



Ensure availability of crucial TB medicines for gas victims suffering from Tuberculosis (TB) and their follow up.

1 message

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To,
Additional Chief Secretary
Mr. Mohd. Suleman
Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief & Rehabilitation Dept
Govt of Madhya Pradesh, Vallabh Bhawan

Director-Gas Relief
Mr. Rakesh Kumar Shrivastava
Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief & Rehabilitation
Shivaji Nagar, Bhopal

CMO-Gas Relief
Dr. SK Rajput
Firoz Gandhi Complex, Berasia Road, Bhopal, MP

10 April 2024

Sub: Ensure availability of crucial TB medicines for gas victims suffering from Tuberculosis (TB) and their follow up.

Dear Sirs,

As you may be aware that there is a severe shortage of crucial medicines for Tuberculosis across DOTS centers in India. The same situation is affecting Bhopal and Madhya Pradesh. In Bhopal there is an overwhelming number of gas victims and their children who suffer from this life threatening disease TB. Currently these gas victims get their medicines from DOTS centers operating in different centers across Bhopal.

Currently DOT centers are being operated in following gas relief hospitals

- Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital,
- Shakir Ali Hospital
- Pulmonary Medicine Centre
- Master Lal Singh Hospital
- Rukma Bai Dispensary

As of today, no TB medicines are available in JNH Hospital and gas victim patients who visited the DOT center today left without any medicines.

I urge you that that Dept of Gas Relief works with district TB officer where DOTS centers are operating and ENSURE

- a) TB medicines are made available to all gas victims and their children through the process of Local Purchase due to non -availability of these medicines in these DOT centers

b) Liaison with the DOT center representative to report all gas victims and their children who will be getting medicines through Dept of Gas Relief for proper follow up through the DOT center

c) Instructions to be sent By CMO-Gas Relief to District TB officer and to all DOT centers operating in Bhopal to identify gas victim patients or their children suffering from TB and in need of medicines due to non-availability in DOTS center. A list of those gas victims and their dependent patients with their contact details and medicine requirement to be sent to Dept of Gas Relief for procurement of medicines and follow up.

As you are well aware that there are studies which have clearly established that exposure to MIC has caused multi systemic injuries and there has been damage to the immune system as well. Due to this 5 times more Bhopal gas victims died due to COVID-19 when compared to those who were not exposed to MIC. Due to all of the above factors, it is absolutely crucial that the Dept of Gas Relief puts in place a system to ensure that the gas victim or their dependent suffering from TB is left without proper treatment due to shortage of medicines in the DOTS center. Gas victims suffering from TB are the most vulnerable and the onus of ensuring them free and appropriate treatment is of Dept of Gas Relief.

I am hopeful that this serious matter will deserve the crucial and urgent attention it deserves. If you have any questions or concerns pls do let me know.

Sincerely

Rachna Dhingra
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