



## **MAKE YOUR CENTRE SAFE FROM COVID-19 (CORONA VIRUS)**

You might be aware of the outbreak of Covid-19 (Novel Coronavirus) in many parts of the world including India. Dialysis patients are at an increased risk of getting infected due to their low levels of immunity. Make your dialysis centre environment safe by using the following guidelines:

### **CHECK:**

If a patient, their family member or staff member has –

- Fever (check temperature of all staff once daily, **all patients and attenders before they enter the centre**)
- Dry cough
- Shortness of breath
- Aching muscles
- Fatigue

(Running nose and sore throat are typically not symptoms of corona virus)

### **IF YES:**

1. Have them see a doctor as soon as possible
2. Do not allow them to enter the centre until they have seen a doctor and the centre staff has spoken to the doctor and got clearance.
3. If urgent dialysis is required, have them wear a N95 mask and do one session only before further investigation is carried out.

### **IF A PATIENT WHO HAS CONFIRMED CORONAVIRUS DIAGNOSIS NEEDS DIALYSIS:**

1. Staff should immediately contact a nephrologist or the higher authority. There are hospitals in each major city in the country capable of quarantining Covid-19 positive cases. The patient should be moved to that hospital and dialysis performed in the isolation area with a HD machine and portable RO.
2. Technicians should be provided complete Personal Protective gear to perform dialysis for such patients.

### **GENERAL PRECAUTIONS:**

1. Place Hand Sterilant (like Chlorhexidine 0.5%) at the entrance of the centre
2. Ensure all staff, patients and attenders use the sterilant and thoroughly clean their hands before entering
3. Practice strict hand hygiene at all times, preferably every 30 minutes

4. Thorough cleaning of all surfaces of machines, cardiac tables, administrative desk, Nursing station, Crash cart, weighing machine, pantry tables etc. should be done with disinfectant (for example, Bacillocid Extra) after every session.
5. Educate all patients and staff to cover their nose and mouth with a tissue or elbow when coughing or sneezing
6. Advise patients and staff to avoid large gatherings like cinema halls, crowded areas, public transport etc.
7. Patient and staff should avoid touching their nose, mouth, eyes and face with their hands
8. All patients should wear a mask while in the dialysis centre.
9. Staff should wear masks as well.