



Drug Information Bulletin

Drug Information Centre (DIC)

Indian Pharmaceutical Association

Bengal Branch

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Regulatory Affairs Division (RAD), IPA

**Happy
World
Health Day
-2020**

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Editorial

It is my proud privilege to write the editorial of the first issue of the 14th year of the Drug Information Bulletin (DIB). This bulletin started its journey twelve years back on April 2007 under the Drug Information Centre (DIC), IPA Bengal Branch. Initially it started as a weekly bulletin and continued for eight years; thereafter this bulletin is being published on a weekly basis. Initially it was sent to the members of IPA Bengal Branch, but on request it expanded its horizon including IPA members of the entire country and now is available globally to anyone interested to receiving it. During the last five years it has been a joint publication of Drug Information Centre (DIC), IPA Bengal & Regulatory Affairs Division of IPA. It has earned several accolades to its credit from some international agencies like -Health Information for All, UK and Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association (CPA). On completion of each year we conduct a survey among the readers through a structured questionnaire regarding their opinion on its content regularity, its quality. We are happy we have always received encouraging results and inputs. The inputs we received have been implemented as far as possible. The most satisfying fact is that a good number of electronic bulletins have been published during last couple of years by the individuals who were the readers of this bulletin. It has also been reported that a number of Group of Hospitals both in India and abroad are forwarding this bulletin amongst their doctors, pharmacists and nurses. Some of the pharmacy & medical colleges are keeping the printed copy of this bulletin in their library for archiving. Our reader base is growing day by day on request from health personnel and even lay persons from India and abroad. We expect your inputs to serve you better.

Presently the whole world is fighting against COVID-19 pandemic. Let us work hard in this situation to fight against COVID-19. That will be best celebration of "World Health Day-2020".

Happy World Health Day-2020!

Dr. Subhash C. Mandal

Editor

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FIP Guidance on COVID-19

FIP have divided the guidance into four sections, which assist the workforce as a whole. Guidance specifically for community, hospital and clinical biology sectors can be found in Section 2 “Guidelines for pharmacists and the pharmacy workforce”. The FIP guidance is based on the available evidence and the recommendations of reputable organisations such as the World Health Organization, the United States and the European Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, and others, as cited at the time of publishing. The available knowledge about COVID-19 is rapidly changing and such recommendations may change accordingly. Although FIP will strive to keep these guidelines up to date, we recommend consulting the websites of these organisations and any newly available evidence for the most recent updates. Document is available at www.fip.org

Two important documents from WHO on how to cope with stress:

World Health Organization

Coping with stress during the 2019-nCoV outbreak

It is normal to feel sad, stressed, confused, scared or angry during a crisis.
Talking to people you trust can help. Contact your friends and family.

If you must stay at home, maintain a healthy lifestyle - including proper diet, sleep, exercise and social contacts with loved ones at home and by email and phone with other family and friends.

Don't use smoking, alcohol or other drugs to deal with your emotions.
If you feel overwhelmed, talk to a health worker or counsellor. Have a plan, where to go to and how to seek help for physical and mental health needs if required.

Get the facts. Gather information that will help you accurately determine your risk so that you can take reasonable precautions. Find a credible source you can trust such as WHO website or, a local or state public health agency.

Limit worry and agitation by lessening the time you and your family spend watching or listening to media coverage that you perceive as upsetting.

Draw on skills you have used in the past that have helped you to manage previous life's adversities and use those skills to help you manage your emotions during the challenging time of this outbreak.

World Health Organization

Helping children cope with stress during the 2019-nCoV outbreak

Children may respond to stress in different ways such as being more clingy, anxious, withdrawing, angry or agitated, bedwetting etc.
Respond to your child's reactions in a supportive way, listen to their concerns and give them extra love and attention.

Children need adults' love and attention during difficult times. Give them extra time and attention.
Remember to listen to your children, speak kindly and reassure them.
If possible, make opportunities for the child to play and relax.

Try and keep children close to their parents and family and avoid separating children and their caregivers to the extent possible. If separation occurs (e.g. hospitalization) ensure regular contact (e.g. via phone) and re-assurance.

Keep to regular routines and schedules as much as possible, or help create new ones in a new environment, including school/learning as well as time for safely playing and relaxing.

Provide facts about what has happened, explain what is going on now and give them clear information about how to reduce their risk of being infected by the disease in words that they can understand depending on their age.
This also includes providing information about what could happen in a re-assuring way (e.g. a family member and/or the child may start not feeling well and may have to go to the hospital for some time so doctors can help them feel better).

