Provincial Directors of Health Services,
Regional Directors of Health Services,
Heads/Directors of Health Institutions,
Directors of National Hospital/Teaching Hospitals/Provincial &
District General Hospitals, Base Hospitals,
All Medical Superintendents of other Hospitals,
All Consultant Community Physicians,
All Regional Epidemiologists,

Revision to Interim Summary Guidelines for Clinical Management of patients with novel coronavirus (2019- nCoV)

This has further reference to the Circular Letters of even number dated 26. 01. 2020 and 06/02/2020 on the above subject.

As of 2nd March, 2020, the World Health Organization has reported 88,948 confirmed novel coronavirus cases of which 80,174 cases are from China (including Taipei, Macau and Hong Kong). Out of 8,774 confirmed cases reported from other countries majority has been reported from the Republic of Korea (4,212), Italy (1,689) and Japan (254). By now total of 64 countries have reported confirmed cases of COVID-19. Local transmission have been reported from Republic of Korea, Japan, Singapore, Australia, Vietnam, Italy, Germany, France, Spain, UK, Switzerland, Norway, Netherlands, Greece, Finland, Denmark, Thailand, Indonesia, Iran and United Arab Emirates.

With the increasing evidence of reported community transmission in many countries WHO has revised surveillance Case definitions for COVID-19.

Accordingly, the following people should be investigated, tested and notified for COVID-19.

Case definitions for surveillance
The case definitions are based on the current information available and might be revised as new information accumulates.
Suspect case

A. A patient with acute respiratory illness (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease (e.g., cough, shortness of breath), **AND** with no other aetiology that fully explains the clinical presentation **AND** a history of travel to or residence in a country/area or territory **reporting local transmission** (See WHO situation report) of COVID-19 disease during the 14 days prior to symptom onset.

**OR**

B. A patient with any acute respiratory illness **AND** having been in contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case during the last 14 days prior to onset of symptoms;

**OR**

C. A patient with severe acute respiratory infection (fever and at least one sign/symptom of respiratory disease (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) **AND** requiring hospitalization **AND** with no other aetiology that fully explains the clinical presentation.

Probable case
A suspect case for whom testing for COVID-19 is inconclusive

Confirmed case
A person with laboratory confirmation of COVID-19 infection, irrespective of clinical signs and symptoms.

All suspected patients with 2019-nCoV need to be notified to Epidemiology Unit immediately by the treating physician by phone (0112695112, 0114740490, 0114740491, 0114740492, 0112681548)

Dr Anil Jasinghe  
Director General of Health Services

cc:  
Secretary/ Health  
DDG/PHS I and II  
DDG/MS I and II  
DDG/LS  
Chief Epidemiologist  
Director/MRI  
Director/Quarantine  
Director/HPB