



NHMHP-EMRT0GCOR/5/2019-NHM-HP -10,213
 National Health Mission
 SDA Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla-9
 Himachal Pradesh
 Dated: Shimla-171009, the
CIRCULAR

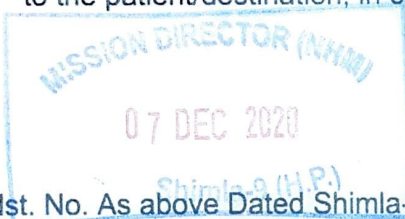


Timely shifting of the COVID 19 patients to the institutions, especially while being referred from one institution to another institution, is of utmost importance to avoid mortality. The Standard Operating Procedure for transporting a suspect/confirmed case of COVID-19 has already been circulated vide letter No NHMHP-IDSP/1/2020-IDSP-section-Part (2)-2908 dated 30-03-2020. However, it is been reported that the protocol is not being followed and there is an unusual delay in the handing over of the patients resulting in delay in ambulance availability for the next case. The National Health Mission has dedicated the ambulances from the fleet under the 108-NAS and 102-JSSK services and recently the Director Health Services has also dedicated 10 ambulances each for the District Shimla, Mandi and Kangra for transportation of COVID-19 patients from the general pool available with the Department. In continuation to the already circulated SOP, the following guidelines are notified for adherence by all concerned:

1. The CMO/DSO/Facility In charge of the COVID-19 facility shall provide the details of the patient to be shifted to the Emergency Medical Executive (EME) of GVK-EMRI of the concerned district, who shall generate the ID of the patient and assign the Ambulance. The turnaround time for this activity shall not be more than 5 minutes.
2. After assigning the vehicle, it shall be mobilized within 1 minute. The formalities regarding discharge must be completed well in time and all efforts should be made so that the patient hand over time should not be more than 10 minutes. After handing over the patient, the Destination facility should be informed about the status of the patient as well as the expected time of arrival.
3. While in transit the EMT/Staff will mandatorily sit in the chamber of the patient (with due protective equipment as prescribed) who are on Ventimask/assisted ventilation/oxygen to check any displacement etc. of prongs/masks etc. The EMT shall monitor and record/Chart the vitals including SpO2 of the patient every 10 minutes till the journey is completed, at the time of handing over the patient at the destination facility, the details of the monitoring will be shared with the destination facility staff and a copy of

the same shall be retained by the ambulance staff.


4. At the destination facility where the Patient is to be handed over, the taking over time should not be more than 10 minutes in order to spare the ambulance for assignment to next case.
5. The disinfection of the Ambulances after the handing over of the patients shall be done as per the prescribed protocol for sanitization of the ambulances with proper contact time as per SOP and guidelines circulated from time to time.
6. The dedicated vehicles of the DCHC shall not be utilized for any other patient and dedicated Ambulances of the DCHC shall have Type 'D' oxygen cylinders to enable the patient to undertake relatively long journeys as well without shortage of oxygen availability en route.
7. The refilling of the oxygen cylinders as per established protocols shall be done in the respective districts in order to keep the Ambulances ready for the next case to be assigned.
8. Other dedicated Ambulances for COVID 19 will be deployed in consultation with the respective CMOs in the Districts so that turn-around time to reach up to the patient/destination, in case of need, should be minimal.




Secretary (Health) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. As above Dated Shimla-9 the
Copy for information and necessary action to:

1. The Special Secretary (Health) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh
2. The Director Health Services, Himachal Pradesh.
3. The Director of Medical Education and Research, Himachal Pradesh.
4. All the Deputy Commissioners, Himachal Pradesh.
5. All the Principals, Govt. Medical Colleges, Himachal Pradesh
6. All the Chief Medical Officers, Himachal Pradesh.
7. All the Medical Superintendents, Himachal Pradesh.
8. All the District Surveillance Officer, Himachal Pradesh.
9. All the nodal Incharges CCC/DCHC/DCH in Himachal Pradesh
10. Mr Mehul Sukumaran, State Head ,GVK EMRI,Village Dharampur, District Solan.


Secretary (Health) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh