



Dr. Nilam Patel
Additional Director [FW]

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No: FW/SNC/MMS -WHO/Unfollow/ /2020
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Date: /08/2020
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Sub: IFA Supplements under Anemia Mukh Bharat as per guidelines by MoHFW
Ref: D.O letter from Secretary - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with No. M.120
15/56/2020-MCH, Dated : 17th August, 2020

As per above cited subject & DO letter (Ref.) from MoHFW regarding noticing some organization's advocacy in the States to switch over from the routine antenatal care Iron Folic Acid Supplementation to Multiple Micronutrients and Vitamin D Supplementation (MMS) without adequate justification.

Further to this 'WHO Updated Guidelines on Antenatal Care and Nutrition for Multiple Micronutrients and Vitamin D supplementation (MMS)' recommend the use of MMS that differs totally within its specification of IFA supplementation as per guideline released by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Since Anemia is a Public Health Problem in India with its prevalence among women in the age group of 15-19 years to be as high as 53% (NFHS IV), the Government launched the Anemia Mukh Bharat (AMB) programme in the year 2018 which recommends consumption of 60mg of elemental iron, for accelerating the annual rate of its decline from one to three percentage points. Hence, adoption of new updated guidelines that recommends only 30mg or less element iron as a routine practice could hamper this public health problem further.

Gujarat State is also urged to follow & continue the existing strategies & guidelines as per MoHFW for implementation. All of you are directed to follow and implement accordingly.


[Dr Nilam Patel]

To,

- Regional Deputy Directors (All)
- Chief District Health Officers, All
- MOH, Corporations, All
- District Reproductive Child Health Officers-All

Copy with Compliments:

- Principal Secretary (Health), Gandhinagar
- Commissioner (Health), Gandhinagar
- District Development Officers, All