

PRESS RELEASE
22nd November 2020

The city of Ahmedabad is witnessing an increase in the number of Covid cases since last few days and the bed availability has become an issue.

The Covid experts of Ahmedabad Hospitals & Nursing Homes Association had an emergency meeting today to finalise the criteria for admitting Covid patients in the designated Covid care Facilities.

It is well known that in Covid 19 infection ,nearly 85% to 90% patients will have mild to moderate disease and will recover on their own. The concern is only for the remaining 10 to 15% of patients who may require hospitalisation.

It is important to note here that children and young ones are at very low risk for complications and hence there are very high chances that they will improve on their own and will not require hospitalisation.

Admission Criteria 1:

Persons at risk of severe disease- includes

- **1(a):** People above the age of 60,
- **1(b):** Persons with Co-morbidities or associated medical conditions (HT, DM, IHD, cardiomyopathies, post-transplant patient, patients with malignancy, Chronic kidney disease, obesity, chronic liver disease, HIV infection, Chronic neurologic condition, COPD, etc.)
- **1(c):** Patients on medications such as immunosuppressive therapy, patients on steroids,

Admission Criteria 2:

- Any patient with persistent fever more than 101 F for more than three days

Admission Criteria 3:

- Any patient with oxygen saturation (SPO2) less than 94 % on room air, irrespective of age

Admission Criteria 4:

- Any patient with significant breathing discomfort and increased respiratory rate irrespective of age

Admission Criteria 5:

- Any patient with features suggestive of non-lung complications e.g. drowsiness, chest pain etc. irrespective of age

Furthermore, it is clarified that the final decision regarding admission is of the treating doctor and these will remain broad guidelines as it is difficult to list down all the conditions for which admission may be required.

Patients with suspected or confirmed moderate COVID-19 (pneumonia) be isolated to contain virus transmission. Patients with moderate illness may not require emergency interventions or hospitalization; however, isolation is necessary for all suspect or confirmed cases.

The location of isolation will depend on the established COVID-19 care pathway and can be done at a health facility, community facility or at home. The decision of location should be made on a case-by-case basis and will depend on the clinical presentation, requirement for supportive care, potential risk

factors for severe disease, and conditions at home, including the presence of vulnerable persons in the household.

For patients at high risk for deterioration, isolation in hospital is preferred.

The following are the common signs & symptoms which are seen in patients which may require hospitalization:

1. Persistent fever >99.5 F
2. Persistent severe cough
3. Breathlessness
4. SPo2 <94%
5. Persons at risk of severe disease as described above with any of 1st 4 feature
6. Persons who cannot self-isolate

AHNA has also made standard protocols for treatment of patients with Injectable anti virals at home or in a day care setting and the same has been made available to the treating doctors.

The above details are being informed to the general public so that an informed decision can be taken.

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