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சுவசிரிபாய
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MINISTRY OF HEALTH

General circular No: 01-33/2012

All Provincial Secretaries of Health
All Provincial Directors of Health Services
All Regional Directors of Health Services / Director, NIHS
All Directors of Teaching Hospitals
Directors of Provincial and District General Hospitals, Base Hospitals type A and B,
Medical Officers In charge of Divisional Hospitals,
Dean, Faculty of Dental Sciences
Deputy Director Dental Institute,
Deputy Director, Institute of Oral Health
Consultant OMF Surgeons
Regional Dental Surgeons
Dental Surgeons

Establishment of a surveillance system for Oral Cancer and Oral Potentially Malignant disorders (OPMD) for Oral & Maxillo Facial units and Dental clinics in hospitals

Rationale

The National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) is the central level organization responsible for programme planning, implementation and coordination of cancer control activities in Sri Lanka. In addition, publishing the Cancer Registry is one of the main responsibilities of the National Cancer Control Programme based on the data collected on new patients diagnosed with cancer.

The annual incidence of cancers and its change in trends is important, in evidence based planning of national cancer control activities and in decision making for providing treatment facilities.

The practice adopted by the NCCP until 2005 had been to collect data pertaining to oral cancer was from the 9 main cancer treatment centers. In addition to that, in 2006, data on oral cancer was collected from 5 Oral and Maxillo-Facial (OMF) Units in the country. According to the published cancer registries until 2005, the incidence of oral cancer has remained more or less static. With the incorporation of the data from the OMF units oral cancer incidence

has again shown an increase. It is known that more and more OMF units are being established and more oral cancer cases are managed by the OMF units. Unless that information is included in the registry, this will lead to an underestimation of the burden of oral cancer which will in turn adversely affect planning of future activities for management of oral cancer. Therefore it is a timely need to establish a surveillance system for oral cancer and oral potentially malignant disorders to be included in the National Cancer Registry of Sri Lanka.

In 2006, the Ministry of Health piloted a surveillance system for oral cancer and OPMD in the Sabaragamuwa province of Sri Lanka successfully. It is planned to expand this system island wide from 2012. Responsibilities of officers at different levels and the registers to be maintained for this purpose are given below.

1. Activities with regard to oral cancer and OPMD notification to be carried out at different administrative levels

At Hospital Dental Clinics

- A register to be maintained for oral cancer and OPMD in the format provided in the clinic (Annexure 1).
- Screening all the patients who are referred by PHII, any other PHC worker or self referred persons and all dental OPD patients for OPMD and oral cancer and positive cases entered in the register.
- Monthly statistics to be sent through the Monthly Report of Hospital Dental Clinics (format H 1201)

At RDS Level

- RDS should co-ordinate the activities at regional level and the consolidated data on oral cancer and OPMD of the district dental clinics should be sent to Director/ NCCP annually

At OMF Clinics

- Maintain a register for oral cancer and OPMD at each OMF clinic according to the format provided (Annexure 2)
- Send an oral cancer notification form/return annually to the NCCP according to the format provided (Annexure 3).
- Send an annual return of Oral Cancer and OPMD to the NCCP according to the format provided (Annexure 4).

2. Responsibility

The responsible person/s for planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation at different administrative levels are given below.

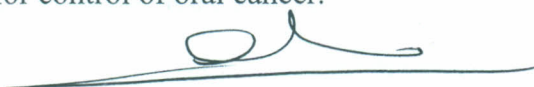
Divisional level	-	Hospital Dental Surgeons, Consultant OMF Surgeons
District level	-	RDHS, RDS
Provincial level	-	PDHS

At national level the Director/NCCP is responsible for the overall co-ordination, providing technical guidance, monitoring and evaluation of the district programme. Further information in this regard could be obtained from Director, National Cancer Control Programme through tel.no 011 - 2368627 or e mail nccpsl@yahoo.com.

National Cancer Control Programme

555/5, Ground Floor
Public Health Complex
Elvitigala Mawatha
Narahenpita
Colombo 5

We would greatly appreciate your commitment and cooperation towards this activity in planning for control of oral cancer.



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Director General Health Services
Ministry of Health

Dr. U. A. Mendis
Director General of Health Services
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CC:

1. Secretary- Health
2. Additional Secretary (Medical Services)- Health
3. DDG/PHS I
4. DDG/MS
5. D/NCCP

Annexure04

Annual return of new patients with oral cancer & Oral Potentially Malignant disorders- OMF units

Institute:.....

Unit:

Year:

		1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	Total
1 Oral Cancer :					
2 Leukoplakia :					
3 Erythroplakia					
3 Oral submucous fibrosis :					
4 lichen plannus	Non erosive type				
	Erosive type				
5 Other – specify :					

Date:

Name of the Consultant:

Signature: