



SECRETARY

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གསོ་བ་ལྷན་ཁག་ རིམ་ཕྱོགས་
Royal Government of Bhutan
Ministry of Health, Thimphu
"A Nation with the Best Health"



MoH/DoPH/ECP/2025-2026(1)/ 2160

29th September, 2025

NOTIFICATION

Every October, Bhutan observes Older Persons' Month nationwide, following the International Day for Older Persons on 1st October. It is observed as a powerful platform for advocacy on healthy ageing and intergenerational solidarity. This initiative reflects Bhutan's commitment to promoting healthy ageing, aligning with the National Policy for Senior Citizens of Bhutan 2023 and the global call to action on the Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030).

Accordingly, commencing from the first week of October 2025, all health facilities across the country are hereby directed to initiate and conduct facility-based health screening programs for older persons aged 65 years and above as part of the observation of Older Persons' Month. Health facilities providing Traditional Medicine services are also encouraged to extend these services to older persons, along with regular health screenings.

This year's observance holds special significance as it leads to the commemoration of the 70th Birth Anniversary of His Majesty the Fourth Druk Gyalpo on 11th November 2025. In honoring this auspicious occasion, all health facilities are instructed to conduct the screenings and related activities with utmost diligence, dedication, and reverence, ensuring that this noble initiative serves as a meaningful tribute to His Majesty's legacy of compassion and care for the people.

To ensure successful implementation, all Dzongkhag Public Health Officers and Thromde Public Health Officers (DPHOs/TPHOs) are to monitor the health screenings in their respective districts/thromde. The DPHOs/TPHOs should ensure that all screening data are submitted to the Elderly Care Program. As a follow-up intervention, older persons suspected of hearing loss during the October screenings shall be provided further audiological assessment to determine the degree and type of hearing loss by an Audiologist. In commemoration of His Majesty's 70th Birth Anniversary, eligible individuals shall be provided and fitted with free hearing aids based on the assessments, to improve their hearing and quality of life. In addition, the Ministry will also commence seasonal influenza vaccination from the second week of October, along with elderly health screening.

The Ministry of Health would like to request all health workers to render their full support in observing Older Persons' Month and to strictly adhere to this notification.

(Pemba Wangchuk)
Secretary



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PARO/RINPUNG DZONG



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Royal Government of Bhutan
Ministry of Health, Thimphu

"A Nation with the Best Health"



Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Health Minister, Ministry of Health, for kind appraisal
2. President, National Medical Services, for information
3. Directors and Chiefs, Ministry of Health, for information
4. Dasho Dzongdag, 20 Dzongkhag Administration, for necessary actions
5. Medical Superintendent, JDWNRH, ERRH, and CRRH, for necessary actions
6. Dzongkhag Public Health Officers, Thromde Public Health Officers, and Chief Medical Officers, incharge for necessary actions
7. Office copy



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