



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Health and Family Welfare Department - Palliative care Policy- High-Power Committee & Working Group on Palliative care - Constituted- Orders Issued.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)No.2744/2022/H&FWD Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 16-11-2022

Read 1 G.O(P)No. 107/2019/H&FWD dated 16/12/2019.

2 Note from the State Mission Director, National Health Mission dated 19.10.2022.

ORDER

Kerala was the first state in the country to come out with a comprehensive Palliative Care Policy in 2008. It has implemented the policy effectively and its model of community based palliative care, led by local self governments and professionally supported by health system is rated as the best in the country. Government converted the learning's from more than a decade of the experience and new Palliative Care Policy 2019 has been issued as per G.O read as 1st paper above.

2. The Primary level Palliative Care project is implemented by all the 1064 Panchayath Raj Institutions in Kerala through respective primary health institutions. Home based care is provided through structured home visits by a team led by a trained community nurse appointed by the corresponding LSG. Other team members include trained ASHA workers, LSG members, field staff of PHC and volunteers in turn. The Medical Officer of the health institution is the implementing officer of the project and is well informed about each patient through the community nurse.

3. Secondary level Palliative Care is implemented at two levels. Through major hospitals of district (Taluk, General and District Hospitals) with the support of NHM. They cater the patients who need specialist care, referred from Primary level palliative care programmes . Secondary units are also providing specialist inpatient and outpatient services to the needy patients. They also

co-coordinating and monitoring the activities of primary palliative care units in their area through training and quality improvement programmes. The secondary services are being provided through 102 hospitals. Long term care programmes started from 2017-18 on wards in 232 Community Health Centres for providing specialist care for patients with NCD, Mental Health issues and issues related to old age. These units are giving specialist nursing care and physiotherapy home care programmes, medicines for patients through Special OP, training for improving the quality of primary services and also inpatient care for physiotherapy and special nursing needs.

4. There are fifteen tertiary units in the state which focuses on various trainings for professionals (doctors and nurses) as well as students and volunteers. Secondary level program is also implemented in the tertiary unit. The tertiary units are in charge of overall co-ordination, monitoring and quality improvement of primary and secondary level units in the District.

5. More than 400 community based organisations are functioning in the States which are actively providing home based palliative care. They are working in collaboration with the government palliative care programme. More than 50,000 trained volunteer are involved in palliative care activities in association with Government /NGOs in Palliative Care Programme.

6. In order to translate each element of the Palliative Care Policy into action, detailed plans would be drawn through expert and practitioner consultations, indicating activities, timelines, responsibilities, and resources. To oversee this process and the implementation, Government and are pleased to constitute a High Power Committee and working group with the following members :

A. High Power Committee

1. Minister for Health, Family Welfare - Chairperson,
2. Principal Secretary Health - Convener
3. Principal Secretary Local Self Government Department-Member
4. Principal Secretary Social Justice Department -Member
5. State Mission Director, National Health Mission -Member
- 6 Director of Health Services -Member
7. Director of Medical Education -Member

8. Director, Indian Systems of Medicine -Member
9. Director, Homeo -Member
10. Shri. S.M. Vijayanand, Former Chief Secretary of Kerala -Member
11. Dr. R. Rajagopal, Pallium India -Member
12. Dr. Suresh Kumar, Institute of Palliative Medicine -Member
13. Dr. Divakaran, Institute of Palliative care -Member
14. State Nodal Officer, Non Communicable Diseases -Member
15. Aardhram State Level Executive Committee Member (Palliative Care) -Member
16. Head Social Development, NHM -Member

B. Working Group

1. State Nodal Officer, NCD - Chairperson
 2. Aardhram State Level Executive Committee Member (Palliative Care) - Convener
 3. Dr. Sairu Philip, HOD, Community Medicine, Government Medical College Kottayam-Member
 4. Dr. Babu Raj, Medical College, Thrissur -Member
 5. Head Social Development, NHM-Member
 6. Dr. Jayanarayan State Programme Manager. NAM Homeo -Member
 7. Dr. Saji Kurnar State Programme Manager, ISM -Member
 8. Dr. Anju Miriyam George, Medical Officer, THQH Varkkala -Member
 9. Dr. Athul, Medical Officer, GH Ernakulam -Member
 10. Shri. Prakashan Master, Ex. MLA, IRPC-Member
 11. Shri. Narayanan, IAPC-Member
 12. E. Abdul Majeed, CRPC Malappuram -Member
 13. Shri. N.R. Soman Pillai, General Secretary, Kanivu, Palliative Care, Alappuzha -Member
6. Chair person of Working group can invite experts on various aspects of Palliative Care in the working Group meetings as per need.

(By order of the Governor)
TINKU BISWAL
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

To:

The Director of Health Services

The State Mission Director , National Health Mission, Thiruvananthapuram

Persons concerned (through SMD, NHM)

The Principal Accountant General A&E/Audit, Thiruvananthapuram

The Information and Public Relations Department /Web and New Media

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Section Officer