F.No.Z.28015/24/09-MH II

Directorate General of Health Services

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Government of India

(MH II Section)

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2010

#### Sub.:- Minutes of Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held under the Chairpersonship of Dr. (Mrs.) L. Sonar, DDG (P) on 10.12.09 at 3.00 PM in Resource Centre, Nirman Bhawan regarding issue of Mercury and E-waste in Central Government Hospitals are sent herewith for information and necessary action.

Approved Guidelines to Reduce Environmental Pollution due to Mercury and E-waste and the list of E-waste recyclers authorized by Central Pollution Control Board are enclosed along with.

( Dr.Anil Kumar ) Chief Medical Officer (AK) Telefax : 23062940

Email: dr.anilkumar@nic.in

#### To

- 1. Dr. G.K. Sharma, Director, Lady Harding Medical College, New Delhi
- 2. Dr. N. C. Das, Addl.Medical Superintendent, Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi
- 3. Dr.H.P.Singh, Acting Head, Dental Department, Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi
- Dr. A.K.Agarwal, CMO(NFSG), Medical Stores Organization, West Block No.1, Wing No. 6, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-66.
- 5. Dr. Sunita Singhal, CMO, Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi
- Dr.Pravesh Mehra, Associate Professor & Head, Dental Department, LHMC and associated Hospitals, New Delhi
- 7. Dr. Anurag Jain, Dental Department Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi
- 8. Ms. Anu Agarwal, Toxics Link, H-2, Jungpura Extension, New Delhi-110049.
- 9. Ms.Priti Mahesh, Toxics Link, H-2, Jungpura Extension, New Delhi-110049.

#### Copy to

- 1.Medical Superintendent, Dr. RML Hospital, New Delhi
- 2. Medical Superintendent, Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi
- 3. PS to DDG (P).

# Guidelines to Reduce Environmental Pollution due to Mercury and E-waste in Central Government Hospitals and Health Centers

- All Central Government Hospitals and health centers are advised to gradually phase out mercury containing equipments (thermometer, BP Instruments etc.) and replace them with good quality non mercury equipments, in order to prevent the toxic effects of mercury on patients and health care workers. It is recommended that a mercury phaseout plan be developed, to start procurement of new equipment which is mercury-free.
- Until the mercury based equipments are fully phased out, following guidelines will be used for management of Mercury waste
  - a. As mercury waste is a hazardous waste, the storage, handling, treatment and disposal practices should be in line with the requirements of Government of India's Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules 2008, which may be seen at website www.cpcb.nic.in.
  - b. Mercury-contaminated waste should not be mixed with other biomedical waste or with general waste. It should not be swept down the drain and wherever possible, it should be disposed off at a hazardous waste facility or given to a mercury-based equipment manufacturer.
  - c. Precaution should be taken not to handle mercury with bare hands and as far as possible; jewellery should be removed at the time of handling mercury. After handling mercury, hands must be carefully washed before eating or drinking. Appropriate personal protective equipment (rubber gloves, goggles / face shields and clothing) should be used while handling mercury.
  - d. Mercury-containing thermometers should be kept in a container that does not have a hard bottom. Prefer a plastic container to a glass container, as the possibility of breakage will be less.
  - e. In case of breakage, cardboard sheets should be used to push the spilled beads of mercury together. A syringe should be used to suck the beads of mercury. Mercury should be placed carefully in a container with some water. Any remaining beads of mercury will be picked up with a sticky tape and placed in a plastic bag, properly labeled.
- Reporting formats must be used to report and register any mercury spills / leakages.
- Hospitals and health centres should work to create awareness among health workers and other stakeholders regarding the health and safety hazards of mercury and E-waste (electrical and electronic waste).
- .5. A clause for Buy back policy may be included at the time of tendering for purchase of electronic equipments for minimization of E-waste.
- E-waste recyclers authorized by Central Pollution Control Board may be contacted for collection and disposal of E-waste.

## Delhi Pollution Control Committee

### MAHARISHI BALMIKI HOSPITAL POOTH-KHURD, DELHI-39 GOVT. OF N.C.T. OF DELHI

No F.1/119/Esl./MBH/07

Dated

#### OFFICE ORDER

In pursuance of meeting held on "Use of Mercury and Health Care" on 25.05.2007 in the office of Pr. Secretary (H & F W) Govt. of NCT of Delhi followed by the workshop on "Elimination of mercury waste in health care establishments" in Department of Health & Family Welfare GNCTD it has been decided to phase out use of mercury in this hospital by December 2007.

It has been further decided to replace the equipments, instruments and consumables containing mercury in its free and hazardous form in a phased manner. To start with, all the B.P. instruments and thermometer from different sections of the hospital shall be shifted to OFD and these instruments shall be replaced by portable NIBP monitors and digital thermometers which are mercury free.

Dr. N S Khurana M O I/C BMW Management has been entrusted to workout the requirement of the different section of this hospital and get them procured at the earliest and also train the staff in using the NIBP monitor and digital thermometers.

