

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

Order No.114/COVID-19/2021

Dated 01.05.2021

COVID INSTANT ORDER - 114

Sub: - HM&FW Dept., - COVID-19 – Dead body management protocol for suspected COVID patients –Reg.

Ref:- 1. Covid Instant order 10 dated 28.03.2020
2. Covid Instant order 22 dated 10.04.2020.

Detailed instructions in ref 1&2 cited issued for dead body management of suspected COVID patients. In continuation of the orders read above the following instructions are issued.

1. Dead Body shall not be handed over to the family members/ relatives until the test result of the deceased is negative to avoid unnecessary spread of infection to others. If the test result turns out to be positive, then the dead body management protocol shall be as follows.

2. Dead body management Protocol

- a) The communication about a death in the hospital to follow the following protocol and District Collector has to communicate any deaths due to Covid as below:-
- b) Death information flow is from **Hospital Superintendent – to-Designated Nodal/ Special Officer –to-the District Collector**

Hospital Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Health worker with PPE to remove the dead body from the ward● Plug oral, nasal orifices and place the dead body in a leak-proof plastic body bag.● Body Bag to be wrapped with mortuary sheet or sheet provided by family members● Embalming of dead bodies should not be allowed.● Autopsies to be avoided
Family Members	<p>If the test result of the deceased is negative then</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Dead body can be handed over after the body bag wrapping● Vehicle after transfer of body to cremation/burial staff will be disinfected with 1% sodium hypochlorite● Bathing, kissing, hugging, etc. Of the dead body should not be allowed.● Large gatherings (above20) at the crematorium/burial grounds should be avoided as a physical distancing measure as it is possible that close family contacts may be symptomatic and/or shedding the virus.● Ash can be handed over and can be taken for ritual purpose● Special counselling for burial ground staff to be done for above measures.

Municipal Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dead body should be taken over after the body bag wrapping properly. ● Vehicle used for transportation of body to cremation/burial staff shall be disinfected with 1% sodium hypochlorite ● Arrange for cremation by electrical as far as possible. ● Ash can be handed over to family members and can be taken for ritual purpose ● Special counselling for burial ground staff may be done.
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3. The Municipal Commissioners of the city/Town shall be responsible for the dead body management of deaths occurred in the covid hospitals situated in the city/town.

4. Further, all the superintendents of the teaching hospitals shall ensure in obtaining the test result of the deceased immediately from the attached testing lab for which the hospital side nodal officer/manager shall facilitate.

5. District Collectors are requested to ensure proper information flow of deaths due to covid and dead body management by Municipal authorities to avoid further spread.

6. CDMA shall issue appropriate instructions to all the Municipal Commissioners of the corporations and municipalities. He shall also be part of the State Command and Control Center henceforth.



Principal Secretary to Government

To

All the Collectors & District Magistrates

The CDMA, AP

The CEO, Dr YSR AHCT, Guntur

The Director of Medical Education, AP with instructions to communicate to all the Superintendents of Teaching Hospitals.

The Director of Public Health & Family Welfare, AP

The Commissioner, APVVP

The President, IMA, AP

All superintendents of Covid Hospitals through District Collectors concerned