Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is a highly contagious viral vesicular disease of cloven-hoofed animals such as Cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats and pigs etc. FMD is the most important livestock disease in the world in terms of economic impact which leads to reduction in milk yield, decreased growth rate, infertility, reduced working capacity in bullocks, trade embargo in the international market.

Clinical & visible signs:
Fever as high as 104-106°F, loss of appetite and dullness, excessive salivation, vesicles in the mouth especially on the gums and tongue that result in ulcers, ulcers and wounds in the hoof in the inter-digital space, abortion in pregnant animals, mastitis.

Transmission and spread:
- Feed and water.
- Close contact with infected animal/s
- Through animal movement
- Through aerosol
- Through contaminated objects.

Treatment & Control:
There is no immediate treatment once the animal is infected. Infected animal should be isolated and given symptomatic treatment. Mouth lesions are washed with 1% potassium permanganate solution and boroglycerine (Boric acid glycerine paste). Foot lesions to be washed with 1% potassium permanganate solution or 0.5-1% baking soda (sodium bicarbonate) and to be applied with antiseptic cream. Clean the animal shed with suitable disinfectant.

Prevention:
Vaccination of all eligible cattle and buffalo population regularly twice in a year is very important. It takes 10-15 days to develop immunity after vaccination. Vaccine cost is provided by Central and State Government. Contact local veterinary institutions for getting your animal vaccinated.

For further details please contact your nearest veterinary hospital / dispensary.

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Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries,
Website: http://www.dahd.nic.in & dadf.gov.in
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Send SMS “KISAAN GOV HELP” to 51969 (Charges apply)

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