

Rc.No.Spl/Covid-19/2020-10/17Dated: 09.04.2020ADVISORY

Sub : Advisory for Maintaining safe and adequate blood supply during the Pandemic outbreak of Corona virus disease (COVID-19).

Ref: 1. Lr. Rc. No. Spl/Covid-19/2020-13 Dt.31.03.2020 of th Director DCA.  
2. Interim Guidance on Maintaining safe and adequate blood supply during the Pandemic outbreak of Corona virus disease (COVID-19) of WHO.  
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Sir /Madam,

It is to bring to notice that WHO has release Interim guidance reference on 20 March 2020 on Maintaining safe and adequate blood supply during the Pandemic outbreak of Corona virus disease (COVID-19) of WHO.

The World Health Organization stressed upon:

1. **Mitigating the Potential risk of transmission through the transfusion of Blood & Blood components by way of :** Donor education, self-deferral, deferral of at-risk donor, quarantine of blood component , retrieval of in-date products based on report of post-donation illness in the donor etc. during Blood Donation & Transfusions.
2. **Mitigating the risk of staff and donor exposure to Covid-19 virus by way of :** Use of appropriate protective measure by Blood bank staff, Organizing of donation procedures to minimize contagion between donors and to staff, & reduction in Blood Bank staff etc.
3. **Mitigating the impact of reduced availability of Blood Donors by way of:** Blood Banks to be vigilant and to closely monitor on daily basis to consider the sufficiency/adequacy risk of blood and blood products to enable preparedness and response. Donor/Public awareness towards encouraging donations and to reduce donor anxiety & fears in crucial times of Covid -19 pandemic is warranted.
4. **Managing the demand for blood and blood products:** Blood services should continually assess their blood stocks carefully in anticipation of uncertainty in the scale of collection activities. To safeguard blood stocks good patient blood management is necessary.
5. **Ensure undisrupted supplies of Critical material and equipment:** Blood Banks must take steps to ensure continuity of supplies.
6. **Communication:** Public and stakeholder confidence in the blood system is important. All the staff of blood bank are to made to understand about the infectious threat and actions taken to ensure safety and reliability of the blood supply and the safety of staff and donors.
7. **Collection of Convalescent plasma:** On which detailed guidelines will be issued in future.

While enclosing the Interim guidance document of the WHO, In the larger interests of public health, you may take this on top priority such that instructions contained in the advisory are strictly adhered to.

  
Dr. PREETI MEENA., I.A.S.  
DIRECTOR

To,  
The Blood Banks in the Telangana State .  
To All Enforcement Officers of DCA Telangana State for follow up action.