

**Government of West Bengal
Health & Family Welfare Department
Swasthya Bhawan, Block GN-29, Sector V
Salt Lake City, Kolkata-91**

Memo No. : HPH/10P-03/2018/542

Dated : 08.07.2020

Consolidated Advisory on Case Management for COVID-19 patients

The experts from the Protocol Management Team as deputed by the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of West Bengal have visited different COVID hospitals from time to time in the past few weeks and noted certain deficiencies in the clinical management of the patients. The same need urgent correction. All their observations and recommendations have been consolidated and presented below for all the stakeholders including hospital management for close compliance with the same:

General Management Protocol:

1. Proper assessment and triage should be done during admission at Emergency Dept.
2. Ventilation strategy and guidelines should be pasted prominently in the work station in the wards and ICU so that it can be followed without hesitancy.
3. Hospital should prevent infection by adopting infection control practices as per guideline.
4. Super specialty team should be available; especially Nephrology and Pulmonology for appropriate advice in relevant cases. If in-house experts are not available, a panel of experts may be formed in consultation with the local CMOH/MSVP for such service on call.
5. Close and intense monitoring of ICU patients to be done centrally and immediate interventions to be made for any deterioration.
6. Referral criteria with details of investigation reports from previous institution should be attached with BHT while transferring the patients. Late referral must be avoided.
7. During transferring the patients, a case summary must be attached and during transport of sick patient, stabilization of vitals must be done. Appropriate oxygen support is to be provided during transportation.
8. Donning and doffing of PPE to be done appropriately in designated areas only by all categories of staff including Group D.
9. Death Certificates should be written according to standard ICMR guideline.
10. Quick Response Team should be formed to ensure prompt action if patient show signs of deterioration.

Clinical Management Protocol:

1. Top sheet should be maintained properly. BP and oxygen saturation to be monitored and noted in Top Sheet.
2. Daily clinical progression (particularly vitals, respiratory rate, saturation, intake output, blood sugar) should be recorded in BHT and signed by visiting Consultant.
3. Steroids and anticoagulant should be given as per protocol and dose to be adjusted as per co-morbidity.

4. ECG for all and ABG for sick patients to be done on admission and noted in BHT.
5. Before putting hypoxic patients on ventilator, High Flow Nasal Oxygen Therapy should be tried as per guideline. Prone awake ventilation to be practiced before putting the conventional mechanical ventilation.
6. Antibiotics should be used judiciously. Proper guideline to be followed based on Hospital Antibiotic Policy.
7. Fluid electrolyte balance should be strictly monitored and recorded, which can prevent pre-renal azotemia and subsequent AKI and death.
8. Culture should be sent on suspicion of secondary bacterial infection and all patients under mechanical ventilation.
9. HFNC should be available.

All Hospitals treating COVID patients should mandatorily implement the recommendations of the Team. Regular updation of data must be done in the software deployed for this purpose.

During the visit of the Protocol Management Team, administrator and visiting consultant of the concerned hospital should be present.

bmr 08/07/2020
**Director of Medical Education
Government of West Bengal**

Chowdhury 08/07/20
**Director of Health Services
Government of West Bengal**

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Copy forwarded for kind information and necessary action :

1. The Principal Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata/Murshidabad MCH
2. The Chief Medical Officer of Health (All District and Health District, West Bengal)
3. The Superintendents (All COVID Hospitals, West Bengal)
4. The Director/CEO/Medical Superintendent (All Private Covid Hospitals, West Bengal)

bmr 08/07/2020
**Director of Medical Education
Government of West Bengal**

Chowdhury 08/07/20
**Director of Health Services
Government of West Bengal**

Copy forwarded for kind information:

1. The Mission Director, NHM, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of West Bengal
2. The Medical Superintendent cum Vice Principal (Medical College & Hospital, Kolkata / Murshidabad MC & H)
3. The DDHS(Admin), Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of West Bengal (He is requested to inform the Clinical Establishment.)
4. DDHS(PH), Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of West Bengal.
5. The Dy. Chief Medical Officer of Health-II (All District & Health Districts)
6. The Senior PA to the Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of West Bengal

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**Director of Medical Education
Government of West Bengal**

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**Director of Health Services
Government of West Bengal**