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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

No:P1/7/2021/Health
 Health and Family Welfare (P) Department
 Thiruvananthapuram,
 Dated:09/03/2021

CIRCULAR

Sub: Health and Family Welfare Department- Colour schemes (internal & external) and Specifications for signages for Health care institutions in the State -instructions issued

Government of Kerala is developing various Health care institutions in the state using State Plan funds, funds from the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB), Loans from National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), assistance from Government of India, Development funds of Representatives of people and with the assistance of Local Self Government institutions. Government felt it necessary to specify the Colour schemes both internal and external and fix specifications for signage's in all Health Care Institutions under the Control of Health Department. Government after detailed discussions finalized the following colour schemes and signages for various Hospitals in the state.

1. Colour Scheme (External and Internal)

Sl No.	Name of Hospital	Colour scheme (exterior)	Colour Scheme(Interior)
1	Primary Health Centre, Family Health Centre, Community Health Centre and Taluk Hospital	Lighter shades of Green&White Green code (204 241 141) White code (229 226 217)	Green (Code-216 245 165)

2	District Hospital, General Hospital, Women and Child Hospital and Medical College	Lighter shades of Blue and White Blue code (15 109 170) White code (255 255 240)	Blue (Code 200 222 249)
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2.Signages

Sl. No	Name of Hospital	Signage Specifications
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Signage Colour Options <p style="text-align: center;"><u>A. External Signages</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Directional Signs – Blue background + White letter ■ Illuminated signs for the Main Entry – Blue background + White letter ■ Colour Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Navy – 00 00 80 / 0 0 128 ■ Blue – 00 00 FF / 0 0 255 ■ Ivory – FF FF F0 / 255 255 240 ■ White – FF FF FF / 255 255 255 ■ Illuminated signs (Emergency Unit) - Red background + White letter Options

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Primary Health Centre,
 Family Health Centre,
 Community Health
 Centre,
 Taluk Hospital,
 District Hospital,
 General Hospital,
 Women and
 Child Hospital,
 Medical College

- Colour Options:
- Red – FF 00 00 / 255 0 0
- Crimson – DC 14 3C / 220 20 60
- Ivory – FF FF F0 / 255 255 240
- White – FF FF FF / 255 255 255

- **Fire exit** – Green background + White letter Options

- Colour Options:
- Green – 00 80 00 / 0 128 0
- Forest Green – 22 8B 22 / 34 139 34
- White – FF FF FF / 255 255 255

B. Internal Signages

- Royal blue background + White letters
- Colour Options:
- Royal blue - 41 69 E1 / 65 105 255
- White – FF FF FF / 255 255 255

The different colour codes for exterior and interior of hospitals with respect to the sample real images is also attached to this circular for ready reference. For all the new Hospital buildings to be completed on or after 1/3/2021 will adopt the colour schemes and signage specifications mentioned in the table above read with Annexure I and II attached to this circular. In case of the existing Hospital buildings, the newly selected colour schemes and signage shall be adopted as and when renovation works or repainting works takes place.

Forwarded
/ By order,

**RAJAN NAMDEV KHOBRADE, PRL-
SECY(H&FWD), O/O PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE**

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Reason: Approved

Section
Officer.

To:

The Director of Medical Education, Thiruvanthapuram.
The Director Of Health Services, Thiruvananthapuram
All Principals of Government Medical Colleges(Through DME)
All Superintendents of Hospitals under Director of Health Services
(Through DHS)
Stock file/Office Copy
Health and Family Welfare (K/M/S/E and FW Sections)

Hospital Signage

Guidelines and Types of signage that have to be installed

1. External Way finding
2. Internal Way finding
3. Services listing signage
4. Doctor Directory
5. Availability & non availability of doctors with days/timings
6. Patient safety
7. Fire Safety
8. Services for physically challenged
9. Locating Lifts & Staircases
10. Locating Public Utility Places
11. Patient's Rights & Responsibilities
12. Service Areas
13. No Entry Zones
14. Others

Font style for signage

- Preferred lettering style is 'Helvetica Medium' upper and lower case generally.
- Upper case only is recommended for the building Main Entry Sign.
- Internationally recognised symbols (pictograms) in place of room titles are acceptable.
- Sizes of letters in relation to reading distances, mounting heights etc. shall comply with the relevant standards (IS 9457:2002).
- Braille and Tactile signage are recommended for all signs within reach range.
- There should be a luminance contrast of 30% minimum between the lettering and the background of all signs.

