



IMA COVID UPDATE



GUIDELINES TO RUN A CLINIC / HOSPITAL

Dear All,

You are all aware of the status of the COVID-19. Positive cases are in the raising status. Community spread could only be prevented provided tight and strict surveillance, quarantine and lock down is enforced.

As we fore see an outbreak, we as Health Care Professionals should safe guard ourselves and also see that we should not be the source of spread which doesn't mean that we should confine ourselves within the house. Kind advice to all our members is to adhere to the following advice and norms which is as per Govt. of India/ Govt. of Tamil Nadu/MOH & FW/ WHO / CDC/ ICMR, etc. standard guidelines.

1. Should I open my clinic/ hospital & why?

Yes. As per the DMS & RHS order and the epidemic disease Act, 1897/amended ordinance 2020 you are liable for punishment under sec 188, and MCI Act even up to cancellation of Registration.

2 Who all are exempted?

Practitioners with comorbid conditions, immune compromised conditions, age above 60 yrs are exempted.

3 Am I safe practicing?

Yes provided you follow the practicing guidelines for clinics & Hospitals are followed. See annexure *practicing guidelines*

4 Should I conduct Regular Normal OP & Admit Cases?

Need not. Only emergencies, chronic patients who need Dialysis, Chemotherapy, Maternal & child Health Services

5 Should I see COVID Suspected Cases?

You can see . Provided you follow proper Practicing guidelines & infection control practices you can see See annexure *Practicing and IPC Guidelines*.

6 If I don't have facility for following practicing guidelines what should I do?

Triage the patient outside your clinic and refer the suspected COVID-19 to

(a) Designated COVID Screening Centre (fever Clinic) of your area (or)

(b) To the Govt. COVID Centre's.

And **Notify to the Health Authorities -**

7 Should I notify the COVID Suspected cases?

As per the Govt. order **COVID-19 is notifiable disease & is punishable if not notified.**

8 Whom should I notify?

To your district **DDHS/JDHS/ Communicable Disease Surveillance Portal (CDSP) dphpm.com**
(User name and Pass word to get from DDHS)

See annexure for contact numbers. (*visit www.imatn.com*)

9 Should I maintain Registers and what are they?

Yes. You should. **1. OP/IP register** **2. Fever, ILI, SIRS referral register.** **3. Disinfection register.** **4. Duty register of Drs and Staff,** And other regular registers.

10 Can I admit COVID patients for treatment?

Provided you follow the protocols laid down by the Govt for Designated COVID centers and if your hospital is in the list designated by DM&RHS you can admit and see the patient

11 What do you mean by Designated COVID centers?

At all levels Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Care, for Screening, Triage, Treatment of COVID Suspected patients both in Government and Private there are identified centers by Govt and they are Designated COVID centers

12 What is IMA Community Designated Fever and Respiratory Clinic. (DFRC)?

It is a Designated Screening Center in an area for COVID symptomatic (Fever, ILI, SIRS) patients where they will be Triaged and Referred to Secondary/ Tertiary Designated COVID centers

13 What are the advantages of IMA Community DFRC ?

- (a) Community spread from each and every primary care clinic they visit can be prevented
- (b) Spread of Infection to all the Health Care Professionals in Primary care can be prevented.
- (c) En mass exposure of all the Health Care Professionals in an area will make them to go for Quarantine at the same time which will lead to collapse of entire health care system and subsequently will increase the case load to Secondary and Tertiary COVID Centers
- (d) All the Primary Care Clinics can extend their services to their patients other than Fever and Respiratory problems

14 What are Guidelines for IMA DFRC ?

Please go through the Annexure *Guidelines for DFRC*

15 Will my Clinic/Hospital be closed if any of my Patients turn to be Positive for COVID ?

Not all ways. Provided you follow all the protocols specified right from, Having(HICC) Hospital infection control committee, Proper(IPC) Infection Prevention and Control practices (see Annexure,) Triaging, , Notification, Proper Documentation, etc. they may not close for longer duration except for a brief period (if satisfied) for Disinfection but the Dr and Staff who were in direct contact with the patient and suspected contacts will be traced and Quarantined for 14 days.

16 Is there any guide line for closure and reopening of HCE?

Yes Govt of India Guidelines. See Annexure: *Guidelines to be followed on detection of suspect or confirmed COVID19 case*

17 Should I Wear Full PPE kit in my OP ? What is the dress code to run an OP ?

No

DRESS CODE FOR NON COVID CLINICS

RECEPTION

- ❖ Full cover cloth dress
- ❖ N95 mask
- ❖ Cloth mask over that
- ❖ Face shield



FEVER OP STAFF

- ❖ Full cover cloth dress
- ❖ N95 mask
- ❖ Cloth mask over that
- ❖ Face shield
- ❖ Gloves if BP/Temperature are checked



NORMAL OP / LAB STAFF

- ❖ 3 ply/Cloth mask
- ❖ Face Shield
- ❖ Gloves



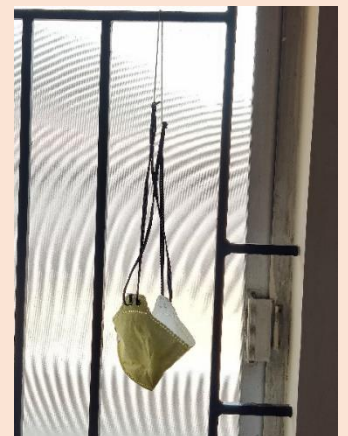
HOUSE KEEPING

- ❖ Plastic apron
- ❖ Elbow level gloves
- ❖ Leggings
- ❖ Cloth mask
- ❖ Face Shield



