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**Most Urgent**  
**Personal Attention**

No.EDN-HE(21)B(15)38/2018-V  
Directorate of Higher Education,  
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-1  
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To Dated Shimla-1 the June,2018

1. All the Deputy Directors of Higher Education in, Himachal Pradesh.
2. All the Principals/ Headmasters, Govt./ Pvt. Senior Secondary/ High Schools in, Himachal Pradesh.

**Subject:- Advisory NIPAH Virus (NiV) 2018.**

Memo,

This is with reference to the letter No.HFW-H(VI)B(15)17/2017-20194 dated 24-05-2018 received from the Director Health Services, Himachal Pradesh, wherein it has been intimated that NIPAH Virus (NiV) was initially discovered when it caused an outbreak of brain fever among pig farmers in Malaysia. It can be transmitted from person to person and there is no antiviral therapy for this infection. Recently an outbreak has been reported in Kerela, as a result, general public is at high risk.

**People who are at high risk:-**

1. Consumers/ fruit handlers of fruits which are bitten by bats.
2. Farmer who come in contact with bats.
3. People workings with pigs and consuming pork.
4. Contact with people who already have NIPAH Virus infection.

**Early Symptoms:-**

The initial presentation is non-specific, characterized by the sudden onset of fever, headache, muscle pain, nausea and vomiting. Neck rigidity and Photophobia are also seen. The disease rapidly progresses with deterioration in consciousness leading to coma within five to seven days.

**How to diagnose:-**

The diagnosis is by ELISA which is currently done at National Institute of Virology, Pune.

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**How is treated:-**

Supportive and Symptomatic care is the mainstay of treatment. Infected patients may require intensive care monitoring in isolation. THERE IS NO APPROVED SPECIFIC THERAPY FOR THIS INFECTION. So prevention is the only cure.



**Prevention:-**

1. Avoid contact with pigs and pig handlers.
2. Maintain personal hygiene and hand washing practices.
3. Avoid consumption of raw fruits, consume only well cooked homemade food till the outbreak settles down.
4. Preferable use N95 mask while travelling or working in public places to avoid person to person transmission in NIPAH Virus infected endemic areas.
5. Be aware of the symptoms and report to the Doctor immediately for early diagnosis and treatment.

In view of aforementioned position, you are directed to disseminate above mentioned instructions amongst all the School students in the morning assembly, regularly.

**This may be given personal attention and top priority please.**

(Dr. Amar Dev),  
Director of Higher Education,  
Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. Even Dated Shimla-1 the June, 2018  
Copy for information and necessary action is forwarded to:-  
1. The Director of Health Services, Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-9, w.r.t. above mentioned letter number and date.  
2. ✓ The Technical Officer, IT Cell, with the direction to upload the same on the Departmental website.  
3. Guard file.

Director of Higher Education,  
Himachal Pradesh