

## Minutes of National Drug And Therapeutic Committee Meeting 2023 (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter)

### Meeting details:

**Date:** Sep 27, 2023

**Time:** 10.00 a.m

**Venue:** Auditorium, Ministry of Health

### Attendees:

1. Dr Asela Gunawardena-DGHS
2. Dr D R K Herath-DDG Medical Supplies)/MSD)
3. Dr G Wijesuriya-DDG (MS II)
4. Dr H M K Wickramanayake-Directir/MSD
5. Dr M W M K Mediwaka-RDHS/Matara
6. Dr A D U Karunarathne-Director/DGH, Matara
7. Dr Ishani Fernando-Director/NCCP
8. Dr B A O Wijewickrama-DD/MSD
9. Dr Nipunika Senadheera-Con. Haematologist/LRH
10. Dr Geethika Patabendige-Con. Microbiologist/NHSL
11. Dr Indira Kahavita-Con. Dermatologist
12. Dr Nuragh Joseph-Con. Oncologist
13. Dr. Mathu Selvarajahm,-Consultant Nephrologist
14. Dr Vindya Gunsekera-Con. Nephrologist
15. Dr B A M Wickramasinghe-Con. Psychiatrist
16. Dr Senaka Bandusena-Con. Neurologist
17. Dr Duminda Ariyaratne-Con. General Surgeon/NHSL
18. Dr Tanya Pereira-Con. Cardiologist
19. Dr P M D Gunasinghe-MOIC/NHK
20. Dr Thilina Wijetunga-SR/MSD
21. Dr Chandana Abeysekera-SR/MSD
22. Dr Aravinda Wickramasinghe-SR/FHB
23. Mr Saman Munasinghe-MI/SPC
24. Mr K P H Sandaruwan-SP/MSD
25. Mr Priyankara Perera-AD (M & C)/MSD
26. Ms L C Wanniarachchi-ADP (II)/MSD
27. Ms P D Soloman-ADP (I)/MSD
28. Ms K S K Weerasekera-AD (QA)/MSD
29. Mr P K Kapila Susantha-Head-Planning Unit/MSD
30. Mr Chaminda Dissanayake-CP/MSD
31. Ms Senani Karavita-IC-QA/MSD
32. Ms Thilini Fernando-TEO/SPC
33. Mr A J M N Bandara-SCO-QA/MSD
34. Mr W P B Nishan-SCO-QA/MSD

35. Ms Lakmali Abeywardana-SCO-QA/MSD
36. Ms N K K Wijesinghe-HSCO (S)/MSD
37. Mr Nandana Bandara-HSCO (P)/MSD
38. Mr Chanaka Basnayake-ICTO/MSD
39. Mr Gayan Madhusanka-Mgt. Asst./SPC

**Excused:**

1. Prof. P Galappatthy, Professor of Pharmacology
2. Dr Ananda Wijewickrama-Con. Physician
3. Dr G Mayurathan, Con. Cardiologist

**Absent:**

1. Deputy Director General (Medical Services-I)
2. Deputy Director General (Laboratory Services)
3. Deputy Director General, National Hospital, Colombo
4. Deputy Director General (Dental Services)
5. Deputy Director General (Finance-I)
6. Chairman, National Medicines Regulatory Authority
7. Chairman, State Pharmaceuticals Corporation
8. Chief Executive Officer, National Medicines Regulatory Authority
9. Provincial Director of Health Services, North Western Province
10. Provincial Director of Health Services, Central Province
11. Provincial Director of Health Services, Southern Province
12. Regional Director of Health Services, Batticaloa
13. Regional Director of Health Services, Jaffna
14. Regional Director of Health Services, Gampaha
15. Director, National Cancer Institute, Maharagama
16. Director, Teaching Hospital, Jaffna
17. Director, National Medicines Quality Assurance Laboratory
18. Prof. Guwani Liyanage, Professor in Paediatrics
19. Dr Sandya Somaweera, Consultant Anaesthesiologist
20. Dr Suranga Manilgama, Consultant Physician in Internal Medicine
21. Dr Darshana Sirisena, Consultant Neurologist
22. Dr K D R A Kirihene, Consultant ENT Surgeon
23. Dr Manjula Wijewardane, Consultant Urologist
24. Dr Gunendrika Kasthuriratne, Consultant Rheumatologist

25. Dr Kapila Bandutilleke, Consultant Vitreoretinal Surgeon
26. Dr Chamila Ranawaka, Consultant Gastroenterologist
27. Dr Bodhika Samarasekera, Consultant Pulmonologist
28. Dr Chaminda Garusinghe, Consultant Endocrinologist
29. Dr Chaminda Mathota, Consultant Gynaecologist
30. Dr Prabath Wickrama, Consultant Psychiatrist
31. Dr Anuprabha Wickramasinghe, Consultant Psychiatrist
32. Dr Pubudu C. Perera, Consultant in Restorative Dentistry
33. Dr Chandani Peiris, Consultant Pathologist
34. A Pharmacist from the NMRA
35. A Nursing officer appointed by the Director Nursing

#### Approval of previous minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on May 03, 2023, were unanimously approved.

