

Emergency Response Level

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Precautionary Measures

In view of the **Emergency Response Level** activated by the Hong Kong Government and the corresponding notification requirements, HKSH Medical Group has implemented the following precautionary measures in order to safeguard against the outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

A CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION / CENTRES & OUTPATIENT CONSULTATION (Updated on 5 January 2021)

Criteria would be modified according to CHP reporting criteria

For early detection and isolation of patients at risk of COVID-19 infection and with reference from the Centre for Health Protection (CHP) guidelines, please refer to the below chart for HKSH criteria for admission / centres & outpatient consultation.

All patients must be screened by Fever, Travel, Occupation, Contact and Clustering (FTOCC) . Any patient fulfills CHP reporting criteria ^(a) of COVID-19 will be reported to the Medical Control Officer (MCO) of the Department of Health (DH) immediately and transferred to public hospital.		
Symptoms	New onset / deterioration of ANY of the following symptoms in the past 14 days * Fever / dry cough / shortness of breath / loss of taste or smell * Except symptoms due to documented diagnosis or identifiable etiology	
	Travel / Contact history ^(b)	Patient WITH Symptoms
Patients had close contact with suspected / confirmed COVID-19 case in the past 14 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No admission / consultation Report to CHP for further management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No admission / consultation until approval obtained from both HKSH Management Committee (HMC) and DH Provide a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test^(c) result before admission / consultation^(d)
Patients had travelled to China (including the Mainland, Macau and Taiwan) in the past 14 days AND under compulsory quarantine ; OR had stayed in other countries outside China in the past 21 days AND under compulsory quarantine		
Patients had travelled to China (including the Mainland, Macau and Taiwan) in the past 14 days AND exemption from compulsory quarantine ; OR had stayed in other countries outside China in the past 21 days AND exemption from compulsory quarantine		
Patients living in the same building with a positive case of COVID-19 cluster in the past 14 days ^(e)		
Patients' close contact (i) had travelled to China (including the Mainland, Macau and Taiwan) in the past 14 days AND under compulsory quarantine ; OR (ii) had stayed in other countries outside China in the past 21 days AND under compulsory quarantine ; OR (iii) exemption from compulsory quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test^(c) result before admission / consultation^(d) 	
Patients' close contact had close contact with suspected / confirmed COVID-19 case in the past 14 days		
Both patient and close contact had NO contact and travel history to China (including the Mainland, Macau and Taiwan) in the past 14 days, and had NOT stayed in other countries outside China in the past 21 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test^(c) result before admission / consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation in accordance with usual procedure Admission refer to Part B

(a) Please refer to CHP website: <https://www.chp.gov.hk>

(b) The date of arrival at Hong Kong / last contact with confirmed / suspected COVID-19 case is counted as Day 1.

(c) Negative COVID-19 PCR test report issued by any accredited laboratory 3 days* (7 days* if patients are repeated admission) before admission / consultation can be counted as a valid result.

* counted from specimen collection time

If centres or outpatient cases would like to have COVID-19 PCR test in HKSH, it can be done by telemedicine or at Outpatient Department (OPD)[^]

[^] Patient under compulsory quarantine is not allowed to attend OPD

If inpatients are FTOCC POSITIVE, they have to enter to a designated "Holding Room" for isolation and wait for COVID-19 PCR test result before admission.

(d) Patients requiring repeated use of HKSH service or continuously staying in the Hospital should repeat the test on Day 4 and 8 counting from the day of arrival at Hong Kong or last contact with confirmed / suspected COVID-19 case. Patients who have been back from other countries outside China in the past **21 days**, are required to repeat the test on Day 4, 8, 14 and 19/20, counting from the day of arrival at Hong Kong.

(e) "Cluster" refers to 3 or more confirmed COVID-19 cases.

Additional Information:

i. Returning patients of Chemotherapy Unit are required to undergo COVID-19 PCR test every 7 days and undergo COVID-19 Antigen Screening every 3 days before proceeding to procedures / examinations.

Returning patients of Renal Dialysis Centre are required to undergo COVID-19 PCR test every 7 days and undergo COVID-19 Antigen Screening at every visit before proceeding to procedures / examinations.

Patients of IVF Centre are required to undergo COVID-19 Antigen Screening at every visit before proceeding to procedures / examinations.

COVID-19 Antigen Screening at every visit is mandatory for outpatients receiving mask off procedures / examinations at all hospital centres except throat checking in Outpatient Department, Family Medicine and Primary Care Centre and Private Patient Clinic. COVID-19 Antigen Screening is also required every 3 days for Radiotherapy patients receiving mask off treatment in consecutive days.

COVID-19 Antigen Screening is required at every visit for specific high risk procedures for (1) outpatient or (2) inpatient without COVID-19 PCR done within 3 days.

