

UNIFIED COVID-19 ALGORITHMS

Section 2 GUIDELINES FOR HOSPITAL CARE

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INTRODUCTION

The clinical algorithm (flow chart) is a text format that is specially suited for representing a sequence of clinical decisions which are intended to improve and standardize decisions in delivery of medical care. For the purpose of clarity, a typical clinical algorithm is depicted with basic symbols that represent clinical steps in decision-making:



- 1. The rectangle with rounded edges depicts the current clinical state of an individual patient;
- The hexagon is decision box which contains a question answerable by yes or no; one arrow going to the right signifies "yes", and one arrow going downwards signifies "no";
- 3. The rectangle with sharp edges depicts the action to be done; and
- 4. The oval depicts connection to another algorithm in a different page.

Note that the following algorithms are adapted from multiple guidelines as released by the World Health Organization, Department of Health, and other societies. This document was also reviewed by different experts with the end-goal of having a summarized and comprehensive compilation of guidelines that will aid in management of COVID-19 patients by healthcare workers from both the community and hospital levels.

Lastly, while these patient-centered algorithms intend to summarize and simplify recommendations, these may be subject to change as evidence emerges and guidelines are updated. Any recommendations on patient care are not absolute. Final decisions remain under the discretion of the healthcare provider.

FIGURE 2A. MANAGEMENT FOR PROBABLE OR CONFIRMED COVID-19 PNEUMONIA

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FIGURE 2B. RECOGNITION AND MANAGEMENT OF SEPSIS

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FIGURE 2C. RECOGNITION AND MANAGEMENT OF ARDS

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FIGURE 2D. ADVANCED ADULT CARDIAC LIFE SUPPORT FOR **CASES OF COVID-19**

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resources 5. Efforts to provide spiritual care and counseling to the patient and family must

Continue CPR on the following mechanical ventilator settings: mechanical ventilator at FiO2 100%, back-up rate 12/min. Avoid bag-mask ventilation.

^bEarly Intubation

be done

1.

2.

3.

4.

Do early intubation with most experienced person with the use of video-guided laryngoscope.

2E. POST-MORTEM CARE

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<u>Burial</u>

- 1. Burial, preferably cremation, shall be done within 12 hours after death
- 2. However, burial of the dead body shall, to the most possible extent, be in accordance with the person's religion or customs

Removal of the Body and Transport to Cemetery

- 1. Transfer the body to the mortuary as soon as possible after death
- 2. Wrap the body with cloth and place in the airtight cadaver bag that is leak-proof and shall be zipped or closed tightly with tapes and bandage strips
- 3. Decontaminate surface of the bag with hypochlorite solution or any hospital approved disinfectant
- 4. Ensure that the body is fully sealed in an impermeable airtight cadaver bag before being removed from the isolation room or area, and before transfer to the mortuary, to avoid leakage of body fluid
- 5. When properly packed in the airtight cadaver bag, the body can be safely removed for storage in the mortuary, sent to the crematorium or placed in a coffin for burial
- 6. At no instance shall unzipping the cadaver bag of the body and removal of the body be permitted
- 7. The funeral establishment shall provide the transport of the cadaver to the burial site/crematorium. The vehicle shall be disinfected afterwards

Environmental Control

- 1. Make sure that supply of disposable gloves, protective equipment, alcohol-based hand rub and disinfectant such as household bleach is readily available
- 2. After use, the disposable items such as gloves and protective clothing should be disposed of in a plastic bag
- 3. All surfaces which may be contaminated should be wiped with "1 in 49 diluted household bleach" (mixing 1 part of bleach with 49 parts of water), leave it for 15-30 minutes, and then rinse with water. Metal surfaces could be wiped with 70% alcohol
- 4. Surfaces visibly contaminated with blood and body fluids should be wiped with "1 in 4 diluted household bleach" (mixing 1 part of bleach with 4 parts of water), leave it for 10 minutes, and then rinse with water.

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