



GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

No. HFW 158 ACS 2020

Karnataka Government Secretariat
Vikasa Soudha
Bengaluru, dated: 16.5.2020.

CIRCULAR

Sub: Regarding Quarantine of Health Care Workers in Non - COVID facilities.

Under the Guidelines issued by this Office vide Circular No. HFW 146 ACS 2020, dated 08.05.2020, for opening of Health Care Facilities, it was mentioned that when a positive COVID-19 patient is identified in a Health Care Facility all contacts of the patient (other patients, healthcare workers, caregivers/visitors, supportive staff, etc.) should be quarantined for 14 days and managed as per the prescribed protocol. In continuation of the above Guidelines and the recent directions of MoHFW issued on 15.05.2020 and in order to mitigate staff shortages for the management of COVID-19 patients in Health Care Facilities, the Nodal Officer/Head of the Department of the facility will assess the level of exposure and the risk of the Health Care Worker (HCW) exposed as below:

High risk exposure:

- HCW or other person providing care to a COVID-19 case or lab worker handling respiratory specimens from COVID-19 cases without recommended PPE or with possible breach of PPE
- Performed aerosol generating procedures without appropriate PPE.
- HCWs without mask/face-shield/goggles:
 - having face to face contact with COVID-19 case within 1 metre for more than 15 minutes.
 - having accidental exposure to body fluids

Low risk exposure: Contacts who do not meet criteria of high risk exposure.

High risk contacts will be home quarantined for 14 days, tested as per ICMR testing protocol, actively monitored for development of symptoms and managed as

per laid down protocol in the MOHFW guidelines. As such there is no necessity of keeping HCW with High risk exposure in institutional quarantine.

Low risk contacts shall continue to work. They will self-monitor their health for development of symptoms. In case symptoms develop, they shall be managed as per laid down protocol in the MOHFW guidelines.

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

Jawaid 16/5/20
(Jawaid Akhtar)

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

To:

1. Commissioner, BBMP.
2. Commissioner, Health and Family Welfare Services.
3. Special Commissioner, BBMP.
4. Mission Director, NHM.
5. Director, Health and Family Welfare Services.
6. OSD, Surveillance, Health and Family Welfare Services.
7. Director of Medical Education
10. Joint Director, Medical - to bring it to the notice of all Private Establishments.
11. All DHOs / District Surgeons
12. All Private Hospitals Associations