



HEALTH DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT OF SINDH

SUBJECT: ADVISORY FOR HOSPITALS REGARDING COVID-19 (CORONA VIRUS)

1. In reference to decision taken during meeting of Task Force on COVID-19 Dated: 17-03-2020, following precautionary measures for hospitals especially in relation to crowds in OPDs shall be ensured:
 - i. *All elective surgeries and procedures shall not be carried out till further orders. Only emergency surgeries as well as surgeries for carcinomas shall be entertained.*
 - ii. *All medical OPDs shall not be closed including obstetric care (Antenatal/Natal/Postnatal). However, management shall ensure that only one attendant may be allowed with each patient into the premises of the hospitals. An effective triage system shall be implemented at OPD of each hospital.*
 - iii. *Management of the hospitals shall ensure effective disinfection of the hospitals three times a day especially surfaces of installations, chairs, tables and doors.*
 - iv. *All healthcare staff shall wear mask during the examination of the patients. Hospital management shall ensure that all healthcare staff is provided with mask to wear. It is furthermore cleared that mask is not recommended for general public as COVID-19 is not air-borne but transmitted through droplet and contact.*
 - v. *Crowding of people shall strictly be avoided. Every person may be counseled for keeping a distance of 1 meter (3 feet) for seating.*
 - vi. *All persons, especially who in the last 15 days have been abroad, with cough, flu, body ache or shortness of breath are advised to remain at home. In case of symptoms, all persons are advised that Control Room of COVID-19 may be called for guidance and help in this regard.*
 - vii. *All doctors and paramedics shall remain on duty and/or on call during the course of global emergency of COVID-19.*
 - viii. *All persons are advised to ensure strict quarantine at home and social distancing for prevention of spread of COVID-19.*
 - ix. *All people must limit their movement outside home.*
 - x. *All persons at hospitals must perform hand hygiene frequently with soap and water or a hand sanitizer. All Hospital management shall install sanitizers within hospitals for general public.*
 - xi. *Cover your nose and mouth while sneezing or coughing with your flexed elbow or use a tissue. Dispose the tissue immediately after use. Please avoid spitting and avoid touching your face.*
 - xii. *Do not smoke.*
 - xiii. *There should be a health desk for health education, screening and awareness regarding COVID-19 in all hospitals.*
 - xiv. *The Deputy Commissioner concerned, as per provisions under Sindh Epidemic Diseases Act 2014, may exercise his authority to ensure all these preventive measures for prevention of spread of COVID-19 and Sindh Healthcare Commission shall ensure the implementation of all advisories issued for public and private sector hospitals in the province.*
2. In case of any query, please contact the COVID Control Room at the Commissioner Office Karachi. This is operational 24/7 for your facilitation and guidance.

COVID Control Room Contact No. 021-99204452
 021-99206565
 0316-0111712

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