas on a daily basis to the Epidemiology Unit and Disaster management Unit.
- Ensure that the guidelines given in the circular letter 02-08/2011 dated 12/01/2011 on implementation of MCH/FP services in flood affected areas in emergency phase and Guideline on feeding infants and children 1-5 years during emergency situation are implemented.

Further to the above the following should be implemented with immediate effect.

1. All temporary camps should be assigned with a camp coordinator preferably a public health inspector ,a public health midwife (if PHI not available) . The name and contact details should be sent to the Disaster Management Unit.
2. A daily situation report should be submitted by the camp coordinator to the respective MOH who should send a consolidated report daily to the Regional Director of Health

Services, Provincial Director of Health services and the Disaster management unit of the Ministry of Health.

3. Public Health Inspector should ensure food safety , water safety , sanitation and environmental safety measures and report the status in the daily statement. Any communicable disease reported should be investigated immediately and steps taken to mitigate the spread of disease.
4. All pregnant mothers in displaced settings in their third trimester of pregnancy should be admitted to the nearest hospital and provided antenatal/ essential obstetric care until such time that these mothers can return to their place of residence.
5. Medical teams should be deployed at least twice a day to provide basic treatment for those displaced and in temporary shelters.
6. Instruct all Regional Medical Supplies Division to provide essential drugs directly to the temporary shelters to facilitate the provision of basic medical services.
7. Emergency Ambulances transport facilities should be made available 24/7 to transport any patient from the temporary shelters to a referral hospital.
8. Establish routine maternal and child health activities for the displaced communities early and plan for comprehensive maternal and child health services including immunization for the population who are permanently displaced.

For any urgent clarification and support contact the hotline 011 3071073 of the Disaster Management Unit, Ministry of Health.



Dr P.G Mahipala
Director General of Health Services.

Copy: Secretary Health
Addl .Secretary (PHS)
DDG(PHS)I &II
Chief Epidemiologist
Director MCH
Director HEB
Director Nutrition
Director Disaster Management Unit