
 <p>PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER SERVICE INCIDENT COMMAND POST</p>	Document Type	Document Code: GL-ICP-024
	GUIDELINES	Effective Date: May 2020
	Document Title	Revision Number: 1
	INTERIM GUIDELINES IN THE PREVENTION OF COVID-19 INFECTION IN THE RENAL AND METABOLIC UNIT	Page: 1 of 3

REVISION HISTORY			
Rev No.	Review Date	Description of Change	Date of Next Review
1	September 2020	Add symptoms: headache, loss of smell, diarrhea, joint and muscle pain	May 2022
		Add symptomatic patients are advised to proceed to ER special triage or seek medical consult	
		Add OPD hemodialysis patients and their relatives / companions shall be checked by OPD MAB Annex security personnel prior to admission to the hospital premises	
		Add Pre-assessment using the screening Form for COVID-19	
		Revised: Mandatory and periodic testing to symptom-based testing	
		Add Social Distancing 3.1 Only one (1) relative / companion shall be allowed entry in the hospital 3.3 The relative / companion shall stay at the designated waiting area located at the 3rd floor OPD MAB Annex Hallway or at the ground floor, and continue to observe social distancing.	
		Revised: Reduction of Operating Hours to Scheduling of OPD Hemodialysis	
		Revised: Rescheduling of Current Hemodialysis Patients 4.1 The Out-patient elective hemodialysis procedure shall be scheduled from Mondays to Saturdays based on the prescribed treatment: Three (3) Shifts every Monday – Wednesday – Friday Two (2) Shifts every Tuesday- Thursday – Saturday 4.2 Changes in Schedule shall be requested upon proper notification of the unit and subjected to availability of slots. 4.3 The hemodialysis unit is not to accept new patient for chronic hemodialysis.	

Reviewed by:	 GERARDO S. MANZO, MD Incident Commander	Approved by:	 JOEL M. ABANILLA, MD Executive Director
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I. OBJECTIVE

To ensure that the Philippine Heart Center Hemodialysis Unit is COVID19-free and safe to both healthcare workers and patients undergoing hemodialysis treatments.

II. SCOPE

Interim policies and guidelines in the prevention of COVID-19 transmission in the Renal and Metabolic Unit

III. GUIDELINES

1. Prevention of transmission

1.1 Checking for COVID-19 symptoms

1.1.1 Patients or relatives are advised to inform the unit ahead of their hemodialysis schedule if the hemodialysis patient is experiencing of any of the following: fever, chills, cough, colds, sore throat, difficulty in breathing not related to pulmonary congestion, headache, loss of smell, diarrhea, joint and muscle pain. If such symptoms are present, they should inform Hemodialysis unit and proceed to the nearest COVID-19 referral hospital. Symptomatic patients are never to proceed to the HD unit first and are advised to proceed to ER special triage or seek medical consult.

1.1.2. Upon arrival at the Philippine Heart Center, they are advised to either wait at the designated patient waiting area (in front of the scenic elevator) or in their vehicles to practice social distancing. When the HD machine is ready for their treatment, they will be called to proceed to the unit. Five (5) patients will be called into the unit entrance one at a time.

1.1.3. OPD hemodialysis patients and their relatives / companions shall be checked by OPD MAB Annex security personnel and health declaration shall be accomplished prior to admission to the hospital premises. Patients and relatives / companion must wear mask and face shield at all times.

1.1.4. Pre-assessment for COVID 19 symptoms is done by a nurse at the entrance of unit prior proceeding to the treatment area using the screening Form for COVID-19 Infection.


2. Routine Mandatory Testing

2.1 The Philippine Heart Center Renal and Metabolic Unit will be conducting symptom-based testing (OPS/NPS) for all staff, patients and their relatives. Should any of the patients tested positive, they shall be transferred to a DOH-recognized COVID-19 hemodialysis center, with the coordination of their respective attending nephrologist.

3. Social Distancing

3.1. Only one (1) relative / companion shall be allowed entry in the hospital

3.2. Relatives / companions are strictly not allowed to stay inside the treatment area.

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3.3. The relative / companion shall stay at the designated waiting area located at the 3rd floor OPD MAB Annex Hallway or at the ground floor, and continue to observe social distancing.

3.4. Patients are advised to have their meals prior to hemodialysis treatment to prevent removal of masks during hemodialysis session.

4. Scheduling of OPD Hemodialysis

4.1 The Out-patient elective haemodialysis procedure shall be scheduled from Mondays to Saturdays based on the prescribed treatment:

Three (3) Shifts every Monday – Wednesday – Friday
Two (2) Shifts every Tuesday- Thursday – Saturday

4.2 Changes in Schedule shall be requested upon proper notification of the unit and subjected to availability of slots.

4.3 The hemodialysis unit is not to accept new patient for chronic hemodialysis.

4.4 Priority will be given to patients who are already treated for co-morbid cardiovascular disease at the Philippine Heart Center.

4.5 Non-heart patients who cannot be accommodated will be advised to have hemodialysis on other nearby hemodialysis canters or hospitals.