

No. Z. 20015/43/2021 – ME-I (FTS-8108321)
Government of India
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MEP Section

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 3rd May 2021

To,

Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary Health/Medical education
All States/UTs

Subject: Augmenting Human resources for COVID – 19 – regarding.

Madam/Sir,

In view of the need for increasing the availability of trained human resources to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic situation, the following Guidelines are being issued in consultation with the National Medical Commission and the Indian Nursing Council.

I -RELAXATION/FACILITATION/EXTENSION

1. Considering the current situation in the wake of resurgence of COVID – 19, National Eligibility cum Entrance Test-NEET (PG) – 2021 is being postponed. This Exam will not be held before 31st August 2021. At least one-month time will be given after the announcement of the Examination before it is conducted. The State/UT Governments are to make all efforts to reach out to each such prospective NEET candidate and persuade them to join the Covid – 19 workforce in this hour of need. The services of these MBBS doctors can be utilized in the management of COVID – 19.
2. The State/UT Governments may deploy Medical Interns in Covid Management duties under the supervision of their faculty, as part of the Internship rotation.
3. The services of Final Year MBBS students can be utilized for providing services like tele-consultation and monitoring of mild Covid cases after due orientation by and supervision of Faculty.
4. The services of Final Year PG Students (broad as well as super-specialities) as residents may continue to be utilized until fresh batches of PG Students have joined. Likewise, the services of the senior residents / registrars may continue to be utilized until new recruitments are made.
5. B.Sc./GNM Qualified Nurses may be utilized in full-time Covid nursing duties in ICU, etc., under the supervision of Senior Doctors and Nurses.
6. Final Year GNM or B.Sc. (Nursing) students awaiting Final Exam may be given full time Covid Nursing duties at Government/Private facilities under the supervision of Senior

Faculty.

7. The services of Allied Health Care professionals may be utilized for assistance in Covid Management, based on their training and certification.

8. The additional human resources thus mobilized should be used only in facilities managing Covid.

II – INCENTIVES/ RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

9. Health is a State subject and human resources for health are largely engaged by State Governments. The Central Government engages for their own institutions. The private sector also engages a large number of Health professionals.

10. The relaxation mentioned above, finalized in consultation with the National Medical Commission and the Indian Nursing Council, is to further augment human resources for responding to Covid-19 and should be fully availed by public and private institutions engaged in the effort.

11. The National Health Mission (NHM) norm for contractual human resource engagement by States/UTs may be considered for implementation of the above proposed initiative for engaging additional manpower. Flexibility will be available with States to decide on remuneration as in the NHM norms. A suitable honorarium for distinguished Covid Service may also be considered

12. The financial incentives/ remuneration shall be available only for those who work for at least 100 days for Covid care.

13. All Health professionals thus engaged will be covered under the Insurance Scheme of Government for health workers fighting Covid 19.

14. All such professionals who sign up for minimum 100 days of Covid duty and complete it successfully will be given the Prime Minister's Distinguished Covid National Service Samman from Government of India.

15. State/UT Governments can provide additional health professionals engaged through this process, to private Covid Hospitals as well in surge areas.

16. State Governments/ UT administrations are to ensure that the medical professionals sought to be engaged in Covid related work are suitably vaccinated.

17. The Central Government recommends to State/UT Governments to consider giving preference in regular Government appointments of Health professionals through the respective Public Service Commission/ other recruitment bodies, for those Health Professionals under this special scheme, who complete a minimum of 100 days of Covid related duty.

18. The State / UT Governments may also expeditiously fill vacant posts of doctors, nurses,

allied healthcare professionals and other healthcare staff in Health and Medical departments through accelerated processes as soon as possible and positively within 45 days through contractual appointments.

2. This has the approval of competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

(Amit Biswas)
Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy for necessary action to:

1. AS&MD, NHM, MoHFW.
2. The Secretary, National Medical Commission, Dwarka, New Delhi.
3. The Secretary, Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi.
4. The Executive Director, National Board Examination, New Delhi
5. CEO, Health, Niti Aayog.

Copy for information to.

1. The Director, PMO, New Delhi.
2. PS to Hon'ble HFM
3. PS to Hon'ble MOS(HFW)
4. PPS to Secretary (HFW)/PPS to AS(ME)/PPS to JS(ME)/DS(AHS/N)
5. PS to Member (Health), Niti Aayog.