



## Abstract

Brain death - Declaration of brain death made mandatory in Government Medical College Hospitals in Chennai - Orders Issued.

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Health and Family Welfare (Z1) Department

G.O.(Ms) No.6

(Thiruvalluvar Aandu - 2038,  
Sarvajith, Margazhi Matham -1)

Dated: 08.01.2008

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Order:-

It has been brought to the notice of the Government that Brain death is not declared when it has occurred. Further, doubts have arisen in medical circles on the authority by which doctors may declare "Brain Death" whenever required. Several patients who are brain dead have been kept on life support systems in the three Medical College Hospitals in Chennai that could have been utilized by other patients who are not in a similar state and have a better chance of recovery. It is also known that failure to declare brain death even when all the conditions are evident has led to prolonged anxiety for all family members and friends of the patients.

2. Due to the lack of clarity on this issue and the optional nature of the current situation, it is necessary to issue orders making it mandatory to declare "Brain death" and certify it accordingly.

3. The following orders are therefore issued in the matter:-

***It is now made mandatory that whenever the medical condition (clinical and medical criteria have been met for) of a patient has reached a brain death stage, brain death certification is to be done by the authorized medical personnel.***

4. The above order shall come into force in the three Government Medical College Hospitals in Chennai, viz., Government General Hospital, Government Stanley Hospital, and Government Kilpauk Medical College Hospital (Inclusive of Government Royapettah Hospital) with immediate

effect and shall be considered for expansion in other Government Hospitals in the State in due course.

5. The procedures to be followed for declaring brain death and the authorized personnel for the same will be issued separately.

(By order of the Governor)

V.K.Subburaj,  
Secretary to  
Government

To

The Director of Medical Education,  
Chennai - 600 010,  
The Dean, Government General Hospital,  
Chennai - 600 003,  
The Dean, Government Stanley Hospital,  
Chennai - 600 001  
The Dean, Government Kilpauk Medical College Hospital,  
Chennai - 600 010.

/forwarded by order /

Section Officer