

No. 25022/64/2018-F.I
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
(Foreigners Division)

Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, India Gate
New Delhi - 110002, dated the 20th November, 2018

To

1. All Indian Missions/ Posts
2. Principal Secretary (Home) of all State Governments/ UT Administrations
3. Principal Secretary (Health) of all State Governments/ UT Administrations
4. FRROs- Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Amritsar, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kochi, Thiruvananthapuram, Calicut, Goa, Lucknow and Ahmedabad.

Subject: Amendment to various Chapters of the Revised Visa Manual with regard to procedure to be followed for taking medical treatment by foreigners on any category of visa falling ill after coming to India

Sir,

Please refer to the Revised Visa Manual updated as on 15th September, 2017 and to this Ministry's Circular no. 504 [F. no. 25020/75/2016-F.I (Vol.IV)] dated 15th June, 2018 amending chapters 2 & 3 of the Visa Manual and Circular no. 513 [F.No. 25022/46/2018-F.I.] dated 10th August, 2018 amending various chapters of the Visa Manual.

2. Attention is invited to para 1.36 of Chapter 1-General of the Visa Manual (inserted vide this Ministry's Circular no. 513 dated 10th August, 2018) which prescribes the procedure to be followed in the event of a foreigner on any category of visa falling ill after coming to India requiring specialized medical treatment. (As per this procedure, in case of sudden illness which requires continuous treatment of less than 180 days or the stay stipulation period, if any, stipulated on the visa, whichever is earlier, the foreigner or medical representative should approach the office of the concerned FRRO and submit a medical certificate from a Government/ ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research)/ NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers)/ MCI (Medical Council of India)/ CGHS (Central Government Health Scheme) recognized hospital, mentioning the medical condition and recommendation for treatment along with the duration of treatment. It is further provided therein that FRRO concerned, after due satisfaction that the foreigner has fallen ill while in India, instead of converting the visa to Medical visa, may grant permission for taking the treatment by issuing a 'Medical Permit' of limited duration i.e. less than 180 days or the stay stipulation period, whichever is earlier, against a normal fee. Similar provisions relating

Ass. Secy (MHA) (IT)



to grant of Medical Permit have been incorporated in various chapters of the Visa Manual as mentioned below:-

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (i) | Para 2.6.1(b) of chapter 2 | - e-visa |
| (ii) | Para 3.5(b) of chapter 3 | - Visa-on-Arrival |
| (iii) | Para 5.3 (c) of Chapter 5 | - Tourist Visa |
| (iv) | Para 7.8(c) of Chapter 7 | - Employment Visa |
| (v) | Para 9.6(3) of Chapter 9 | - Business Visa |
| (vi) | Para 10.15(8) of Chapter 10 | - Student and Research Visa |

3. The matter relating to grant of Medical Permit as mentioned in para 2 above has been re-considered by the Government. In this context, it may be stated that in terms of the provisions in paragraph 16 of the Foreigners Order, 1948, hospital authorities are required to furnish the details of the foreigner admitted in the hospital to the FRRO concerned in Form 'C'. With a view to enable a foreigner who is already in India on a valid visa to take indoor medical treatment without any hassle especially in cases of emergency and keeping in view the mandatory requirement of submission of Form 'C' by the hospital authorities to FRRO concerned, it has been decided, with the approval of the competent authority, to dispense with the requirement of Medical Permit for indoor medical treatment, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Such indoor medical treatment shall be taken by the foreigner in a Government/ ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research)/ NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers)/ MCI (Medical Council of India)/ CGHS (Central Government Health Scheme) recognized hospital/ treatment centre.
- (ii) The hospital/ treatment centre authorities concerned shall furnish the details of the foreigner in the prescribed Form 'C' along with details of the indoor medical treatment to be taken by the foreigner, duly certified by the treating doctor, to FRRO concerned as soon as may be, but not more than 24 hours after the admission of the foreigner in the hospital/ treatment centre for such indoor medical treatment. A copy of the confirmation received about submission of the details to FRRO concerned may be given by the hospital authorities to the foreigner for his/ her record.
- (iii) The indoor medical treatment may also cover treatment for diseases, if any, which the foreigner may have been suffering even before his/her entry into India but which has come to the notice of the treating doctor during the medical diagnosis necessitating indoor medical treatment in the hospital/ treatment centre.
- (iv) Diseases which require organ transplant may, however, be treated only on a Medical Visa and in such cases, the visa of the foreigner may be converted to Medical Visa by FRRO concerned as per the existing provisions.

