



S.NO 42-185 /IDSRS/PH

Date: 24/01/2020

Most Immediate

To

1. The General Manager, Civil Aviation Authority Peshawar
2. The Deputy Medical Superintendent, 11 Crops Peshawar
3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad
4. The Central Health Establishment, Peshawar
5. Higher Education Commission HEC
6. Secretary Home Department
7. Secretary Transport Department
8. All District Health Officers, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
9. All Medical Directors Medical Teaching Institutions, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
10. All the Medical Superintendents, District Health Quarters Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
11. The Medical Director, Rehman Medical Institution Peshawar
12. The Medical Director, Northwest General Hospital Peshawar
13. The Medical Director, Mercy Teaching Hospital Peshawar
14. The Medical Director, Kuwait Teaching Hospital Peshawar

Subject: Advisory on Pneumonia outbreak due to Novel CoronaVirus (2019-nCoV), in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China

Dear Sir(s),

Reference to subject cited above, it is stated that a recent surge of pneumonia cases associated with novel corona virus has been reported in China. The Chinese authorities have notified more than 500 confirmed human infections and cases have also been reported from 7 other countries including Thailand, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, and United States of America. This situation has urged an International Alert for the neighboring countries to enhance their surveillance and vigilance for response in case detection. Keeping in view the situation, Health Department is sharing this advisory (enclosed herewith) which is developed by the National Institute of Health (NIH) Islamabad.

Objective of this advisory is to alert and sensitize the health staff at border posts, Airports and also to alert healthcare institutions of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to stay vigilant about any suspected cases coming from affected areas for an early detection as well as for adoption of preventive measures. The information about the illness is summarized in enclosed advisory. (Annex-1)

You are requested to kindly share this advisory with all concerned quarters for wider dissemination and in best public interest. Should a case consistent with the mentioned symptoms of Coronavirus infection emerge, please report it to Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response System (IDSRS) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at Email: co.idsrs.gov.pk@gmail.com. IDSRS can also be reached at # 091-9216441

**Program Manager
Integrated Disease Surveillance &
Response System (IDSRS)
DGHS, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**



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2. Additional Chief Secretary P&D Department Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
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5. Vice Chancellor Khyber Medical University Peshawar
6. Director General Health Services, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
7. Coordinator Emergency Operation Center Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
8. All Hospital and Medical Directors Medical Teaching Institution Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
9. PSO to Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
10. PS to Minister Health Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
11. All members of PDPRU

National Focal Point for International Health Regulations –
2005

Jan 2020

**Subject: Advisory for pneumonia cases due to new Coronavirus at Points of
Entry**

A recent surge of pneumonia cases has been reported from the China which is associated with the novel corona virus and initially 41 cases have been reported. The situation has urged the neighbouring countries to enhance their surveillance and vigilance.

The objective of this advisory is to alert and sensitize the health staff of Points of Entry to remain vigilant about any suspected cases coming from affected area of China for early detection of suspected cases of novel Coronavirus infection.

Infectious Agent: This pneumonia like illness is caused by virus named by CDC-US "nCoV2019" of the family of Coronavirus.

Mode of Transmission: Mode of transmission of the nCoV are currently unknown, but it is supposed that the disease is zoonotic and causes infections in humans through contact with infected animals (Needs to be confirmed). There is no clear evidence of human to human transmission.

The following people should be investigated for nCoV infection:

1. A person with SARI/ with history of fever and cough/ difficulty in breathing requiring admission to hospital; with no other etiology that fully explains the clinical presentation; AND any of the following:
 - a. A history of travel to Wuhan, Hubei Province China in the 14 days prior to symptom onset.
2. Individuals with acute respiratory illness of any degree of severity who, within 14 days before onset of illness, had any of the following exposures:
 - a. close physical contact with a confirmed case of nCoV infection, while that patient was symptomatic;
 - b. direct contact with animals, in countries where the nCoV is known to be circulating in animal populations or where human infections have occurred as a result of presumed zoonotic transmission.

Treatment: There is no specific treatment or vaccines for the nCoV. Symptomatic treatment is the most possible choice to manage the patient.

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Prevention & Control measures:

Vaccination: There is currently no vaccine to protect people against previously known Coronaviruses (SARS & MERS)

Preventive measures for Health Staff at Points of Entry:

- Ensure standard precautions including hand and respiratory hygiene by using personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Cover nose and mouth with a mask/ tissue during examination of suspected persons.
- Perform hand hygiene after contact with respiratory secretions.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects, such as doorknobs.

Laboratory Diagnosis and NIH Support:

- Tests on patient samples present an extreme biohazard risk and should only be conducted under maximum biological containment conditions. Safe disposal of lab waste should be followed strictly.
- Sample from suspected pneumonia caused by coronavirus case should be collected by trained technician with full preventive measures using appropriate personal protective equipments (PPEs).
- Recommended samples for testing are nasopharyngeal and sputum samples.
- For any further assistance in this context, please report it to Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response System (IDSRS) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at Email: co.idsrs.gov.pk@gmail.com. IDSRS can also be reached at # 091-9216441.

The above 'Advisory' may please be circulated to all points of Entry.

Major General
Prof. Dr. Aamer Ikram, SI(M)
Executive Director