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## HEADQUARTERS' OFFICE

**EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION  
( ISO 9001-2000 Certified)  
PANCHDEEP BHAWAN, C.I.G. ROAD: NEW DELHI**

No. U-16/14/H1n1/09-Med.I

August 13, 2009

To

All SSMCs / SMCs

Subject : Prevention &amp; control of Influenza A H1N1 outbreak – Instructions reg.

Sir /Madam,

You may be aware of the outbreak of Influenza A H1N1 in the country. WHO has designated this outbreak as a public health emergency and raised Influenza A H1N1 pandemic alert to highest level – phase 6 – which means widespread human infection. At present ESI hospitals are not the designated health facility for diagnosis and treatment of Influenza A H1N1, but ESI hospitals and dispensaries have important role in prevention and control of Influenza A H1N1 case management and also providing infrastructure towards surge capacity as per action plan of Govt of India.

Therefore for the prevention and control of Influenza A H1N1 and case management, instructions to be followed are enclosed. These instructions should be made available to all concerned in state ESI scheme and Model hospital in the states under your jurisdiction. Medical Superintendent / Nodal Officer of the Hospital should immediately be asked to contact the State Health Authorities for immediate guidance and thereafter issue suitable instructions to all dispensaries under their jurisdiction. You are requested to ensure strict compliance of the instructions and send the action taken report in the format given in the instructions to this office by 20<sup>th</sup> August,2009 positively through E mail / Fax.

This issues with the approval of Director General.

Yours faithfully,

**(DR. S.K. JAIN)****DY. MEDICAL COMMISSIONER**

Copy to :-

1. All Secretaries dealing with ESI Schemes with the request to issue necessary directions to all concerned for implementation of instructions.
2. Director ESI Scheme All states for immediate necessary action
3. Director Medical Delhi /Noida for immediate necessary action
4. MSs of all ESIC hospitals including model hospitals for immediate necessary action
5. All Regional Directors / Joint Director I/C for information and necessary action.
6. PPS / PS to DG/ FC/MC/IC,/AC(P&A).

**DY. MEDICAL COMMISSIONER**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO BE FOLLOWED FOR            PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF  
INFLUENZA A H1N1 OUTBREAK**

World Health Organization has officially designated the present H1N1 Influenza outbreak as a public health emergency of international concern and has raised the Influenza pandemic alert to highest level - phase 6 - on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2009 implying widespread human transmission. Ministry of health and family welfare, Government of India has issued an action plan for the pandemic preparedness and response for managing Influenza A H1N1. Based on the action plan, the following instructions are to be followed for prevention, early detection, treatment and containment of Influenza A H1N1 :-

1. All health care activities related to H1N1 infection will be carried out in close co-operation and co-ordination with State Health Authorities. The SSMC/SMC will be the ESIC Nodal Officer in the state for all H1N1 related activities. He/she shall coordinate with the Director, ESI Scheme of the state and ensure implementation of all guidelines with respect to all H1N1 related activities in close liaison with State Health Authorities, in the state ESI hospitals and Dispensaries. . He / She shall monitor the implementation of guidelines issued by the ESIC HQ, State Health Authorities and Ministry Of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW). Detailed guidelines and standard operating procedures on various issues related to Influenza A H1N1 are available at [www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in). The website may be accessed for all current guidelines, procedures , protocols , self health assessment, lab investigations & transportation and dos & don'ts etc. The same may also be provided to all concerned.
2. A committee consisting of SSMC / SMC, Director ESI Scheme and Regional Director / Joint Director I/C will immediately work out the action plan for implementation and the same should be reviewed every fortnightly.
3. All ESI health care facilities including hospitals and dispensaries will designate a Nodal Officer to coordinate all H1N1 related activities in their unit. The Nodal Officer of the Hospital shall immediately contact State Authorities for immediate guidance and thereafter issue suitable instructions to all dispensaries under their jurisdiction.
4. A separate screening facility/room will be designated in all hospitals to screen all patients presenting with Influenza Like Illness (ILI). This should be manned by a medical officer and a staff nurse with the facility for complete ENT examination and record keeping. All doctors of the hospitals shall refer all cases with ILI to the designated room/facility where a detailed evaluation will be done. Those patients suspected to have Influenza A H1N1 ( Refer to Annexure XII of *Action Plan, Pandemic Preparedness and Response for Managing Novel Influenza A H1N1* given at the MOHFW website ([www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in) ) should be referred to the nearby states health facility designated for H1N1 infection management. All patients, along with

their attendants should be provided with face masks prior to referral. A daily register detailing the following information is to be maintained:

- I. Number of the patients screened.
  - II. Details of suspected cases referred to the state health facility designated for management of H1N1 influenza. Details should include name, sex, age, home and workplace address, telephone no. and the facility to which referred.
5. Patients with ILI reporting to dispensary are to be referred directly to the designated state health facility. Records of such referrals should be sent as per protocol detailed above for hospitals.

