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All Deputy Director Generals

Director, Quarantine

Chief Epidemiologist

Director Medical Technology & Supplies/Coordinator in Charge COVID-19 Operations

Provincial Directors of Health Services

Regional Directors of Health Services

Provincial/District Consultant Community Physicians

Regional Epidemiologists

Medical Officers of Health

Preventive measures during the Ramazan season prayers and other religious activities at mosques during the pandemic of COVID-19

This guideline will help you to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 infection, as infection can spread easily among worshipers in mosques as public gatherings can lead to increase spread of infection.

- 1. During the Ramazan season only adults (the persons of 18 years and above) are allowed to enter the mosque for prayers.
- Should not have overcrowding outside the mosque, entrance, lobbies, waiting areas, prayer halls etc.
- 3. Should have floor markings at least one meter apart at the entrance, lobbies, waiting areas, prayer halls to ensure the physical distancing of persons.
- 4. Number of persons allowed to enter should be related to the number of persons that can be placed at least one meter apart in prayer halls. Maximum number should not exceed one hundred persons (e.g. after placing the floor markings in the player hall at least one meter apart from each other from all sides, if there are 105 markings, only 100 persons should be allowed to enter the mosque per session).
- 5. Worshipers should keep a distance of at least one meter between each worshiper and the others from all sides.
- 6. Worshipers must bring their own prayer mat to pray in the mosque.

- 7. Provide enough space on the sides of the prayer hall of the mosque to allow the worshipers to leave starting from one end of a row up to the exit, without the need to pass between other worshipers.
- 8. Staff wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (Face mask, coverall, head cap and gloves) should be allocated for crowd management and to ensure the adherence to preventive measures of COVID-19 by all the persons attending the mosque.
- 9. Staff wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment should monitor the temperature of worshipers and others entering into mosque.
- 10.All persons should wear a clean face mask covering nose and mouth throughout (no removing or improper wearing of face mask). Face mask should be worn securely and properly and should not be touched thereafter without cleaning the hands properly.
- 11. Facilities should be available to wash hands with soap and water at the entrance.
- 12. Every worshiper should enter the mosque after cleaning their hands properly.
- 13. Hand sanitizers should be kept inside the mosque/ prayer halls at different places for worshipers to use.
- 14. Persons should avoid handshake or any other forms of physical contact.
- 15. Should not touch the face (eyes, nose, or mouth) without cleaning the hands.
- 16.All persons attending mosque should practice respiratory etiquettes (cover the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, use tissues and dispose all used tissues promptly into a waste bin, wash the hands or use a hand sanitizer every time you touch your mouth or nose).
- 17. Avoid sharing the mobile phones / pens/ other personal belongings etc.
- 18. Sanitize the hands before and after the use of the Qur'an or any other publications in mosques.
- 19. Should not distribute "Kanjee" in the mosques.
- 20. Should not have any kind of food or drink inside/outside of the mosque for worshipers and others.
- 21. Should not perform ablution/wudu (a purification ritual, requiring that the prayers to wash their faces, hands, arms, and feet) at the mosque. Do this at home. If need to perform ablution should be done by getting a water source through a tap and not by the common water tank (Hawl).
- 22.Stay at home if having symptoms of COVID-19 such as fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, shortness of breath etc.
- 23. Ensure good ventilation in the mosque.

- 24.It is important to provide no-touch waste bins (pedal type) and the waste must be disposed of continuously.
- 25. Washrooms should have a proper water supply and soap/ liquid soap should be available to clean hands. To maintain the cleanliness of wash rooms, a worker should be allocated to clean the wash rooms.
- 26. Worshipers or staff should not attend for prayers if under quarantine
- 27.Maintain regular housekeeping practices, including routine wiping/cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces and equipment (All metal surfaces shall be disinfected with minimum of 70% v/v alcohol solution. All non-metal surfaces be disinfected with 0.1% sodium hypochlorite solution).
- 28.After each session/ completion of praying, wet mopping or washing the floors with soap and water or 0.1% sodium hypochlorite solution or a general-purpose detergent.
- 29. Should not loiter in and around the mosque premises before or after the prayers.
- 30. Area Medical Officer of Health should monitor and supervise the activities through area Public Health Inspector.

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