We are at a juncture where the COVID positives cases are raising and as infection spreads and hospitalizations increase, we need to look at a proper clinical management and community containment strategy for not only containing the infection but also to keep mortality as low as possible.

An analysis of all the deaths so far shows that, people with comorbidities viz., Diabetes, Hypertension, COPD / Asthma, CAD, CKD and other Immuno compromised persons are the most vulnerable. Hence, it is necessary to ensure that such persons are not exposed to the virus to ensure that mortality is low.

Further, early detection in the above comorbid cases has resulted in better outcomes. Hence, the following instructions are issued;

1. All persons with comorbidities irrespective of their age shall be monitored on a regular basis. The database of all persons with comorbidities as obtained from house to house fever surveys conducted so far is collated and pushed to the ANM app. Further details of all persons above the age of 60 are also pushed to the App. Those persons shall be checked once in three days by the Sub Center ANM and update the fact of such visit in the ANM App. The ANM shall use the services of Ward / Village Secretariat ANM in achieving the above objective by duly allocating certain persons to these ANMs working in the Village / Ward Secretariat. During every visit the temperature, oxygen saturation and Blood pressure shall be measured. In case of persons with diabetes, blood sugar levels also shall be monitored. The results of such tests shall be updated in the App.

2. The family members shall be sufficiently advised not to allow those persons to move out of the Houses. Their essential needs may be fulfilled by others in the family like shopping for groceries etc. Other members of family shall sanitize themselves before coming in contact with the old and vulnerable people. This message shall be repeatedly be given to other members in the family. If only vulnerable people are living in the family, such persons may be tagged to their neighbors or relatives for getting them essential supplies.

3. Medicines for the underlying comorbid condition shall be supplied at the door step of the vulnerable person by the ANM free of cost every fortnight.
4. For all such vulnerable people staying in containment zones and the buffer zones, COVID testing shall also be done once whether they are having symptoms or not.

5. The ANM shall be provided the essential equipment to measure Temperature, Blood Pressure, Oxygen Saturation and Blood Glucose by the concerned Medical Officers. The drugs shall also be drawn from the Primary Health Center and Supplied to the ANMs to be disbursed to the vulnerable.

6. To boost immunity among the vulnerable population the following supplement shall also be given to them from the PHC stocks free of cost.

   a) Zinc 20mg per day

   During the visit or after visit, if the above category of persons shows any symptoms, they shall be immediately tested for COVID and further protocols of treatment shall be followed.

   Spl. Chief Secretary

To
All the Collector & District Magistrates
All the DM&HOs in the State

Copy to :
The Director, Public Health, AP, Vijayawada