Dear Madam,

As you are aware that under the Home Based Newborn Care Programme, ASHAs are visiting the mother and newborn baby, at their home, till 42 days of age to provide newborn and post-partum care and identify danger signs in neonate for prompt referral.

The issue of appropriateness of use of Syrup Cotrimoxazole by ASHAs in sick newborn has been under consideration of the ministry and it has been decided that:

- Syrup Cotrimoxazole will no longer be a part of ASHA HBNC Kit and be replaced by Syrup/Dispersible Tablets of Amoxicillin for specified states.
- ASHAs from 8 EAG states (Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Rajasthan) + Jammu & Kashmir + Assam (Total of Ten States) will be allowed to use Syrup Amoxicillin in young infants having suspected sepsis, with certain conditionality.

Detailed guidelines will be shared later.

Warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr Rakesh Kumar)

Principal Secretaries of all States/UTs (HFW)

Copy to:
Mission Directors, NHM of all States/UTs
Child Health Nodal Officer of all States/UTs
ASHA Nodal Officers of all States/UTs
ED- NHSRC, New Delhi