

**Government of Himachal Pradesh
Health & Family Welfare**

File No. HFW/HPSACS/Bs/Gen./20 6039-70

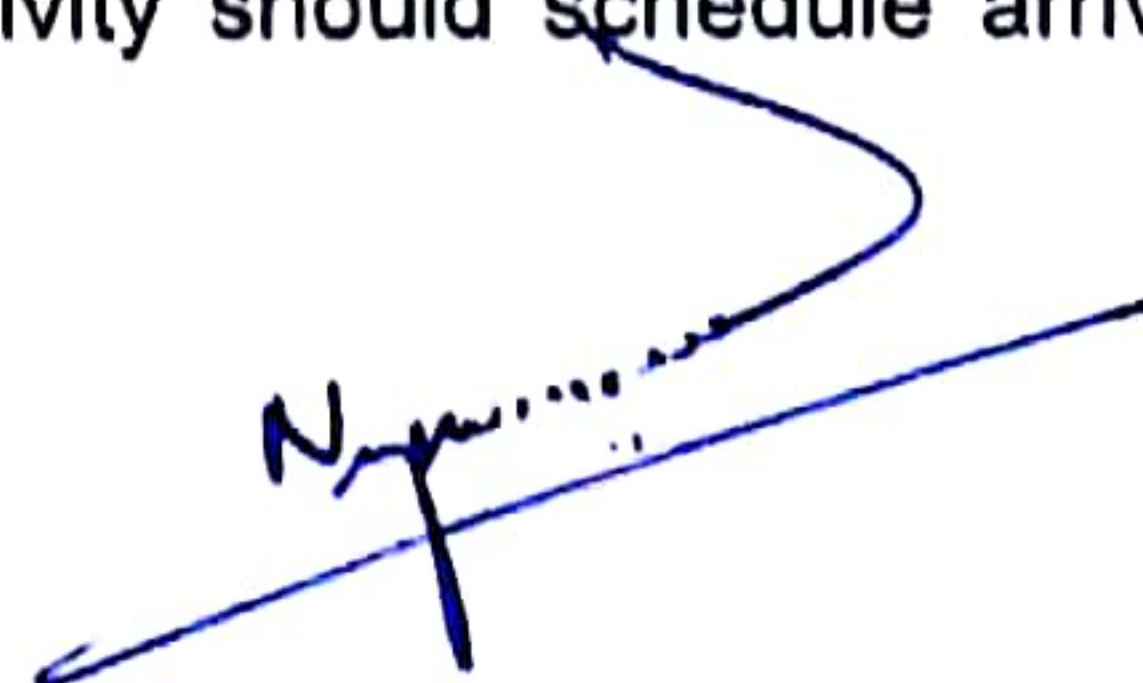
Dated: 20-03-2020

Advisory regarding holding Voluntary Blood Donation Camps

Keeping in view, the ongoing threat of COVID-19 in the Country and State, a complete ban has been proclaimed on the gathering of people to prevent the transmission of the virus. However, it is imperative that Voluntary Blood Donation should continue in order to avoid shortage of blood supply in the hospitals since a short supply has potential to deprive needy and critically ill patients of timely access to the essential and precious human resource categorized as a "Drug" under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act of India. Moreover, as blood has its limited shelf life and needs to be continually replenished, it is vital that healthy individuals volunteer for blood donation. To achieve this objective, the following advisory is being issued:-

1. Potential donors may be educated that they are not at risk of contracting COVID-19 through the blood donation process and they can freely donate blood.
2. Individuals (including their close contacts and family members) who have history of international travel, fever, cough, cold, stuffy or running nose, shortness of breath should avoid donating blood. A clear communication with blood donors should be established by camp organizers by means of all available media stating that individuals (including their close contacts and family members) who have history of international travel must refrain from blood donation for at least 28 days from arrival in India if asymptomatic and 28 days after complete recovery if they had fever, cough, cold, stuffy or running nose, shortness of breath and/or diarrhea for enabling self-exclusion.
3. The outdoor blood donation activity should have adequate space in order to avoid gathering/clustering/overcrowding of people at one working desk and venue.
4. The organizers of outdoor blood donation activity should schedule arrival of

①



blood donors at camp venue in a staggered manner to avoid gathering/clustering/overcrowding of people at one working desk.

5. All the precautions prescribed for social distancing should be adhered to at the site of blood donation activity.

N. Kumar
20/3/20

**Special Secretary (Health) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh**

Endst. No.

Dated Shimla-02 the 20-03-2020

1. The Additional Chief Secretary (Health) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh for information please.
2. All the Deputy Commissioners, Himachal Pradesh for information and necessary action please.
3. The Director of Health Services, Himachal Pradesh, Kasumpti-9 for information and necessary action please.
4. The Director of Medical Education, Himachal Pradesh, Kasumpti-9 for information and necessary action please.
5. All the Chief Medical Officers/ Medical Superintendents, Himachal Pradesh for information and necessary action please.
6. All the Blood Bank incharges for wide circulation of the advisory amongst all the organizations actively involved in voluntary blood donation.

N. Kumar

**Special Secretary (Health) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh**