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சுகாதார மற்றும் வெகுஜன ஊடக அமைச்சு
Ministry of Health & Mass Media

මගේ අංකය) FHB/MMMS/CEMD/2025
எனது இல)
My No.)

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Your No.)

දිනය)01..2025
திகதி)
Date)

Provincial Director of Health Services,
Regional Director of Health Services,
All Heads of Institutions of the Province/ All Heads of Institutions of Line Ministry.

Introduction of Confidential Enquiry into Maternal Deaths (CEMD) to the entire country

In view of further reduction of Maternal Mortality in Sri Lanka, Confidential Enquiry into Maternal Deaths (CEMD) has been introduced by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with Sri Lanka Collage of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists as a quality improvement initiative to the current MPDSR system. The pilot program was done in Western and Southern Province in 2022 and extended to the Central Province in 2023.

This program will be implemented to the entire country with effect from 1st of January 2025.


I request Provincial and regional Directors to ensure proper implementation of the new system with the support of all Heads of Institutions in your area. Heads of Institutions are requested to play a leading role in the implementation of the CEMD system with special emphasis on the actions mentioned bellow.

1. Nomination of an officer as a focal point for the CEMD process (MO public Health/MO quality etc)
2. In the event of maternal death, notification of the death within 24 hours of occurrence with a list of officers involved in the management of deceased to the Director MCH.
3. Ensure proper information gathering maintaining confidentiality at all levels.
4. Collect information from relevant officers after downloading the confidential formats at Family Health Bureau web site, fhb.health.gov.lk and send them in sealed envelopes to the FHB within 05 days of occurrence of the maternal death.
(opening the envelops or making copies of the filled confidential formats will be considered as an offence)
5. All relevant documents including the copy of the bed head ticket and post mortem report should be sent as early as possible to the FHB.
6. Arrange the Institutional Maternal Death Review (IMDR) preferably within 14 days of the date of death (in discussion with the Family Health Bureau) with the participation of all relevant officers (institutional and field staff) with the representation by the Family Health Bureau and other relevant experts from the central level as per national guide lines. Thereafter, completed maternal death investigation report H677 should be sent as early as possible to the FHB.


7. Ensure implementation of recommendations for further prevention of maternal deaths and regular monitoring process at the institutional level.

I request your kind cooperation to introduce this program to the entire country in 2025. You are advised to contact Director MCH, Family Health Bureau for any further clarifications in implementation of the program.

Thank you


Dr. Asela Gunawardena
Director General of Health Services

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Cc: Secretary of Health
DDG/PHS 11/MS 1
President SLCOG
Provincial & District CCP

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