A valid negative COVID-19 Antigen Screening result is required before proceeding to all procedures / examinations.

ii. If considered appropriate, please make appointment 14 days (who had travelled to China including the Mainland, Macau and Taiwan in the past 14 days) / **21 days** (who had stayed in other countries outside China in the past **21 days**) after symptoms subsides / arrival at Hong Kong / last contact with confirmed / suspected case as an alternative to COVID-19 PCR test.

iii. Patients will be transferred to public/other hospitals if they refuse COVID-19 PCR test / to be brought to the "Holding Room" for isolation.

iv. Inpatients are not allowed to take home leave during the stay in the Hospital except with special approval of HMC.

v. Patients with positive COVID-19 PCR test results will be referred to the MCO of the DH immediately.

vi. It is a criminal offence for any person to provide false or misleading information to health officer/ medical practitioners during public health emergency that is relevant to the risk of exposure to or contacting the disease, such as travel history and contact between the person or other persons (Prevention and Control of Disease (Disclosure of Information) regulation (Cap. 599D)).

B COVID-19 PCR TEST ADMISSION SCREENING (Effective on 31 July 2020)

All inpatients have to undergo mandatory COVID-19 PCR test upon checking-in or before admission.

1. For Elective Inpatients, including Day Care Patients

A negative COVID-19 PCR test result within 3 days of admission^(a) is required.

2. For Emergency Cases

A COVID-19 PCR test would be done on admission where patients would be put in a single room until the test result is available. Patients will then be transferred to the class of accommodation requested if the test result is negative. During the waiting period, all charges of bedside accommodation fees would be charged according to the requested class of accommodation.

3. For Patients of Repeated Admission

The negative COVID-19 PCR test result at the previous admission will be valid for 7 days^(a).

4. Exempted Patients

Patients would be exempted from this mandatory scheme if they were re-admitted within 48 hours of discharge from our Hospital, subject to review of clinical and contact history.

C TRANSFER CASES FROM HA OR OTHER HOSPITALS

1. Transfer cases are subject to the same conditions for admission or approval from HMC.

2. Booking will be arranged after receipt of FTOCC form signed by the patient and the attending doctor.

D VISITING ARRANGEMENT

1. **INPATIENTS** - At check-in admission registration, each patient may **register up to 3 registered visitors per stay**. Only **up to 2 registered visitors are allowed to visit at any one time**. Visitors must undergo COVID-19 Antigen Screening **every 3 days**.

OUTPATIENTS - Only **one companion is allowed for each outpatient**.

For **Chemotherapy Unit and IVF Centre**, each patient may register up to 2 registered visitors. Only 1 registered visitor is allowed to visit at any one time and must undergo COVID-19 Antigen Screening **every 3 days**.

For **Renal Dialysis Centre**, each patient may register up to 2 registered visitors. Only 1 registered visitor is allowed to visit at any one time and must undergo COVID-19 Antigen Screening **at every visit**.

2. **ACCESS CONTROL AND TEMPERATURE CHECK** — Enter and leave via designated corridors for **temperature check**.

Please wear your own mask. Persons without a mask will not be allowed to enter into the Hospital/Centres.

3. **HAND HYGIENE** — **Maintain good personal and hand hygiene practices at all times**. Keep both hands clean before and after visit by using alcohol based hand rub / soap and water.

4. **WEAR A MASK AT ALL TIMES** — Please **wear a mask at all times** in all hospital areas and medical centres and refrain from removing the mask.

5. **NO EATING OR DRINKING DURING VISITS.**

6. The following persons should **AVOID VISITS**:

i. Pregnant women

ii. Children under 12 years of age

iii. The following visitors have to perform COVID-19 PCR test before visit:

- fever, respiratory symptoms or sudden loss of smell/taste is presented; or
- have travel history to China (including the Mainland, Macau and Taiwan) in the past 14 days/ have travel history to other countries outside China in the past **21 days**; or
- have been in close contact with confirmed case in the past 28 days; or
- have worked on the same floor with a positive COVID-19 case in the past 14 days; or
- live in the same building with a positive case of COVID-19 cluster^(a) in the past 14 days; or
- under medical surveillance as required by CHP; or
- household members are under home quarantine; or
- received a written direction for COVID-19 testing under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J) and cannot provide a negative COVID-19 test result; or
- have visited specified premises in the specified time listed in a compulsory testing notice under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J), and cannot provide a negative COVID-19 test result

If multiple visits are required, COVID-19 PCR test should be done on Day 4 and 8 counting from the day of arrival at Hong Kong or last contact with confirmed / suspected case.

Visitors who have been back from other countries outside China in the past **21 days**, are required to repeat the test on Day 4, 8, 14 and 19/20, counting from the day of arrival at Hong Kong.

7. **VISIT LOGS** — **Registration is required for all inpatient visitors** in order to assist with contact tracing when necessary.

