

DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES, ODISHA
Health and Family Welfare Department: Government of Odisha

No **22407/HA-MISC-01/2020**, BBSR Date: **22.11.21**

To,

The Director Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar
The Director RGH, Rourkel.
Superintendent of all Medical Colleges.
All CDM&PHOs

Sub: Issue of Expiry Medicine to patients

Madam/Sir

It is observed that at different point of time Expiry Medicine are dispensed to patients in health facilities precipitating embracing situation and at times legal issues. To stream line inventory management of to be expired medicines, enclosing herewith one Advisory on Expiry Management of Drugs.

Suitable instruction may please be given to the person concerned to follow the advisory scrupulously. Necessary communication will be given regarding training programme on these issues.

The advisory has been approved by Govt. vide OSWAS File No: DHS-HA-HA-0034-2021.


Director of Health Services, Odisha.

Memo. No **22408** BBSR

Date. **22.11.21**

Copy to PS to Principal Secretary, Health & F.W. Dept, Govt. of Odisha, Bhubaneswar for information.


Director of Health Services, Odisha

Memo. No **22409** BBSR

Date. **22.11.21**

Copy submitted to Mission Director, NHM, Bhubaneswar for information.


Director of Health Services, Odisha

Memo. No **22410** BBSR

Date. **22.11.21**

Copy submitted to MD, OSMCL, Bhubaneswar for information.


Director of Health Services, Odisha

Memo. No **22411** BBSR

Date. **22.11.21**

Copy submitted to All Directors for information.


Director of Health Services, Odisha

Memo. No **22412** BBSR

Date. **22.11.21**

Copy to Joint Director, D&EM for information.


Director of Health Services, Odisha

Advisory

Expiry Management of Drugs

This is regarding issue of expired medicine to patients in different health facilities. These types of unfortunate incidents are being reported in media / by public giving rise to embarrassing situation and at times legal issues. Though the concerned officials are trained on this issue at different times by OSMCL, local training on patient safety and in other platform, the SOP is not followed in spirit. There is no documented monitoring system, no accountability to enforce an effective near expiry drug management system. It is a fact that the expiry date of a medicine is the point in time when a pharmaceutical product is no longer within an acceptable condition to be considered effective for a patient or has the potential to do harm and the medication reaches the end of its self-life. This is not to be confused with a 'best before date' for perishable foods where they can be eaten after the best before date if they still look palatable. The consequence of using expired stock is many folds e.g

- The active drug becomes chemically unstable.
- The effectiveness of drug may change.
- The breakdown of drug may be toxic & harmful to the patient.
- Increased risk of contamination from bacteria and other microbes.

1.1 Purpose

To establish a procedure for identifying, handling and maintaining the near-expiry medicines in drug stores, departmental sub-store and pharmacy (OPD) to minimise loss and ensure patient safety. .

1.2 Scope

All the important activities related to handling of near expiry drugs in the health facilities.

1.3 Responsibility

- i. OIC drug store of health facilities.
- ii. Pharmacist in- charge of Central ware house & sub-store.
- iii. Sister in charge of various department of the hospital.
- iv. Pharmacist in-charge of NIRAMAYA (DDC).

1.4 Procedure

1.4.1 All drugs supplied to the health facilities must reflect Expiry Date and to

be recorded in the stock register online and offline when taken in to inventory by Pharmacist I/C of drug store.

- 1.4.2 The Sister/ Pharmacist I/C of different wards or units must check the Expiry date when the drug is received at their unit.
- 1.4.3 The Expiry date must be rechecked at the time of dispensing.
- 1.4.4 All concerned must follow principle of FIRST IN FIRST OUT (FIFO) in inventory management. Deviation is permissible in case of drugs received late but with a short expiry date.
- 1.4.5 The monitoring of the expiry date must be done on daily basis and the drugs which will expire within three months are to be stored separately.
- 1.4.6 If certain item with needed for emergency and there is no replacement, the same can be used till last date of expiry.
- 1.4.7 If the quantity of the near expiry drugs is huge and there is no possibility for utilization in the same unit, these drugs are to be considered for interdepartmental transfer in consultation with store I/C.
- 1.4.8 Indenting must be done on rational assessment of consumption.
- 1.4.9 Before placing the monthly indent the assigned person must check the current stock level of medicine and excess quantity if any must be planned for return.
- 1.4.10 The expiry status of the supplied drugs must be reviewed by the Drug Therapeutic Committee every month at concerned facilities.
- 1.4.11 The provision in e-Niramaya in inventory management must be followed so that expired drugs cannot be issued/dispensed to facility or patients.
- 1.4.12 As instruction has been given to place annual indent as per consumption, excess quantity of drugs available at any facility may be relocated among the other facilities within the district and Indenting officers may be held responsible for proper utilization of short expiry drugs.
- 1.5 At times different manufacturers use different nomenclature for Expiry date which creates confusion among service providers. Some of the issues are compiled below for guidance.

WORDING ON MANUFACTURER'S PACKAGING	ACTION TO BE TAKEN
Best before Jan 2016	Discard on 31/12/2015
Use before end January 2016	Discard on 21/01/2016
Use by January 2016	Discard on 31/12/2015
Discard after January 2016	Discard 31/01/02016
Expires January 2016	Discard 31/01/2016
Use within one month of opening	Self explanatory
Discard seven days after opening	Self explanatory
Expiry date 31/12/2020	Not to be used beyond 31/12/2020


 Director of Health Services, Odisha