#### Actions taken on the agenda matters:

#	Matters	Committee decision	Responsibility
1.	Requisition of the essential drugs for ETUs in designated Divisional Hospitals in Kandy District; <b>Pilot Project</b> on Optimizing Emergency Care Services in ETUs of Divisional Hospitals in Kandy National Hospital Cluster by Provincial Director of Health Services, Central Province.	The committee approved the list of drugs to be included in the 2024 estimate, as requested by the PDHS, Central Province (CPC/PDHS/C3/2022 dated 17.07.2023), and as approved by the DGHS.	D/MSD
2.	Requesting permission to issue Pethidine Injection for home based care in <b>Palliative care</b> programme by Deputy Provincial Director of Health Services, Central Province.	The committee rejected the request as inj. Pethidine is not used for that. It was decided to continue the ongoing program conducted by the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP), using injection morphine as a pilot project. It was also decided to supply the required cannulas with the appropriate gauge to the NCCP.	DGHS, D/NCCP and D/MSD
3.	In accordance with the suggestion of FRC 2020/2021, not issuing SR Nos for the Formulary Revision Committee recommended items since <b>non-availability of NMRA registration</b> .	It was decided to send a directive by the DGHS to the NMRA requesting to make arrangements to register the required products that was already not registered with the NMRA.	DGHS, CEO/ NMRA, D/MSD
4.	Conducting a cost-benefit analysis for named patient items, especially for high-cost biologics. Discussed at previous NDTC, current progress is required.	It was decided to categorize coordinating the representatives from the relevant colleges. Dr Chandana Abesekera (SR) was instructed to conduct a research cost-benefit	DGHS, College presidents and D/MSD

		analysis on high cost named patient biologics.	
5.	Inclusion of Items to the Priority lists of Pharmaceuticals: I. Antithymocyte globulin (Rabbit) injection II. Thiotepa Injection III. Nitric Oxide (Prefilled cylinder) IV. Emicizumab 30mg/mL solution for injection (00408201)	The committee allowed the creation of SR numbers for products I, II, and III and included them on the priority list. However, due to the high cost of the Emicizumab 30 mg/mL solution for injection, it was not allowed to be added to the priority list and was allowed only to supply for individual patient names. It was also informed that the Emicizumab 30 mg/mL solution for injection needed to be continued with the donation supply that was already in place.	Secretary of Health Ministry, DGHS and D/MSD
6.	Notification of inclusion of the following pharmaceuticals in the priority list via letter MSD/QA/DRMM-2023/02: I. Secukinumab injection 150mg (01402801) II. Balanced Crystalloid solution without lactate Parenteral infusion in 500 mL collapsible bag/bottle (00407202) III. Amino acid solution 100 mL bottle (00402201) IV. Fludarabine phosphate injection 50mg vial (01201801) V. Lactulose 120mL bottle (00801302)	The committee noted and agreed with the decision.	DDGMS)/MSD and D MSD
7.	Notification of inclusion of the surgical consumables and X-ray items (list attached) in the priority list via the circular <b>Circular No. 01-23/2023 (i) dated 19.09.2023</b>	The committee noted and agreed with the decision.	DDG(MS)/MSD and D/MSD
8.	Requisition of Director, Castle Street Hospital for Women for inclusion of the item Human Chorionic Gonadotrophin 5000 IU (SR-00703101) into the Pharmaceutical Priority list.	The committee decided to include the requested item on the list of priority.	Secretary of Health Ministry, DGHS and D/MSD
9.	For information: Chloral hydrate Oral Solution 500mg/5mL in 200ml Bottle (SR 00300502) will be gradually replaced with the newly created Triclofos Oral Solution 500mg/5mL in 30 mL Bottle (SR 00300506) as per the decision of FRC 2020/2021.	The committee decided to remove Chloral hydrate oral solution 500 mg/5 mL in a 200-mL bottle (SR 00300502) from the priority list and replace it with Triclofos oral solution 500 mg/5 mL in a 30-mL bottle (SR 00300506). As a result, Triclofos Oral Solution 500 mg/5 mL in a 30 mL bottle with the given "SR 00300506" will be added to the priority list.	Secretary of Health Ministry, DGHS and D/MSD
10.	Issues on supplying Non formulary items (Individual Patient Treatment Requests).	The committee advised categorizing NFI based on specific indications through the coordination of relevant colleges.	DGHS, President of relevant colleges and D/MSD

11. Implementing a National policy for the regulation of “The rational usage of medicines in the country”	It was discussed that there is a challenge in implementing the requirement, but no specific directions or solutions were proposed.	DGHS
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**Actions taken on matters raised in the meeting:**

1. The following products, which have the approval of the Formula Revision Committee, have been authorized by the Committee to be assigned SR numbers and placed on the priority list.
  - i. Cyclosporine injection 50 mg/ml ampoule
  - ii. Treosulfan 5 mg powder for infusion vial
2. It was highlighted that the number of DTC reports received by MSD was very low. The DGHS explained the importance of DTCs, and the heads of the institutions should ensure that DTCs are regularly held and reports are sent to MSD without delay.

**The date for next NDTC meeting will be announced in advance.**

### Recommended and forwarded

Director/MSD

### Recommended and forwarded

DDG (Medical Supplies)

**Approved**

**Dr. ASELA GUNAWARDENA**

Director General of Health Services  
Ministry of Health

"Suwasiripaya"

385, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha,  
Colombo 10.

DGHS