



UJ OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PRACTICE

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE EXPOSURE RISK OF UJ CAMPUS HEALTH CLINIC STAFF TO THE 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

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The current outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus-associated pneumonia was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30 Jan 2020. Originating in China, it has spread to many countries where human-to-human transmission has occurred. Mode of transmission is via droplets and fecal-oral route. In preparation of receiving a suspected case, the following measures shall be followed at Campus Health facilities.

General preparation

1. Study the ***Quick Reference Guide for Health Workers*** from NICD (**red file provided in emergency room**)_
2. Maintain a high level of clinical suspicion
3. Healthcare Worker Personal Protective Equipment: ensure that a PPE station is created in a separate room next to the isolation area. This area must be used to don PPE prior to attending to the patient. Stock N-95 respirator (for health workers), surgical masks (for ill patients), nitrile gloves, eye protection and gowns

Specific procedure related to nCoV suspected patients

A patient enters the clinic with a fever > 38 C, and reports coughing/sneezing or breathing difficulty. The patient also has a travel history from China in the past 2 weeks, or has had contact with a confirmed case in the past 2 weeks.

STEP 1

- Place a surgical mask on the patient
- Isolate patient in the emergency room and close the door

STEP 2

- Assign one healthcare worker (HCW) to the case
- HCW to put on PPE

STEP 3

- Ask everyone to leave the clinic
- Miemie Geya or Elana Venter will phone NICD hotline*
- Phone ER24 to brief them prior to responding to the call
- ER24 collects patient and transfers patient to one of the DOH designated hospitals (Tembisa, Steve Biko or Charlotte Maxeke)

STEP 4

- **Disinfect** the entire emergency room, including linen, with surface disinfectant or chlorine-based disinfectant (Biocide). Let dry for 30 min.
- Remove PPE and place in a sealed red bag as biohazardous waste
- Place soiled linen in the deep basin filled with Biocide treated water
- **Clean** all surfaces with Biocide-treated water and paper towel.
- **Sanitize** all surfaces with surface disinfectant.

**In case NICD requests UJ clinicians to collect specimens:*

- Take two swabs: Oropharyngeal and nasopharyngeal and place BOTH in the same UTM tube. Seal in Ziplock bag and place in cooler box.
- Complete both NICD forms:
 - a) [Notifiable Medical Condition form](#)
 - b) [Case investigation form: Request for 2019-nCoV-testing form](#) .
- Arrange collection of specimens to NICD.