

General Circular No: 01-21/2009

My No -FHB/EA/18/08
Office of the Director General of
Health Services,
Ministry of Healthcare and Nutrition
Colombo,
9th June 2009

To: All Provincial Directors of Health Services
All Regional Directors of Health Services
All Heads of Nurses Training Schools and Regional Training Centres
All Medical Officers of Maternal and Child Health
All Medical Officers of Health

Abolition of the need of Certificate of Competency in the Administration of Injections by Public Health Inspectors and Public Health Midwives

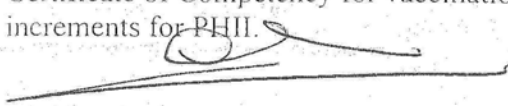
The Ministry of Health has been issuing a Certificate of Competency to Public Health Inspectors and Public Health Midwives regarding the administration of injections (EPI vaccines) since 1971. However a recent deliberation made by an expert group has found that this practice is no longer required.

Training of P.H.II and P.H.MM on administration of injections and issuing the Certificate of Competency had become a requirement at the time of initiation of Expanded Programme of Immunization, since there was no formal training on administration of injections in the basic training curricula of the above officers. Hence the following circulars were issued to ensure the capacity of the above officers in administering EPI vaccines.

1. Divisional circular (Pub) 96 of 27th May 1971 ,
2. Divisional circular (Pub) 118 of 6th July 1973 and
3. General circular 1085 of 5th May 1980

However, since 1973, both theoretical and practical inputs as required by the above circulars have been included into the basic curricula related to the training of P.H.II and P.H.MM. Hence the officers, who have been trained after 1973, are fully qualified to give vaccinations and as such re-training and certification of them is no longer a necessity.

Therefore, it has been decided to abolish all previous circulars regarding the issue of vaccination certificate (Divisional circular (Pub) 96 of 27th May 1971, Divisional circular (Pub) 118 of 6th July 1973 and General circular No 1085 of 5th May 1980) and hereafter, no separate certification is necessary for the competency to administer vaccines in the EPI programme. Further the Certificate of Competency for vaccination is no longer should be considered as a pre requisite for increments for PHII.


Dr. Ajith Mendis
Director General of Health Services

Copy to : Deputy Director General (PHS I & II) - for information & necessary action
Deputy Director General (ET & R) - for information & necessary action
Chief Epidemiologist
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