

**Government of Punjab**  
**Department of Health and Family Welfare**  
**( Health-IV Branch)**

To

1. All the Civil Surgeon in the State of Punjab
2. All the Medical Superintendent Patiala and Jalandhar
3. All the Deputy Medical Commissioners in the State of Punjab.

Memo No. 14/7/2020-4HB4/06

Dated, Chandigarh, the 14.04.2020

**Subject: COVID-19: Guidelines regarding Sanitization of Ambulances, Oxygen Cylinders, X-Ray machines & other Equipments / Hospital Furniture.**

Every isolation centre in the State of Punjab for COVID-19 should have a facility of a pressure spray pump for spray of Hypochlorite solution. Spray pump of 15 litre capacity available in the market used for spray of pesticide can be utilised for this purpose.

#### **Ambulances (Including 108)**

Every ambulance after every trip must be sanitized, immediately after the patient disembarks, with 1% sodium hypochlorite. For this purpose spray pump should be used to spray it properly in niche and corner of the cabin in which the patient is carried. The vehicle should first be washed with power washer to remove soiling etc, then sprayed with 1% sodium hypochlorite solution. The handles of the doors of the ambulance should also be sanitized accordingly. Hypochlorite solution should be left for 30 minutes then the ambulance should be rinsed with clean water.

#### **Oxygen Cylinder**

The oxygen cylinders going out of the hospital/ isolation ward, for refilling, can be a major source of spread of the contagion. Thus it is essential that as and when the oxygen cylinder is brought out of the isolation centre it should immediately be sanitized by spraying 1% sodium hypochlorite. The sanitizer should be allowed to stay on the oxygen cylinder for at least 30 minutes and then the cylinder be rinsed with clean water.

#### **Other Equipment**

Equipment or furniture that is in the isolation centre whenever it is brought out of the isolation centre it should be disinfected by spraying 1% sodium hypochlorite and it should be ensured that no niche and corner of the furniture remains infected. Sprayed solution should be left for 30 minutes then the equipment should be rinsed with clean water. An area in the isolation facility should be earmarked for this purpose.

#### **X-Ray**

X -Ray machines wherever are put to use for diagnoses in case of COVID-19 patients, those machines should not be used for the X-Ray of any other patient who is not COVID-19 positive. As and when this machine is to be used for any other purpose it should properly sterilized/sanitized following a proper procedure.

#### **Utensils**

The utensils which are in use for supplying food to the COVID-19 positive patients should be kept separate from other utensils and should be washed in warm water with adequate soap. In every COVID care centre place should be earmarked for carrying out this process.

1% sodium hypochlorite solution which is prepared should be used within 24 hours of preparation. Discard left over hypochlorite solution and prepare fresh every 24 hours.

The infection control committee in the isolation facility will ensure compliance of these guidelines.


  
Secretary Health & Family Welfare

**Endst No: 14/7/2020-4HB4/ 07**

**Dated : 12.04.2020**

Copy is forwarded to the following for information & necessary action :-

- 1) Secretary to Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab.
- 2) All the Special Chief Secretary, Additional Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary, Administrative Secretary & Secretary to Govt. of Punjab for information.
- 3) Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Medical Education and Research.
- 4) Sh. Rahul Tiwari, IAS, Secretary to Govt of Punjab, Department of Employment Generation and Training-cum-Incharge of State COVID-19 Control Room (SCCR).
- 5) Director Health Services, Punjab
- 6) VC, Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot
- 7) Principal, Govt. Medical College Amritsar and Patiala.
- 8) Principal, Guru Gobind Singh Medical College, Faridkot
- 9) All Medical Superintendents and SMOs in the State of Punjab

  
Secretary Health & Family Welfare

**CC:**

1. Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Health and Family Welfare.
2. Under Secretary Health(G) for uploading orders on website.