Chief Medical & Health Officer
All Districts, Rajasthan

Subject:- Guideline for management of critical health services during COVID – 19.
Reference: - MoHFW, GoI, DO NO.7(23)/2020-NHM-I dated 10th April,2020

The COVID-19 outbreak has placed unprecedented demands on our health system. Our health workers are trying hard and conducting various activities to control the pandemic. During controlling this pandemic it is also necessary to ensure continuity of certain essential health services. Focusing on COVID-19 related activities and continuing to provide essential services, is important not only to maintain population trust in the health system to deliver essential health services but also to minimize increase in morbidity and mortality from other health conditions. All emergency and critical care needs to be ensured during the period of lockdown. The essential health services are exempted and the list is enclosed in the annexure. Hence,

• We need to ensure that the disruption to critical essential health services is minimized. Particular attention needs to be paid to providing essential health care for specific sub-population groups. These include-
  o Pregnant women likely to deliver in the period of the lockdown with a particular focus on High Risk Pregnant Women.
  o New-borns and young children
  o Patients on treatment for chronic communicable and non-communicable diseases.
  o Elderly people,
  o Patients needing dialysis, chemotherapy as well as
  o Those requiring transfusion blood and blood products.

• The lockdown places certain restrictions on movement and service delivery would need to be redesigned temporarily to suit the specific local context, be it urban or rural. In addition, transport, supplies of essential medicines and commodities for these population groups will need to be assured.
States need to ensure access to care for such groups during the period of the lockdown through facilitating patient access to facilities as needed, using special passes/permits, if local administrations warrant such passes and arranging transport, wherever required. This is to ensure that
- Women are transported safely to facilities for delivery.
- Birth doses of vaccines are administered in institutions.
- New borns and young children needing care are visited at home by ASHA/ANMs
- Medicines for chronic diseases are delivered to patients who need them and ensuring adequate supplies to tide over the period of the lockdown
- Volunteers such as local youth who can support medicine delivery or accompanying patients can be engaged.

To further extend outreach services (other than COVID) it is being proposed to provide OPD services through MMV/MMU at all SDM HQ & in containment zone of hotspot area for which separate guidelines are being issued.

The protection of our health workers should be of paramount concern. All frontline workers, undertaking home visits and participating in community interactions, nurses, medical officers and other staff who encounter patients in facilities need to be trained in the use of preventive measures such as hand-washing, maintain physical distance and other protective measures, as advised by Ministry from time to time.

As you are aware that State has released certain amount to districts for various activities and if any further requirement is arise then immediately communicate us so that timely solution may be given.

(N.K.Thakral)
Special Secretary – M&H and Mission Director – NHM

Copy to:
1. PS to Additional Chief Secretary, Medical, Health and FW, GoR
2. District Collector – All
3. Director – PH
4. Director – RCH
5. Project Director – NHM
6. OSD – NHM
7. Additional Director – RH
8. Joint Director – M&H – All Zones

Director - RCH