

දුරකථන } 2698471  
தொலைபேசி } 2698475  
Telephone } 2698490

ෆැක්ස් }  
பெக்ஸ் } 2693866  
Fax }

විද්‍යුත් තැපෑල }  
இணையத்தளம்; } postmaster@health.gov.lk  
E mail }



සුවසිරිපාය  
சுவசிரிபாய

SUWASIRIPAYA

සෞඛ්‍ය අමාත්‍යාංශය

මගේ අංකය }  
எனது இல } NCD /inj / 09 / 2021  
My No. }

ඔබේ අංකය }  
உமது இல }  
Your No. : }

දිනය } 90 .05.2022  
திகதி }  
Date }

General Circular: 02 - 49 / 2022

Provincial Health Secretaries,

Provincial / Regional Directors of Health Services,

Directors of Teaching Hospitals/ Provincial General Hospitals/ District General Hospitals

Medical Superintendents of Base Hospitals and

Heads of Institutions.

**NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK – 19<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> OF SEPTEMBER 2022**

**“Prevent Common Poisoning in Sri Lanka”**

National Poisons Centre has been annually conducting the poison prevention week over the past few years in collaboration with the directorate of non-communicable disease, National focal point of injury prevention Ministry of Health. This program creates awareness regarding prevention and management of poisoning in the general public and the health staff. This initiative is following a decision taken in 2007 by National Committee for Prevention of Injury.

According to the National Health Statistics, the total number of poison exposure patients admitted to the state hospitals from 2010 to 2019 were 1,060,333.

Among those, 23.2% (245,803) were admitted due to toxic effects of medicinal substances, 14.3% (151,807) were admitted due to pesticides poisoning, 30% (339,054) were admitted due to snake bites 30.5% (323,869) were admitted due to toxic effects of other non-medicinal substances.

Considering this, the National Poisons Information Center has decided to conduct the national poison prevention week 2022 to improve the awareness in the public through the health institutions in order to minimize hospital admissions and deaths due to poisoning.

In year 2022, the poison prevention week will be conducted under the following theme.

**“Prevent common poisoning in Sri Lanka”**

Scheduled dates: 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**Objectives:**

1. To minimize hospitalizations and deaths due to poisoning.
2. To educate the general public on methods of minimizing poisoning.

**The Proposed Activities:**

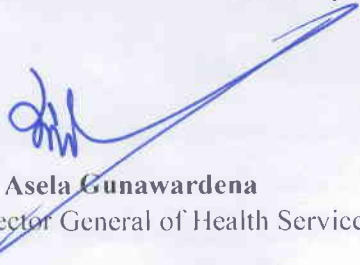
Preparation of activities to educate the staff and general public at institutional level.

01. Conducting lectures and exhibitions
02. Distribution of handouts and posters

You may seek further information and technical support from the National Poisons Information Centre located at the National Hospital of Sri Lanka/Colombo (Tel: 011-2686143/011-2691111 ext. 2430) who will be coordinating this activity.

Please bring this circular to the notice of all members of the staff and ensure that the above measures are implemented. At least one relevant program is expected to be carried out by each health institution.

A report of activities conducted in your respective institution should be forwarded to the Director/ Non-Communicable Disease, Ministry of Health, before 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022.



**Dr. Asela Gunawardena**  
Director General of Health Service

**Dr. ASELA GUNAWARDENA**  
Director General of Health Services  
Ministry of Health  
"Suwasiripaya"  
385, Rev. Baddegama Wimalawansa Thero Mawatha,  
Colombo 10.