COMMON

- ❖ Daily all their clothes, cloth mask to be soaked in 0.5% Sodium Hypochlorite solution for 15 minutes.
- ❖ Then immediately to be washed with Soap & Water.
- ❖ Dry in open terrace.
- ❖ Face shield to be dipped in Soap water for 10 minutes and to be washed & dried to be used next day.
- ❖ N-95 mask to be hanged in the room either freely or placed within a paper bag to be used after 72 hours
- ❖ **Note:** Preparation of 0.5% Sodium Hypochlorite solution 1Scoop(142 gms) Bleaching Powder in 10 Liters of Water.



18 Rational Usage of PPE

COVID-19: Guidelines on rational use of Personal Protective Equipment

Source - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Directorate General of Health Services [Emergency Medical Relief]

Patient Care Activities /Area	Risk of Exposure	Triple Layered Mask	N-95 Mask	Gloves	Gown/Coverall	Goggles	Head Cover	Shoe cover
Triage Area in OPD	Moderate risk	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
Help desk/ Registration counter	Moderate risk	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
Temperature recording station	Moderate risk	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
Holding area/ waiting area	Moderate risk	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
Doctors chamber in OPD	Moderate risk	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
Clinical Management in Isolation rooms	Moderate risk	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
ICU facility / Critical Care Ward where aerosol generating procedures are done	High Risk	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SARI ward - attending to severely ill patients of SARI	High Risk	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sample Collection/Sample testing for COVID-19	High Risk	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dead Body Packing	High Risk	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dead Body Transport	Moderate Risk	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
Mortuary - Dead Body Handling	Moderate Risk	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
Mortuary- While performing autopsy	High Risk	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sanitary staff	Moderate risk	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
CSSD/Laundry- Handling linen of COVID-19 patients	Moderate risk	X	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
Visitors attending OPD	Low Risk	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Visitors accompanying Patients in IP facility	Low Risk	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Supportive services-Administrative Financial Engineering Security, etc	NO risk	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

19 Can I do Elective Surgeries?

As of now no.

Non operative or conservative treatment should be preferred.

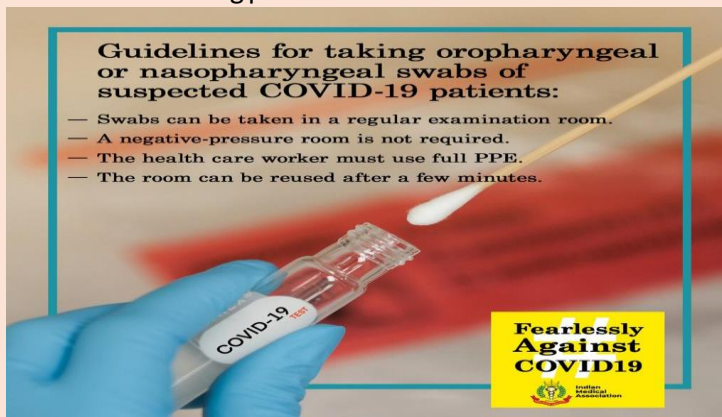
When emergency surgery is planned for patients with suspicion for COVID infection – it should be done with all protective gears (personal protective equipment(PPE),N95 masks). All the patients should be tested for COVID infection and every other patient should be treated as positive until report confirms.(Refer *IMA TNSBAMS Surgical Guidance PPT*)

20 Should I do COVID testing for all my Labor cases and Emergency Surgeries ?

RTPCR (Swab test) to be done for all expectant mothers presenting in labor or within 5 days of EDD. Especially in Containment Zones and preferably for all emergencies either in Govt or Private Designated Labs. (Other than Govt medical colleges, Apollo, , Medal, Hitech laboratories etc in Chennai, CMC Vellore, Micro Lab , PSG Hospitals in Coimbatore etc.(Refer *ICMR site.*)

21 Can I take the sample with the Kit the Lab Provides?

Yes . with following precautions.



22 Should I and my Staff take HCQ Prophylaxis ?

(AS PER ICMR GUIDELINES)

HYDROXY CHLOROQUINE PROPHYLAXIS FOR COVID-19

1. FOR ASYMPTOMATIC HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS DEALING COVID-19 CASES

DAY ZERO – HCQ400MG TWICE

HCQ 400MG ONCE A WEEK FOR SEVEN WEEKS

2. FOR ASYMPTOMATIC HOUSE HOLD CONTACT DEALING CONFIRMED CASES

DAY ZERO – HCQ400MG TWICE

HCQ400MG ONCE A WEEK FOR THREE WEEKS

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

HYPERSENSITIVITY ECG CHANGES

RETINOPATHY PATIENTS

AGE LESS THAN 15 YEARS

23 Am I covered under Govt announced Insurance Scheme ?

Yes provided you work in Designated COVID Centers.

24 If a Private Health care worker happens to die of COVID 19 will they be given compensation by Govt ?

As per press release by CM TN yes, but Govt Order yet to come.

25 How long we should follow these protocols?

Corona has taught us a lesson. For our and others safety let us follow these protocols forever.

Dr. C.N.Raja
President

Dr. A.K.Ravikumar
Hony. State Secretary

IMA TNSB