Height of Signages (from finished floor level)

- Door Signs – 1.60 m
- Wall mounted room signs – 2.10 m
- Signs for Physically Handicap – 0.80

Categories of External Signage

A. Directional Signs

- External directional signs shall have white reflective letters on a blue background (Refer Appendix 1).

- The signs shall preferably be of steel or aluminium construction.

B. Illuminated Signs

External illuminated signs for an Emergency Unit shall have white letters on a red background (Refer Appendix 1).

- External illuminated signs for the Main Entry and Night Entry shall have white letters on a blue background (Refer Appendix 1).
- The sign for Emergency department/Emergency unit should read as "Emergency".

C. Street Signs

- Street signs shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Municipality and/or the appropriate section of the state roads and traffic authority.
- Accreditation Standards usually require that the facility have street directional signs sufficient to enable it to be easily located from the major access road in the area.
- The Emergency Unit, if provided, will require an illuminated sign that is clearly visible from the entrance to the Hospital site.

Categories of Internal Signage

A. Directional Signage

Non illuminated directional and area identification signs should be as follows:

- Ceiling or wall mounted.
- Text on contrasting background - dark lettering on light background preferred.
- A guide for the patient or visitor until they reach a room or door sign for the intended destination.
- Not obscure other critical ceiling fixtures such as emergency lighting or fire exit signs.
- Serious consideration should be given to the provision of alternate low level signs in Braille (as well as plain text) in Hospital Entrance Foyers leading to major departments, lifts and public amenities.
- It is recommended that such Braille signs be installed immediately above the handrail.

B. Door Numbers

- Door/Frame Numbering or tags may be required by the management for easy maintenance.
- This is a separate concept to room signage showing the function of the room.
- Door numbering may be done in consultation with hospital authorities.
- Unlike room signs, door numbering may be small and unobtrusive.

C. Bed Numbers

Bed numbers shall be shown outside the general/pay wards.

- These shall be one number per bed.
- This is to assist in finding patients.
- In bedrooms with more than one bed, all bed numbers or the range of numbers should be shown on the sign outside the room.
- For example:
 - Beds 78 & 79 or
 - Beds 78 to 81
- In bedrooms with more than one bed, each bed number shall be displayed at the bed head also.
- Bed numbers outside the room must be clearly visible from the corridor and not be obscured by other objects or wall returns.

D. Room Signs

Non-illuminated, internal and external room-function identification signs that are located on doors require the following considerations:

- The format used should allow easy replacement of the sign or sign inset
- when the room function changes.
- It may be appropriate to deliberately omit signs on certain doors used only by staff.
- Special notes may be installed to identify restricted access to certain rooms or departments.

E. Miscellaneous Signs

The healthcare precinct will include various other signs that may be illuminated or non-illuminated such as:

- Illuminated 'X-ray Room in Use' or 'Laser in Use' signs
- Radiation warning signs and symbols
- Security surveillance warnings
- Safety warning signs.

- The colours and wording used should meet the requirements of the relevant code or regulating authority.

F. Fire Services & Egress Signs

- Fire services and egress/ exit signs will be installed in accordance with the local fire services codes and standards.
- As fire service equipment signs are required to be identified from any direction, consideration should be given to use of cantilevered wall signs in these locations.

G. General instructions

- The colour details are shown in the following format
Colour name (HTML Name) - Hex (RGB) / Decimal (RGB).
- All these colours can be generated through computer graphics for background boards and letters

Annexure-I

Hospital Colour Scheme with sample images

Exterior Colour Options

1. Green and White Combination(Exterior)



204 241 141



229 226 217

2. Blue and White Combination(Exterior)



15 109 170

255 255 240

Interior Colour Options

3. Blue



200 222 249

4. Green



216 245 165