

Government People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Health and Family welfare  
Health Services Division  
Public Health-2  
[www.mohfw.gov.bd](http://www.mohfw.gov.bd)

No- 45.00.0000.161.41.002.10- 327

Date: 04.12.2017

Notification

The Government is pleased to constitute the Expert Review Committee (ERC) for AFP cases with Inadequate Stool Sample for Polio Eradication as follows:

A. Composition of the Committee:

1. Professor Dr. Shahina Tabassum, Head of Department of Virology, BSMMU, Shahbagh, Dhaka -Chairman
2. Professor Dr. Md. Mizanur Rahman, Department of Paediatrics, BSMMU, Shahbagh, Dhaka -Member
3. Professor Dr. Abid Hossain Mollah, Head of Department of Paediatrics, BIRDEM Hospital, Dhaka- Member
4. Dr M Mushtuq Husain, Former Principal Scientific Officer, IEDCR, Dhaka (Epidemiologist) -Member
5. Virologist, National Polio and Measles Laboratory, IPH, Dhaka -Member
6. DPM, EPI & Surveillance, DGHS, MOH&FW -Member Secretary

B. Secretariat of ERC for AFP Cases with Inadequate Samples

1. Programme Manager, EPI, DGHS, MOH&FW
2. Team Leader, Immunization and Vaccine Development (IVD), WHO
3. Medical Officer-ISS, Immunization and Vaccine Development (IVD), WHO
4. NPO-EPI Surveillance, Immunization and Vaccine Development (IVD), WHO
5. Immunization Specialist, UNICEF

C. Membership-General Principle and Terms of Reference

**Honorary and independence:** NOT directly involved in the management and operations of National immunization programme and surveillance.

**Commitment:** Committed to carry out responsibilities independently with the highest professional standards

i) Tenure and termination of the membership of ERC:

- Multi-disciplinary experts e.g. epidemiology, pediatrics, public health practice, virology, molecular biology are included in the committee. At least 5 members should be present in each committee meeting.
- Duration of term of a member is four years.
- Signs declaration of interests form.
- Membership of the ERC may be terminated for the reason of
  - Break of confidentiality.
  - Failure to act in the interest of the public due to conflict of interest.
  - Failure to attend 03 consecutive meeting .

ii) Terms of Reference of ERC:

- ERC members hold meetings quarterly basis and/or as required to review documentation of AFP cases with inadequate stool sample.
- Review the AFP cases that do not have 2 adequate stool specimens and have residual weakness or died before 60+ days follow or lost to follow up and conclude final classification following WHO recommended AFP classification scheme.
- Recommend additional evaluations by clinical experts or tests (e.g. NCS/EMV, CT scan, MRI etc.) as required in order to draw an accurate diagnosis thereby conclude the final classification as per WHO recommended AFP final classification scheme.
- The secretariat will provide necessary support with PM-EPI acting as the focal point.
- Recommend national EPI to take measures as appropriate in relation to AFP surveillance performance.
- Conduct field visits when and where indicated.

*System Analyst  
Requested to upload  
it in the website  
(PPT & WRD).  
R. Rahman  
07.12.17*

- In absence of regular chairperson of the ERC, what so ever the reason might be, among committee members who are present, the senior member will preside the meeting.
- ERC can co-opt members, if needed.

iii) Operating Procedure of The Expert Review Committee (ERC) for AFP Cases with Inadequate Sample:

- Meet quarterly basis and/or as required at the EPI HQ Conference Room
- All AFP cases those do not have 2 adequate stool samples and have residual weaknesses or paralysis at 60+ days follow up or died before follow up or lost to follow up will be presented before the ERC for further review, classification and/or guidance for final classification.
- For AFP cases without 2 adequate stool samples, ERC members will review meticulously investigation form, supplementary investigation form, epidemiological investigation form, clinical records those are available and all relevant documents on a case by case basis.
- WHO and National EPI, as secretariat, will present cases before the ERC which will then discuss the differential diagnosis and determine if they are compatible, non-polio or if required will suggest for further investigation in drawing conclusion.
- ERC members will recommend additional consultations with experts or additional testing such as NCS/EMG, CT Scan, MRI or others as required.
- Minutes of each meeting will be taken by the member secretary and distribute to all members and presented to the National Committee for Certification of Poliomyelitis Eradication (NCCPE) by the member secretary.
- Additional consultations or testing will be facilitated by WHO.
- Additional resource persons may be invited to advise the ERC in drawing conclusion of AFP case/s with as per WHO recommended AFP final case classification Scheme.

D. This has the approval of the competent authority and will take into effect immediately.

  
(Md. Ruhul Amin Talukder) 04.12.17  
Joint Secretary  
Phone: 9515531  
ph2@hsd.gov.bd

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Date: 04.12.2017

Copy for kind information/necessary action (Not according to Seniority)

1. Professor Dr. Shahina Tabassum, Head of Department of Virology, BSMMU, Shahbagh, Dhaka
2. Professor Dr. Md. Mizanur Rahman, Department of Paediatrics, BSMMU, Shahbagh, Dhaka.
3. Professor Dr. Abid Hossain Mollah, Head of Department of Paediatrics, BIRDEM Hospital, Shahbagh, Dhaka
4. Dr M Mushtuq Husain, Former Principal Scientific Officer, IEDCR, Dhaka (Epidemiologist)
5. Virologist, National Polio and Measles Laboratory, IPH, Dhaka.
6. DPM, EPI & Surveillance, DGHS, MOHFW
7. Line Director, MNC&AH, DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka.
8. PS to Hon'ble Minister, MoHFW
9. PS to Hon'ble State Minister, MoHFW
10. Deputy Director, Bangladesh Forms and Publications office, Tejgaon, Dhaka (requested to publish the notification in the next gazette)
11. PS to Secretary, Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
12. PO to Additional Secretary (PH & WH), Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

  
(Md. Ruhul Amin Talukder) 04.12.17  
Joint Secretary