



Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office of the Principal/ Dean
Govt. Medical College, Srinagar.

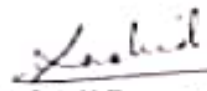


Sub:

Advisories for:

- i) *Hospitals and Medical Education Institutions.*
- ii) *On Social Distancing measures in view of spread of COVID-19 Disease.*

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India has issued two latest advisories on *"Hospitals and Medical Education Institutions & Social Distancing measures in view of spread of COVID-19 Disease"*, duly endorsed by the Health & Medical Education Department, J&K, vide NO. PS/FC/HME/2020/16, Dated: 20.03.2020, same are enclosed herewith for information and necessary action.


Principal/ Dean, 21/3/2020
Govt. Medical College,
Srinagar.

No. GMC/Plg/c/1896-95
Dated: 21.03.2020.

Copy for favour of information and necessary action to the:

01. Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, J&K.
02. District Magistrate (*Chairman District Disaster Management*).
03. All HODs GMC Srinagar.
04. All Medical Superintendents, Associated Hospitals, GMC Sgr.
05. All Desk Officers, GMC Srinagar.
06. PS to Financial Commissioner, H&ME for information of FC.
07. Office File.

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Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Health & Medical Education Department
Civil Secretariat-Jammu.

Director,
SKIMS Soura Srinagar

Principal/Dean,
Government Medical
College,
Srinagar/Jammu.

Principal,
Government Medical College,
Anantnag/Baramulla/Doda/
Rajouri/Kathua.

Director Health Services,
Jammu/Kashmir

Mission Director,
National Health Mission, J&K/Overall
Incharge of Corona efforts, J&K.

No. PS/FC/HME/2020/16

Dated: 20.03.2020

Sub: Advisories for:

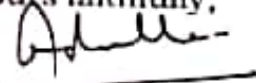
- i) **Hospitals and Medical Education Institutions.**
- ii) **On Social Distancing Measures in view of spread of COVID-19 Disease.**

Sir/Madam,

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India has issued two latest advisories on "*Hospitals and Medical Education Institutions & Social distancing measure in view of spread of COVID-19 Disease*", the same are enclosed with this letter, for information and further necessary action.

Enclosure: As stated above.

Yours faithfully,



(Atal Dulloo), IAS
Financial Commissioner,
Health & Medical Education Deptt.

Copy for information to the:-

1. Divisional Commissioner Jammu/Kashmir.
2. District Development Commissioners (All Districts).
3. OSD to the Hon'ble Advisor (B).
4. All Chief Medical Officers.
5. Private Secy to the Chief Secretary, J&K, Jammu.
6. Office record file.

Advisory for Hospitals and Medical Education Institutions

The medical infrastructure in the country needs to be prepared for any possible influx of patients on account of COVID 19. In this context, the following interventions are proposed up to 31st March 2020. They will be reviewed as per the evolving situation.

Indoor Facilities:

1. Non-essential elective surgeries should be postponed.
2. Some beds should be set apart and prepared for creating isolation facilities in every public and private hospital.
3. All hospitals should mobilize additional resources including masks, gloves and personal protection equipment. Healthcare personnel should be trained for dealing with any foreseeable emergencies.
4. All doctors, nurses and support staff in different specialities, including pre and para clinical departments, should be mobilized and trained in infection prevention and control practices.
5. Hospitals must procure sufficient numbers of ventilators and high flow oxygen masks in preparation for future requirements.
6. All hospitals must ensure that they have adequate trained manpower and resource pools for ventilator/ ICU care.
7. Hospitals may ensure that stable patients are discharged as early as possible while further new admissions (of stable patients) are also restricted.
8. Number of patient attendants should be strictly restricted to 'one' only.

IEC Activities:

9. Patients must be educated about cough etiquette, Do's and Don'ts, proper use of masks instead of using them indiscriminately and inefficiently; and personal hygiene. Hospitals should put up posters etc. to increase awareness amongst patients on Do's and Don'ts regarding COVID 19.
10. Patients must be counselled against attaching any kind of stigma to Corona virus patients or to facilities where such patients are admitted. They must be made aware that

quick disclosure of symptoms and undergoing testing if advised is the surest way of battling COVID 19.