4. Accordingly, following amendments are made in various chapters of the Visa Manual:-

- (I) Existing para 1.36 in Chapter 1- General of the Visa Manual is substituted by the following:-

“1.36 Procedure to be followed in the event of a foreigner on any category of visa falling ill during his/ her stay in India requiring medical treatment

- (i) A foreigner (including a Pakistani national) suffering from a minor medical condition which needs only OPD consultation/ treatment may take treatment at any hospital/ treatment centre on his/her primary visa.
- (ii) In case of illness which requires indoor medical treatment of less than 180 days or the stay stipulation period, if any, stipulated on his / her primary visa or the duration of his/ her primary visa, whichever is earlier, a foreigner (other than a Pakistani national) is permitted to take such indoor medical treatment subject to the following conditions :-
- (a) Such indoor medical treatment shall be taken by the foreigner in a Government/ ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research)/ NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers)/ MCI (Medical Council of India)/ CGHS (Central Government Health Scheme) recognized hospital/ treatment centre.
- (b) The hospital / treatment centre authorities concerned shall furnish the details of the foreigner in the prescribed Form 'C' along with details of the indoor medical treatment to be taken by the foreigner, duly certified by the treating doctor, to FRRO concerned as soon as may be, but not more than 24 hours after the admission of the foreigner in the hospital/ treatment centre for such indoor medical treatment. A copy of the confirmation received about submission of the details to FRRO concerned may be given by the hospital authorities to the foreigner for his/ her record.
- (c) The indoor medical treatment may also cover treatment for diseases, if any, which the foreigner may have been suffering even before his/her entry into India but which has come to the notice of the treating doctor during the medical diagnosis

necessitating indoor medical treatment in the hospital/ treatment centre.

- (d) Treatment of diseases which require organ transplant shall be permitted only on a Medical Visa. In such cases, the visa of the foreigner may be converted to Medical Visa by the FRRO concerned as per the provisions mentioned in sub-para (iii) below.
- (iii) The primary visa of the foreigner will have to be converted to 'Medical' visa in the following types of cases:-
 - (a) In cases where the period of treatment exceeds 180 days or the stay stipulation period, if any, stipulated on the primary visa or the duration of the primary visa, whichever is earlier;
 - (b) in cases for treatment of diseases which require organ transplant;
 - (c) In cases of indoor medical treatment of Pakistani nationals for any period.

In all such cases (other than those of Pakistani nationals), the primary visa may be converted to Medical Visa and extended by the FRRO concerned as per the provisions in para 6.5 of this Visa Manual applicable to normal Medical Visa after collecting necessary fees. However, in the case of Pakistani nationals, conversion of the primary visa to Medical Visa and extension of Medical Visa will be granted by DCP/FRO concerned only with the prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

In all such cases, the primary visa will be suspended.

- (iv) It may not be necessary to convert the dependent visa to Medical Attendant Visa in case the visa of the principal visa holder or of one of the dependents on dependent visa is converted to Medical Visa. In such cases, the dependents issued with dependent visa may be allowed as Medical Attendants without converting the visa to Medical Attendant Visa.
- (v) On acquisition of fitness certificate, the foreign national will be allowed to resume his/ her activity as per the primary visa. In such cases, the Medical Visa of the foreign national will be re-converted into the primary visa by the FRRO

concerned without changing the validity of the primary visa. This re-conversion should be charged with fee required for grant of fresh primary visa as applicable. However, in cases where the duration of the primary visa has already expired, the foreign national will be granted exit by the FRRO concerned.

Note : In the case of Pakistani nationals, re-conversion to the primary visa or grant of exit, as the case may be, will be granted by DCP/ FRO concerned only with the prior approval of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(vi) A foreigner holding 'X-1' visa (Person of Indian Origin and children of an Indian citizen/ Person of Indian Origin/ OCI cardholder) and 'X-2' visa (spouse of an Indian citizen/ Person of Indian Origin/ OCI cardholder) may take treatment in any hospital/ treatment centre for any duration without converting their visas to Medical visa "

(II) Existing sub-para 2.6.1 (b) in Chapter 2 – e-Visa of the Visa Manual is substituted by the following:-

“(b) In case of a foreigner on e-visa falling ill during his/ her stay in India requiring medical treatment, the procedure as laid down in para 1.36 of this Visa Manual will be applicable.”

(III) Existing sub-para 3.5 (b) in Chapter 3 – Visa-on-Arrival of the Visa Manual is substituted by the following:-

“(b) In case of a foreigner on Visa-on-Arrival falling ill during his/ her stay in India requiring medical treatment, the procedure as laid down in para 1.36 of this Visa Manual will be applicable.”

(IV) Existing sub-para 5.3 (c) in Chapter 5 – Tourist Visa of the Visa Manual is substituted by the following:-

“(c) In case of a foreigner on Tourist Visa falling ill during his/ her stay in India requiring medical treatment, the procedure as laid down in para 1.36 of this Visa Manual will be applicable.”

(V) Existing sub-para 7.8 (c) in Chapter 7 – Employment Visa of the Visa Manual is substituted by the following:-

“(c) In case of a foreigner on Employment Visa falling ill during his/ her stay in India requiring medical treatment, the procedure as laid down in para 1.36 of this Visa Manual will be applicable.”

(VI) Existing sub-para 9.6 (3) in Chapter 9 – Business Visa of the Visa Manual is substituted by the following:-

“(3) In case of a foreigner on Business Visa falling ill during his/ her stay in India requiring medical treatment, the procedure as laid down in para 1.36 of this Visa Manual will be applicable.”

(VII) Existing sub-para 10.15 (8) in Chapter 10 – Student and Research Visa of the Visa Manual is substituted by the following:-

“(8) In case of a foreigner on Student or Research Visa falling ill during his/ her stay in India requiring medical treatment, the procedure as laid down in para 1.36 of this Visa Manual will be applicable.”

5. All other provisions in the relevant Chapters of the Visa Manual would remain unchanged and continue to be in effect.

6. These instructions shall come into force with immediate effect.

Yours faithfully



(Pramod Kumar)
Director (Foreigners)
Tel. No. 23077508

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi
2. Ministry of External Affairs [Shri Amit Narang, Joint Secretary (CPV)] - with the request to circulate these instructions to all Indian Missions and Posts.
3. Ministry of Tourism [Shri Suman Billa, Joint Secretary], Transport Bhavan, New Delhi
4. Ministry of Commerce & Industry (Department of Commerce) [Shri Sudhanshu Pandey, Joint Secretary], Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi
5. Bureau of Immigration (Shri Rajeev Ranjan Verma, Joint Director) with the request to circulate these instructions to all FRROs/ FROs.
6. Director, Cabinet Secretariat.
7. DDG, NIC- with a request to place this Circular in the online Notice Board of C-Visa and C- FRO

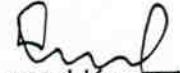


(Pramod Kumar)
Director (Foreigners)

Internal Distribution

JS(F)/ Director (FC & MU) / Director (C) / US(F) / US(V) / US (C) / US(Imm)

All sections of Foreigners Division



(Pramod Kumar)
Director (Foreigners)