



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No. HFW 157 ACS 2020

Karnataka Government Secretariat
Vikasa Soudha
Bengaluru, dated: 16.5.2020.

CIRCULAR

Sub: Quarantine of Health Care Workers posted in COVID-19 facilities.

It is observed that the Health Care Workers (HCW), who are managing COVID-19 patients are currently working for 6-7 days and are being institutionally quarantined for 14 days.

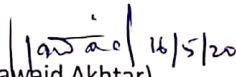
The HCW (Doctors, residents, nurses, technicians and group D workers) are provided with adequate Personnel Protective Equipment as per GOI guidelines. Those who are involved in the treatment of COVID-19 patients are well aware of the protocols to be followed in case of exposure and they are trained in monitoring of symptoms/signs for COVID-19.

As per the Interim Guidance Document of WHO, Risk assessment and management of exposure of HCW in the context of COVID-19, "the HCW who is always using the Complete Personnel Protective Equipment without any breach for treatment of COVID-19 positive patients is considered as low risk and there is no need for 14 days Quarantine except self monitoring".

Further, as per clause 5.3 of the Advisory for managing Health Care Workers working in COVID and Non-COVID areas of the Hospital, issued by MoHFW, Quarantine of Health Care Workers, other than what is stipulated in the advisory is not warranted.

<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/AdvisoryformanagingHealthcareworkersworkinginCOVIDandNonCOVIDAreasofthehospital.pdf>

In the light of the above guidelines and as recommended by the Expert Committee those HCWs who are always using full complement of PPE for treatment of COVID-19 patients and who are asymptomatic need not be institutionally quarantined. They can report temperature and absence of symptoms each day before starting their regular duties in the hospital.


(Jayaid Akhtar)

Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Health and Family Welfare Department
and Medical Education Department

To:

- (1) Commissioner, BBMP
- (2) Deputy Commissioners of all Districts
- (3) Commissioner, HFW Services
- (4) Mission Director, NHM
- (5) Director, HFW Services
- (6) Director of Medical Education
- (7) Dean & Directors of all Government Medical Colleges.