

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

Memo No: HPH/9M-21/2020/79

Dated: 04.04.2020

Advisory for Setting up Isolation Facility

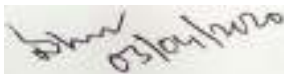
All suspect cases for COVID-19 coming in a hospital to be kept in the containment /buffer zones in isolation ward till a diagnosis is made. Mixing with other general patients must be avoided to protect the health of others. Isolation refers to separation of individuals who are ill and suspected or confirmed of COVID-19. Persons tested positive for COVID-19 will be shifted to designated Covid Hospital at the earliest.

There are various modalities of isolating a patient. All suspected and ill patient (having symptoms or signs suggestive of COVID-19) can be kept in a separate isolation ward with good ventilation. A separate zone should be identified in each facility to accommodate such patients in case of emergency. This is extremely important, and all possible measures to be adopted so that these suspect patients in no way get exposed to other general patients. Thus, under no circumstances these cases should be mixed up.

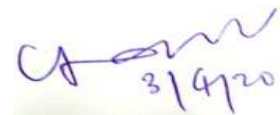
In an isolation ward, a minimum distance of 1 meter needs to be maintained between adjacent beds. All such patients need to wear a triple layer surgical mask. It is recommended that transport of such infectious patients must be limited to have least movement whenever considered medically essential by the clinicians.

Staff and health care workers must follow proper Infection Control Policy. Staff should wear PPE before handling such suspect patients. Standard protocols for hand hygiene, sample collection and BMW should be displayed clearly. Standard Clinical management protocols of the Department must be followed.

Please follow the above guidelines to protect the health of the workers and the patients of the hospital since some patients may attend without obvious history or very strong clinical suspect which may be difficult to identify initially.



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



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