(DR. N.V. KAMAT)
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT
Dated

No F.1/119/Esl/MBH/07

#### Copy to

- Pr. Secretary (H & F W), GNCTD. 9th Level Delhi Secretanat New Delhi-2
- Chairman, DPCC, GNCTD, 4th Floor, ISBT Building, Kashmere Gate Delhi-6
- Dr. T. K. Joshi, IVPSS (COEH), B. L Taneja Block, Ground Floor MAMC Lok Nayak Hospital, New Delhi-2
- Dy. Medical Superintendent, Maharishi Balmiki Hospital Pooth Khurd Delhi-39
- M O I/C, BMW, Maharishi Balmiki Hospital Pooth Khurd Delhi-39
- A N S Maharishi Balmiki Hospital, Pooth Khurd, Delhi-39
- Nursing Sister-Ward-I,II,III,IV, HDU, Main O. T. Nursery ICU Casually I.R and OPD Maharishi Balmiki Hospital, Pooth khurd Delhi-39

(DR. N.V. KAMAT) MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT No. HDMC: 8002:10-11

Office of the Chief Medical Officer

Hubli-Dharwad Municipal Corporation,

Chitaguppi Hospital

Hubli, Dated: 06-04-2010

To,

All Deputy Chief Medical officers,

----- HDMC Hospitals

## SUBJECT: Purchase of Mercury Free BP apparatus and Digital thermometers-Regarding.

Health Care Without Harm and Toxics Link institutions have given awareness on Mercury through, training and Workshops. They have also demonstrated the Management of Mercury Spillage. They have also supplied Mercury free digital thermometer, and aneroid B.P. apparatus to all HDMC Hospitals. You are aware that, we are all using the same.

Mercury is one of the hazardous waste. Keeping toxic nature of mercury in mind, Government of India has developed a guideline to phase out completely the mercury based B.P. apparatus and thermometers step by step in all Central Government Hospitals. We are proud that it is being implemented in HDMC Hospitals.

In this background, in future in case of requirement of B.P. apparatus and thermometer, it is instructed to purchase only the Mercury free digital thermometer and Aneroid B.P apparatus. This has been adopted in our Procurement Policy.

Hence, in this direction co-operation of all in HDMC Hospitals will help, to make Mercury free Hospitals.

Sd/-

Chief Medical Officer

**Hubli-Dharwad Municipal Corporation** 

Chitaguppi Hospital

Hubli.







0175-2215793 0175-2215836 Chairmann on Myshon on in

PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD NASHA ROAD, PATIALA-147 001 (Pb.)

D.O. No			
Dated	Angust	27	2011

Subject: Eliminating Mercury from Health Care Establishments.

Mercury is one of the most toxic natural element. It is a global contaminant and Neurotoxin and has an adverse effect on the human nervous system and other body parts. Mercury is significantly associated with the Health Care Industry. It is used in Thermometer, Blood Pressure measuring instruments (sphygmomanometers), esophageal dilators and dental amalgams. World Health Organization has issued a policy paper on mercury in Health Care, calling for short, medium and long term strategies to address the problem. WHO in collaboration with Health Care Without Harm (HCWH), an International NGO, have set up an objective that by 2017, it shall phase out the demand for mercury containing fever thermometers and sphygmomanometers by at least 70%.

In the United States, today it is virtually impossible to purchase the mercury thermometer while mercury blood pressure devices are either banned or severely restricted. In Europe, the EU has banned mercury thermometer and is also considering restrictions on sphygmomanometers. Similar policies are emerging in other countries for mercury free health care. Delhi is leading in India and it has already achieved significant results to make most of its Govt. as well as private hospitals mercury free.

Punjab is a progressive small State and more vulnerable to pollution. Punjab Pollution Control Board also intends to make Health Care Facilities in Punjab mercury free. As per the experience gained in Delhi, it is known that accurate and economical mercury free medical devices are available. It is, therefore, desired that all Health Care Facilities in Punjab should volunteer themselves to replace the mercury based devices as soon as possible. With the commitment of Doctors, such transformation can take place easily.

I am, therefore, to request you to look into the matter and consider that your organization shift to mercury free medical regime in a time bound manner. You are requested to intimate this office the action taken in the matter at your end.

(K.S. Pannu)



Manipur Pollution Control Board Imphal West D.C. Office Complex, Lamphelpat, Imphal – 795004

No. PCB/37/Bio-medical/AP/2008(Pt)

Dated, the 21st August, 2012

To

The Chief Medical Officer

Imphal West/East/Thoubal/Bishnupur/Churachandpur/Tamenglong/
Senapati/Ukhrul/Chandel District,
Government of Manipur

Subject: Mercury Phase out plan for the health care facilities / units.

Dear Sir / Madam,

It is to inform you that in order to maintain environmentally sound management of mercury waste in the health care facilities / units in the state, it is advised that all the state Government health care facilities / units (CHCs, PHCs, dispensaries etc.) are to gradually phase out mercury based medical devices (Mercury Thermometers and Mercury BP instruments) and replace them with mercury free devices/digital devices in public interest.

It is therefore suggested that the health care facilities/units under your jurisdiction should develop Mercury Phase out Plan in consultation with experts/regulatory bodies and start procurement of mercury free equipments accordingly for use in your health care facilities/units under your jurisdiction.

A compliance report may also be submitted to this Board for easy monitoring from time to time.

Yours faithfully.

(K. Jagadishwor Singh)

Member Secretary

Manipur Pollution Control Board

Dated, the 21st August, 2012

Memo No. PCB/37/Bio-medical/AP/2008(Pt)

Copy to:-

1. The P.A. to the Hon'ble Chairman, MPCB for Kinds information to the Chairman.

2. Shri N. Minaketan Singh, Senior Environmental Engineer, MPCB for information & n.a.

3. The Director, Health & Medical Services, Government of Manipur for information & n.a.

4. Guard file.

(K. Jagadishwor Singh) Member Secretary Manipur Pollution Control Board