



## TAMILNADU MEDICAL COUNCIL

### ADVISORY NO - # 15, AGE CERTIFICATE

**Age Certificate:** Age Certificate is a Medical Certificate that certifies the Age of the person. Medical proof of Age is an additional document secondary to Birth Certificate, School Certificate or municipality documents regarding birth and is given only in ranges.

Registration of Birth and obtaining Birth Certificate has been made compulsory as per Tamil Nadu Registration of Births and Death Rules, 2000. Hence, issuing of Age Certificate for persons less than 21 years of age is unnecessary and shall be generally avoided.

- 1) The Age Certificate mentions the probable age of the person issued by the Registered Medical Practitioners, based on careful physical examination and dental examination of the person. The probable age is given mostly in ranges. In most of the situations, for a person below the age of 21 years, the Birth Certificate can only be used as Proof of Age.
- 2) Radiological examination can be done only if asked for by the judicial / competent authority, since radiological examination will be useful to assess a person's age below 22 years, which are vulnerable for radiation consequences.
- 3) Age Certificates are generally issued for purposes like marriage, driving license, old age pension and employment. It may be sought for by judicial/competent authorities in cases of child labour, inheritance of property, POSCO and sexual offences, etc.
- 4) The following guidelines are issued to be followed by the Registered Medical Practitioners for assessing the age of a person:
  - (i) Physical appearance:
    - General appearance including height, weight, chest girth, Greying of hairs, loss of elasticity of skin, Arcus senilis.
    - Development of secondary sexual characters – Axillary, facial, pubic hairs, development of breast, development of penis and scrotum.

(ii) Dental Examination:

Eruption of teeth – Age Reference Index:

Permanent teeth	Age of eruption
First molar	6 to 7 years
Central incisor	6 to 8 years
Lateral incisor	7 to 9 years
First bicuspid	9 to 11 years
Second bicuspid	10 to 12 years
Canine	11 to 12 years
Second molar	12 to 14 years
Third molar	17 to 25 years

(iii) Radiological Examination:

Radiological Examination helps in determination of age in persons below 22 years.

- ⦿ The older method of taking six x-rays for assessing age is generally avoided to prevent exposure of radiation.
- ⦿ For assessment of age below 17 years :
  - a Single X-ray of Hand with Wrist and distal end of forearm of non-dominant hand alone can be taken.
  - For assessment of suspected age between 15-22 years, X-ray of medial end of clavicle (X-ray Chest AP view) can be taken. In case of doubts regarding ossification of medial end of clavicle, a CT scan will be more informative.
  - X-ray of Iliac crest is generally avoided, but can be taken only if the first two options do not give clarity on the possible age.
- ⦿ Early and Mid Pregnancy is a contra-indication for radiological study.

According to standard references for appearance and fusion of ossification centers in Indian population, the following values are considered:

Name of the Ossification Centre	Status of ossification centre	Males (Years)	Females (Years)
Capitate	Appearance	2 months	6 months
Hamate	Appearance	2 months	8-14 months
Triquetrum	Appearance	3	2-3 months
Lunate	Appearance	4	5 months
Trapezium	Appearance	6	5-6 months
Trapezoid	Appearance	5	5-6 months
Scaphoid	Appearance	5	6 months
Pisiform	Appearance	11-12	9-12 months
First metacarpal	Appearance Complete fusion	2-3 15-17	3 months 14-16 months
Distal end of radius	Appearance Fusion	2 18-19	1 16-17
Distal ulna	Appearance Complete fusion	5-6 17-18	8-10 17
Medial end of clavicle	Appearance Complete fusion	18-19 20-22	14-16 20
Iliac crest	Appearance Complete fusion	14 20-21	14 17-19

5) While issuing Age Certificate, the following documents in addition to One Passport size Colour Photograph of the Applicant, must be collected:

- (a) Birth Certificate / School Certificate (if available)
- (b) Aadhaar Card/ PAN Card / Ration Card/Voter ID Card Passport / Driving License / Any Government issued document (Mandatory).
- (c) Identity Proof of Parents (in case applying for minor) (Mandatory).

6) A clear Xerox or soft copy of all certificates issued shall be kept in safe custody by the RMPs.

Template is given in the Annexure.

**Dr. R. Shanmugam**  
Registrar

**Dr. K. Senthil**  
President

Date : 25.04.2022

### AGE CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that I the undersigned have examined

.....s/o,d/o.....

.....residing.....with the following

identification marks.

a)

b)

and aged about ..... years as stated by him/her/guardian, on ..... and found

him to be aged above ..... years and below..... years as evidenced by physical and

dental examination.

Station:

Signature of doctor

Date:

Name & designation

Original copy to:

LT/ Signature of the Candidate:

Photo to be  
attested

Note: Photo is to be attested by the examining physician. The signature is to cover both the photo and paper.