Administrative:

11. All hospitals should carry out a preparedness drill on Sunday, 22nd March 2020. Guidelines for this drill will be made available on the Health Ministry website.
12. Non-essential audits of hospitals by various regulatory and accreditation agencies may be postponed.
13. All hospitals must provide treatment free of cost to any medical personnel who pick up infection while treating patients.
14. No suspected COVID 19 patient should be turned away from any hospital and the admission of any such patient should be notified to NCDC or IDSP immediately.
15. Similarly, all pneumonia patients must also be notified to NCDC or IDSP so that they can be tested for COVID 19.
16. Hospitals to ensure social distancing in their premises.
17. All ongoing examinations may be rescheduled after 31.03.2020.
18. All evaluation work may be rescheduled after 31.03.2020.
19. All Educational Institutions and Examination Boards are requested to maintain regular communication with the students and teachers through electronic means and keep them fully informed so that there is no anxiety amongst the students, teachers and parents.
20. Institutions are also requested to notify help-line numbers/e-mails which students can access for their queries.
21. All unauthorized/ authorized shops (excluding pharmacies) and eateries in the vicinity of hospitals should be compulsorily shut.
22. Leave of all kinds (except under emergency and unavoidable circumstances) may be cancelled immediately.

OPD:

23. All patients may be advised not to come for routine visits to the OPD if it can be avoided or postponed.
24. OPDs may be organised in such a manner that patients exhibiting flu like symptoms are attended separately from other patients and spaced out so as to avoid overcrowding.

25. Patients suffering from chronic diseases and minor ailments may be advised to utilise OPDs in primary/ secondary care facilities rather than crowding tertiary care centres.
26. Pharmacy counters may be increased and queue management systems to be followed by engaging Indian Red Cross/ NDRF volunteers.

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Advisory on Social Distancing Measure in view of spread of COVID-19 disease

Social distancing is a non-pharmaceutical infection prevention and control intervention implemented to avoid decrease contact between those who are infected with a disease causing pathogen and those who are not, so as to stop or slow down the rate and extent of disease transmission in a community. This eventually leads to decrease in spread, morbidity and mortality due to the disease.

In addition to the proposed interventions, the State/UT Governments may prescribe such other measures as they consider necessary.

All these proposed interventions shall be in force till 31st of March, 2020. They will be reviewed as per the evolving situation.

The following interventions are proposed:

1. Closure of all educational establishments (schools, universities etc), gyms, museums, cultural and social centres, swimming pools and theatres. Students should be advised to stay at home. Online education to be promoted.
2. Possibility of postponing exams may be explored. Ongoing exams to be conducted only after ensuring physical distance of one meter amongst students.
3. Encourage private sector organizations/employers to allow employees to work from home wherever feasible.
4. Meetings, as far as feasible, shall be done through video conferences. Minimize or reschedule meetings involving large number of people unless necessary.
5. Restaurants to ensure handwashing protocol and proper cleanliness of frequently touched surfaces. Ensure physical distancing (minimum 1metre) between tables; encourage open air seating where practical with adequate distancing.
6. Keep already planned weddings to a limited gathering, postpone all non-essential social and cultural gatherings.
7. Local authorities to have a dialogue with organizers of sporting events and competitions involving large gatherings and they may be advised to postpone such events.
8. Local authorities to have a dialogue with opinion leaders and religious leaders to regulate mass gatherings and should ensure no overcrowding/at least one metre distance between people.

9. Local authorities to have meeting with traders associations and other stakeholders to regulate hours, exhibit Do's and Don'ts and take up a communication drive in market places like sabzi mandi, anaj mandi, bus depots, railway stations, post-offices etc., where essential services are provided
10. All commercial activities must keep a distance of one meter between customers.
Measures to reduce peak hour crowding in markets.
11. Non-essential travel should be avoided. Buses, Trains and aeroplanes to maximize social distancing in public transport besides ensuring regular and proper disinfection of surfaces.
12. Hospitals to follow necessary protocol related with COVID-19 management as prescribed and restrict family/friends/children visiting patients in hospitals
13. Hygiene and physical distancing has to be maintained. Shaking hands and hugging as a matter of greeting to be avoided.
14. Special protective measures for delivery men/ women working in online ordering services.
15. Keep communities informed consistently and constantly.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare