

**GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR CUM DISTRICT MAGISTRATE
PUDUCHERRY**

No. 1703/DM/RO/TAH/D2/2020/111

Puducherry, dt. 22/10/2020

ORDER

Sub: Prohibition of sale of over-the-counter medications for Covid related symptoms – Orders issued.

Ref: i. The Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897
ii. The Disaster Management Act, 2005

WHEREAS, the wake of the Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19) outbreak which has been declared as a Notified Disaster under the provision of Disaster Management Act, 2005, has prompted this UT Administration to take several preventive measures.

AND WHEREAS, it has been observed that the general public with Covid-19 related symptoms are avoiding proper testing and standardized Covid-19 containment / treatment protocols of the Government and resorting to self-medication by purchasing over – the - counter medications from local pharmacies, without proper prescription of physicians, which poses greater risk of further spread of Covid-19 infection.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Dr. T. ARUN I.A.S, in the capacity of District Magistrate, Puducherry and in exercise of the power conferred under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 and the Disaster Management Act, 2005, with a view to further prevent the spread of Covid-19 infection, until further notice otherwise, do hereby order the following to all medical shops / pharmacies :

1. No over-the-counter medications for treating cough, fever, cold, breathlessness and other Covid -19 related symptoms shall be sold to the general public by Medical Shops and Local Pharmacies in Puducherry
2. All such medications shall be sold to public only upon producing proper prescription issued by authorized medical practitioners.
3. All dispensaries, pharmacies and medical shops shall display details of nearest Covid focus centers in their place of operation. Such list shall be obtained from Dr.Murali (Mobile : 9443212716)
4. Covid-19 Awareness banners shall be displayed across all dispensaries, pharmacies and medical shops as a part of IEC and such banners shall focus on the symptoms, and need of early diagnosis and treatment and the content shall be obtained from Dr. Thirumalai Shanakar (Mobile : 9443480506)

5. The Pharmacy / Medical shops shall maintain the details of such medicines and the name and phone numbers of patients to whom such medicines were sold.
6. The Department of Drug Control, Puducherry shall ensure compliance and enforce the above guidelines across all drug dispensing units in Puducherry.



(Dr. T. ARUN, I.A.S)
DISTRICT MAGISTRATE
-CUM-
SECRETARY (HEALTH)
PUDUCHERRY

To

1. All Pharmacies, Drug Dispensaries, Medical Shops across U.T. of Puducherry
2. Department of Drugs Control
No.505, Kamaraj Salai, Saram,
Planning & Research Department Complex - II Floor,
Puducherry - 605 013.
3. Dr. Thirumail Shankar, Dy. Director, IEC,
4. Dr. Murali, Dy. Director (PH), Puducherry.

Copy to:

1. The Director, Health and Family Welfare Services Department, Puducherry
2. The Director, Department of Information and Publicity, Puducherry
- for widespread dissemination of information

Copy submitted to:

1. The Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Puducherry
2. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Puducherry
3. All Hon'ble Ministers, Puducherry
4. The Chief Secretary, Secretariat, Puducherry
5. All Secretaries, Chief Secretariat, Puducherry