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சுவசிரிபாய

SUWASIRIPAYA

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சுகாதார அமைச்சு
Ministry of Health

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எனது இல) FHB/CMM/IM/2022
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திகதி) 16 / 02 / 2022
Date)

Provincial Directors of Health Services
Regional Directors of Health Services
All Heads of (Government & Private) Hospitals

Under-reporting of deaths of neonates born less than 28 weeks of gestation

All Government & Private Hospitals should notify, review and send hospital death investigation formats with regard to all neonatal deaths to Family Health Bureau under the departmental regulations.

Ministry of Health understands that some of the deaths of neonates born less than 28 weeks of gestation are not considered as neonatal deaths hence the birth as well as the death is not registered and not reported to central level leading to discrepancies in national neonatal mortality rates. This may be due to misinterpretation of viability assessment and management of babies born preterm. Any baby born alive, at any stage of gestation, and died within 28 days should be considered as a neonatal death.

All neonatal deaths, irrespective of the period of gestation, including deaths of neonates born less than 28 weeks of gestation, should be notified within 24 hours, investigated within 14 days, relevant data are entered into the web-based systems and completed death investigation formats should be sent in time to Family Health Bureau.

You are strictly advised to immediately review the practice of neonatal death surveillance procedure in all relevant hospitals and units under your purview and rectify under-reporting of deaths of neonates born less than 28 weeks of gestation.

All relevant staff under your purview should be instructed to comply with the above departmental regulations.


Dr. Asela Gunawardena
Director General of Health Services

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