

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
HEALTH MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

**Order No.34/COVID-19/2020,**

**Date:22.04.2020**

Sub: HMFWD – COVID-19 – Establishment of Triage area and SOP and protocols to be followed on segregation and shifting of COVID Positive patients – instructions - Reg.

**COVID INSTANT ORDER –34**

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In continuation of the advisories given of COVID-19, following advisory is given on the establishment of Triage area and protocols to be adopted for COVID-19 positive and negative patients.

**1. SOP guidelines in the Registration desk areas, as soon as the patient visits the Non-COVID Government Teaching and District hospitals in State**

- i. Provide
  - N95 masks & Gloves to all Health Care Providers and PPE provision for Risk Area Health Care Providers.
  - Hand Washing facility, soap & water or Sanitizers to Health Care providers
- ii. Immediately on their arrival, patients with respiratory (fever / cough / sore throat / breathlessness) and Non respiratory shall be separated
- iii. Surgical Masks to be provided to all suspected / positive patients. Further, patients may be advised to come to triage areas with masks if it is feasible
- iv. Arrangements to be made to maintain distance of at least one meter between two patients in the OP hall. Separate waiting area for respiratory symptoms patient shall be made available.
- v. In Triage area, following facilities shall be made available
  - Lab facility to do routine investigations & COVID tests Ex: Rapid Kit Testing, TruNAAT or CBNAT
  - Mobile X ray or fixed X ray machine facility.
  - A Separate dispensary for non COVID & Suspecting COVID patients.
  - Display posters about how to prevent the infection by various methods.
  - Install physical barriers like glass / plastic screens where ever necessary.
- vi. In the casualty, divide patients same as in OP area and follow same precautions

- vii. A process to be developed to reduce amount of waiting time for patients who are in the respiratory waiting area.
- viii. After the test, if patient is tested positive should be referred to nearby dedicated COVID hospital with proper precautions. After shifting of patient, the ambulance should be cleaned as per standard protocol. A COVID Positive patient, who is serious / unstable, to be shifted directly to ICU

**Triage at COVID Hospitals:**

- For COVID Positive of Mild / Moderate patients assessed at the Triage,
    - X-Ray to be taken (through Portable X-Ray / Fixed X-Ray),
    - Vitals, (Pulse, BP, Temperature) and co-morbid factors should be noted,
    - ECG shall be taken along with all necessary blood investigations.
  - Subsequently, seriousness of the illness shall be assessed and to be shifted to isolation ward / ICU
- ix. Any COVID Suspected patient comes to COVID hospital, Vitals and co-morbid factors to be noted, immediate TruNAAT / Rapid Kit Test to be done and within short time, decision to be made, whether the patient is COVID positive / negative.
    - If found positive, depending upon the stability of the confirmed patient, shall be shifted to Isolation ward / ICU of nearby respective COVID hospital
    - If patient is tested negative, depending the stability of the patient, standard treatment to relevant ailment to be provided

**2. Arrangements at Triage area in all COVID Non COVID Hospitals in State.**

- Registration desks - Two (2)
- Data entry operators - Two (2)
- Waiting Hall and Washing area for Health care providers
- N95 masks & PPE kits for Health care providers
- Sanitizers, Surgical masks for patients
- Out-patient part separately for respiratory and non-respiratory symptoms
- Partitioned areas for two groups of patients
- Blood and COVID investigations lab with minimum Two technicians
- TruNAAT for respiratory symptoms <5 days/ Rapid test for > 5 days
- Mobile / Fixed X Ray Unit
- Medical dispensary
- OP Duty Medical Officers
- Post graduates / House surgeons / Health care workers

Accordingly, all the District Collectors and all Superintendents of Government and Private COVID-19 / Non-COVID hospitals in the State are requested to make note of these instructions for taking necessary action.



SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

1. All the Collector & District Magistrates
2. The Director, Medical Education
3. Commissioner, AP Vaidya Vidhan Parishad
4. Director, Health
5. The Vice Chancellor, Dr. NTR UHS

Copy to

1. All the Joint Collector & Additional District Magistrates
2. All the DM&HOs / DCHSs in the State.