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Deputy Director General, National Hospital of Sri Lanka, Colombo, Kandy

All Provincial Directors of Health Services

All Regional Directors of Health Services

All Directors, Teaching Hospitals

All Directors, Specialized Hospitals

All Directors, Provincial General Hospitals

All Directors, District General Hospitals

All Medical Superintendents, Base Hospitals

Streamlining the National Guideline on Management of Leptospirosis

The Epidemiology Unit of the Ministry of Health has observed a gradual increase in Leptospirosis suspected deaths over past few years. Leptospirosis is a treatable but potentially fatal zoonotic infectious disease, emphasizing the need for early detection and effective treatment. In response, the Epidemiology Unit is in the process of strengthening the Leptospirosis death review process at the institutional level. Additionally, comprehensive data analysis on deaths related to leptospirosis is being planned for evidence-based decision-making at the National level.

To facilitate this process, the following steps should be adhered to by all heads of institutions to streamline the death data extraction process at the National level from 1st January 2024.

- All suspected leptospirosis deaths occurring in your institutions should be notified to the Regional Epidemiologist and to the Epidemiology Unit via telephone/fax or email.

Chief Epidemiologist Tel: 011-2695112, 011-2681548 / Fax: 011-269653/ E-mail: chepid@sltnet.lk, epidunit@sltnet.lk Regional Epidemiologist of the district (where the institution located)

Please provide the following information on suspected leptospirosis death:

Name of the Hospital, Ward number, Name of the deceased, Age, BHT number, Date of Admission, Date of Death, MOH Area

- All suspected leptospirosis deaths occurring in your institution should be investigated and the death investigation form (**Annexure I**) must be completed and sent to the Epidemiology Unit.
- Upon occurrence of a suspected leptospirosis death in an institution, a copy of the BHT and other relevant documents related to the management of the index patient should be sent to the Epidemiology Unit. All the pages should be numbered and the original document should be made available for the death review meetings.
- In addition to the death investigation, all suspected leptospirosis deaths need to be reviewed at the institution level. The responsibility of conducting death reviews is with the head of the institution. The Regional Epidemiologist should assist the coordination of the activity.

It would be much appreciated if you could please make necessary arrangements to make aware the health staff in your institution on the above and ensure the reporting and investigation of every suspected leptospirosis death for the purpose of national surveillance.

Dr. Asela Gunawardena
Director General of Health Services

Dr. ASELA GUNAWARDENA
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Copy:

1. Chief Epidemiologist - FYI
2. All Provincial Epidemiologists -FYI & NA
3. All Regional Epidemiologists- FYI & NA
4. All Medical Officer - Epidemiology- FYI & NA