[फा. सं. एस-26(1)/2020-ईसीआर&ई]

अनुराग कुमार चौधरी, आर्थिक सलाहकार

MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(Department of Consumer Affairs)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 21st March, 2020

S.O. 1197(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section 2A and section 3, of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (10 of 1955), the Central Government, hereby makes the following Order, to regulate the prices of masks (2ply & 3ply), the Melt Blown non-Woven Fabric used as raw material in production of masks, masks (2ply & 3ply) and hand sanitizers for preventing infections due to COVID-19 virus namely :—

1. (1) This order may be called the fixation of prices of masks (2ply & 3ply), Melt Blown non-Woven Fabric and hand sanitizers Order, 2020.
(2) It shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.
2. (1) The retail prices of Melt Blown non-Woven Fabric used in manufacturing masks (2ply & 3ply), shall not be more than the prices prevailing on the day one month prior to 13.03.2020 i.e. the prices prevailing on 12.02.2020.
(2) The retail prices of masks (3ply surgical mask), shall not be more than the prices prevailing on the day one month prior to 13.03.2020 i.e. as on 12.02.2020 or not more than Rs.10 per piece whichever is lower and that of mask (2ply) shall not be more than Rs.8 per piece.
(3) The retail prices of hand sanitizer shall not be more than Rs.100/- per bottle of 200ml, the prices of other quantities of hand sanitizers shall be fixed in the proportion of these prices.
3. This Notification shall remain in force for a period upto 30th June, 2020 from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

[F. No. S-26/1/2020-ECR&E]

A.K. CHOUDHARY, Economic Adviser

Government of West Bengal
Department of Health & Family Welfare
Drug & Equipment Branch
Swasthya Bhavan, Sector-V, Salt Lake City,
Kolkata-700 091

No. H & FW /136/2020

Date:03.04.2020

NOTIFICATION

In view of the Notification of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs), vide Notification No. S.O.1087 (E).dated.13th .March, 2020, the two items "masks (2 ply & 3 ply surgical masks, N95 masks) & Hand Sanitizers" have been included as the Essential Commodities.

Whereas it is expedient to control the hoarding of the above mentioned two items by any persons, retailer, C&F/stockiest/Distributors in the State of West Bengal for availability of these Essential Items in this extraordinary public health condition due to COVID-19.

Accordingly, In exercise of the clause 13 (IX) of ' The West Bengal Epidemic Disease , COVID-19 Regulations,2020 issued by Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of West Bengal , dated:16th March 2020 vide no : H&FW/118/20 , it is hereby ordered that the maximum stock of the two items "masks(2ply & 3ply surgical masks, N95 masks) & Hand Sanitizers" at the manufacturer point, C & F Agent ,Distributor or supplier point and retailer point will be maintained as follows:-

Serial No	Product	Retailer	C&F/Stockist/ Distributor	Manufacturer
1.	Mask 2 Ply	200	3000	No Limit
2.	Mask 3 Ply	200	3000	No Limit
3.	N 95 Mask	100	1000	No Limit
4.	Hand Sanitizer	5 Lts. In different measurements	100 Lts. In different measurements	No Limit

The above Notification shall remain in force up to 30th June 2020 from the date of issue or untill further orders.



Principal Secretary
Health & Family Welfare Department

ALTHCARE



Drugs for COVID-19 should be sold only on prescription"

- T. NARAYANA
President, Indian
Pharmaceutical
Association

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(To be Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part-II, Section - 3, Sub-Section (ii))

Government of India
Ministry of Commerce & Industry
Department of Commerce
Directorate General of Foreign Trade
Udyog Bhawan
New Delhi

Notification No. 54/2015-2020
New Delhi, Dated: 25 March 2020

Subject: - Amendment in Export Policy of Hydroxychloroquine.

S.O. (E) In exercise of powers conferred by Section 5 of the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992 (No. 22 of 1992), as amended, read with Para 1.02 and 2.01 of the Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-20, the Central Government hereby makes the following amendments in the Schedule 2 of the FICHS Export Policy related to export of Hydroxychloroquine and its formulations, with immediate effect:

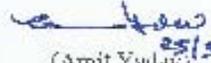
S.No	ITC HS Codes	Description	Present Policy	Revised Policy
207 E	ex29334900 ex29333990 ex29334900	Hydroxychloroquine	Free	Prohibited
207 F	ex30049059 ex30049099	Formulations made from Hydroxychloroquine	Free	Prohibited

2. The export of Hydroxychloroquine and formulations made from it, however, shall be allowed under following conditions:

- Export will be allowed from the SEZ/ECU Units and in cases where export is made to fulfill export obligation under any Advance license issued on or before the date of this notification.
- Export will be allowed in case of shipments where Irrevocable Letter of Credit (I.L.C) has been issued before the date of this notification or in case where full advance payment has been received by the exporter in India against specific shipment, subject to submission of documentary evidence.
- Exports will also be allowed by the Government of India to other countries on humanitarian grounds on case to case basis on the recommendation of Ministry of External Affairs.

3. Effect of this Notification:

The export of Hydroxychloroquine and formulations made from Hydroxychloroquine falling under any ITCIS Code, including the ITCIS Codes mentioned above, is prohibited, with immediate effect. Export shall, however, be only allowed in the conditions mentioned in Para 2 above.


(Amit Yadav)
Director General of Foreign Trade
Ex-Officio: Additional Secretary, Government of India
E-mail: dgft@nic.in

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DISCLAIMER:

The Newsletter intends to provide updated and reliable information on medicines and other related issues in an attempt to equip healthcare professionals to take informed decision in recommending medicines to the patients. However, they are encouraged to validate the contents. None of the people associated with the publication of the Newsletter nor the organization shall be responsible for any liability for any damage incurred as a result of use of contents of this publication. The brand names of medicines, if mentioned, are for illustration only and the Newsletter does not endorse them.