#### **6. Infection Control Practices**

- I. Personal Protective Equipments (PPE) should be provided to all health care workers as per guidelines issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare / state health authorities. Refer to Annexure XXII of *Action Plan, Pandemic Preparedness and Response for Managing Novel Influenza A H1N1* given at the MOHFW website ( [www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in) )
- II. All health care facilities would follow strict infection control and waste management practices. Refer to Annexure XXI of *Action Plan, Pandemic Preparedness and Response for Managing Novel Influenza A H1N1* given at the MOHFW website ( [www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in) )

#### **7. Public awareness campaign (IEC activities)**

##### *Public Lectures:*

- I. Care should be taken not to create panic among the beneficiaries. Stress should be laid on preventive measures and symptoms recognition.
- II. Lectures should be held regularly to sensitize the public and to create awareness of designated state facilities where laboratory diagnosis and management of H1N1 infection is available.

##### *Posters and Pamphlets:*

Posters and pamphlets and other IEC material as provided by the State H1N1 nodal agency may be widely circulated and put up. IEC material may also be printed ( including in local language ) and provided to all concerned. The names and address of designated state facility of nearby place should be displayed at prominent places.

#### **8. Awareness Programmes/Training of staff**

- I. Sensitization and orientation programmes on influenza A H1N1 should be conducted for doctors, nurses and other paramedical staff from time to time. These programmes should include epidemiology, symptomatology, laboratory diagnosis, management and infection control practices.
- II. Training programmes offered by the State Health Authorities should be arranged.

- III. All updates and recent trends on disease pattern and management and latest guideline provided by DGHS should be widely circulated and displayed.

## 9. Capacity Building

It is likely that there will be a surge of cases in the near future. Thereupon as per action plan of Government of India, all ESI Hospitals may be required to create facilities for patient care. All Medical Superintendents of all ESI Hospitals take measures towards capacity building in their hospitals as per guidelines of MOHFW /State Government. This must include a Disaster Management Protocol, strengthening of Infection control and waste management activities, Case management protocols and those for transportation of samples and patients. For details refer to *Action Plan, Pandemic Preparedness and Response for Managing Novel Influenza A H1N1* given at the MOHFW website [www.mohfw.nic.in](http://www.mohfw.nic.in).

Areas that can be used as Isolation Wards must be identified, earmarked and strengthened, subject to available resources. This should be done in coordination with state health authorities.

## 10. Stores

Action may be ensured to have sufficient stocks of personal protective equipments, N 95, Triple layer masks, anti viral drugs, infection control materials in hospitals and dispensaries as per requirement.

## 11. Reporting

SSMC/SMC shall in coordination with Director of ESI scheme and Medical Superintendent of ESIC Model Hospital in the State, shall send the weekly information on the Influenza A H1N1 in the state by Fax / E mail to the Nodal officer at the HQ office in the following format :-

- No. of suspected cases referred
- No. of positive cases
- No. of death due to H1N1 if any
- No. of patients on treatment for H1N1
- No. of cases on prophylaxis
- Details of the infrastructure created including Isolation Ward, screening room etc. – hospital wise.
- Any other relevant information

## 11. Budget

Budget provided under the head preventive and promotive services may be utilized for H1N1 activities. SSMC /SMC shall also sanction the advance, if required by the State Government.

### **13. Queries**

Any queries regarding H1N1 can be registered at the following **Telephone no. 1800112526** during the working hours at ESI Hqrs. Office, New Delhi. The same shall be replied in due course. This may be given wide publicity.

#### **CONTROL ROOM :**

#### **Nodal Officer ( ESIC HQrs )**

Dr S.K . JAIN

Dy. Medical commissioner (HQ)

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