

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
HEALTH MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

**Order No. /COVID-19/2020,**

**Date: 19.04.2020**

**Sub:** HMFWD – COVID-19 – communication of guidelines to be followed in discharging the patients affected and cured of COVID-19 disease due to Corona Virus – Regarding.

**COVID INSTANT ORDER – 31**

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Subsequent to the measures put in place by Government to contain and stop the spread of COVID-19 disease due to CORONA virus in the State, it is hereby decided to issue guidelines in discharge of patients who are tested to negative to the infection. Accordingly, following Discharge Protocols are issued for their immediate implementation,

**COVID-19 patient Discharge Protocols:**

1. Patient to be considered for discharged,
  - a. After clinical clearance and chest X Ray cleared, and
  - b. Two consecutive RT PCR tests 24 hours apart (14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Day) are negative.
2. If throat swab test is positive on 14<sup>th</sup> day, patient to be retained in the hospital and next sample should be sent on 28<sup>th</sup> day. If result is negative, the second sample should be sent for test 24hrs apart i.e., 29<sup>th</sup> day.
3. If throat swab test is negative on 14<sup>th</sup> day, but positive 24 hrs i.e., 15<sup>th</sup> day patient shall be retained in the hospital. Next sample should be sent on 29<sup>th</sup> day and second sample should be 24hrs apart i.e., 30<sup>th</sup> day.
4. At the time of discharge following detail is to be explained to patient,
  - a. ***About convalescent plasma, and counsel the patient about the plasma donation which is going to be very useful to treat moderate to severe COVID-19 cases***
  - b. Patients address and mobile number to be taken for contacting him / her for donation of plasma.
5. After the discharge, patient shall compulsorily follow following protocols and local administration shall ensure,
  - a. 14 days compulsory home isolation with surgical mask,
  - b. avoid visiting others, and
  - c. social gatherings

6. Apart from above, since Viral RNA stays in faeces up to 35 days, the discharged patient and the family members shall be advised to take following precautions at the time of discharge,
- a. After defecation, close the commode lid and flush toilet immediately.
  - b. Open defecation should be discouraged.
  - c. Proper washing of hands with soap after using the toilet.
  - d. Better avoiding using same toilet by the patient and others for 35 days, if it is not possible, avoid usage of it atleast up-to 30 minutes after patient usage.
  - e. Toilets must be cleaned with soap and water, then with 0.5 % Hypo chlorite solution for a contact period of 10 minutes and it is to be done every 4<sup>th</sup> hourly.

All the District Collectors, Superintendents of Government and Private COVID hospitals are requested to take immediate necessary action for implementation of above guidelines with immediate effect.

  
**SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

1. All the Collector & District Magistrates
2. The Superintendents, Government and Private COVID-19 Hospitals
3. The Vice Chancellor, Dr. NTRUHS
4. The Director, Medical Education
5. Commissioner, AP Vaidya Vidhan Parishad
6. Director, Health

Copy to:

1. All the Joint Collector & Additional District Magistrates
2. All the DM&HOs / DCHSs in the State