

0

Imaging of Covid-19 Patients-Do's for Radiographers

Pawan kumar Popli (Vice President -Society of Indian Radiographers) Senior Technical Officer (Radiology) AIIMS, New Delhi

Setup Considerations

- All patients referred must be declared Non Covid, Suspected or Confirmd Covid category
- In screening area Consider each suspected patient as confirmed case and take precautions.
- Develop protocols as per need and resources available
- All staff must wear face mask all the time a
- Must ensure face masks for patients before entering in Radiology rooms
- Hand sanitation must be ensured by a dedicated worker

.....Setup Considerations

- While performing any imaging you must use appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)... Do learn about Donning and doffing of PPE
- Wear lead apron inside the PPE if required, remember to disinfect after use.
- After imaging of each patient you must ensure change of required PPE eg. gloves, receptor cover etc. judicially
- All covid patients should be clustered (suspected followed by confirmed) and equipment to be disinfected after imaging of such each cluster.

....Setup Considerations

- Institutions may consider assigned radiography & CT rooms or portable radiography units in ambulatory care facilities for use when chest Xrays are considered medically necessary.
- The surfaces of these machines must be cleaned
- Avoid the need to bring patients into other radiography rooms
- Must have standby arrangement in case of equipment failure

.....Setup Considerations

- The air-flow in fixed X-ray, fluoroscopy or CT rooms etc. should also be considered before bringing in the next patient.
- Considering the air exchange rates, understanding that rooms may need to be completely avoided for few hours after imaging infected patients.
- All surfaces used for imaging or scanning a patient suspected of COVID-19 infection should be environmentally cleaned and decontaminated by someone wearing proper PPE.



Practice

- While doing radiography avoid unnecessary touching and staying near the patient.
- Prepare the room and staff in advance so as to minimize patient stay in the room
- Frequent infection control practice must be adopted
- Keep record of all patients and the staff present in the facility at any given time

Steps for Portable Radiography...

- I. Wrap machine with Linen and Radiographer in PPE
- 2. Wrap the receptor in double or triple plastic waste bag
- 3. Perform Radiography
- Carefully unwrap the receptor outer cover and use another clean cover for next patient (incase more than one patient)
- 5. Remove linen from machine
- 6. Carefully Remove PPE and Take bath etc.
- 7. Disinfect machine in ward (by ward helper)

....Steps for Portable Radiography

- Disinfect machine out of ward (radiography Helper) with 1% solution of Sodium hypochlorite
- Carefully unwrap the receptor and disinfect (radiography helper) with 1% solution of Sodium hypochlorite
- 10. Wear Mask, Glove, normal gown etc.
- 11. Take machine in Docking area & wrap machine with fresh linen
- 12. Its ready for next round of radiography

CT - Tips

- CT should be sparingly used and reserved for indoor, symptomatic patients with specific clinical indications for CT.
- All abdomen CT patients scan the lower chest from Carina onwards, if found suspicious for Covid-19, after the scan shut down the facility for disinfection and air exchange.
- Swab test of such patient to be done immediately and keep record of staff present.....
- All positive patients should be clustered and CT performed for all in one go preferably post lunch followed by Disinfection.
- Appropriate infection control procedures should be followed before scanning subsequent patients.

CT – **Disinfection**

In case of any possible or confirm exposure to Covid

- Wipe equipment and accessories with detergent damp cloth (not dripping) followed by Wipe with non dripping 1% Sodium hypochlorite damp (not dripping) cloth (damp cloth wringed completely each time to ensure no water enters the machine)
- Clean entire CT room floors in the same manner
- Do fumigation with 20% bassishield for 30 minutes
- Close the room for 45 minutes
- Room floor should be wet cleaned and let it dry
- Ensure full air exchange
-Now its ready to use.

CT- Radiographers management

- Two radiographers should be there one in gantry room and other in console room
- Both shall not mix or work / touch in each other's area.
- Gantry room Radiographer shall be assigned isolated sitting area
- Pressure injector should be used for all intravenous contrast injections for all CT patients to avoid console room staff entry in Gantry room



Fluoroscopy procedures

 Before doing any fluoro-guided investigation or procedure take a chest image of each patient, if suspicious for covid must consider as positive patient.



MRI Procedures

 According to new guidance on the deployment of MRI during the pandemic ACR (American College of Radiology) advises to only use this modality for such patients "where absolutely necessary" and to postpone any non urgent MR studies.



Ultrasound

- Should be minimized unless no alternative
- PPE must be used
- Keyboard etc. should be covered with disposable transparent disposable plastic sheet
- Follow standard covid infection control guidelines
- Careful disinfection of Machine especially transducers and area is required

Finally Must to follow...

- Ensure daily disinfection of potential covid exposure rooms as per fixed schedule
- Rest of rooms in department must be sanitized once in 3 days
- Minimize the footfall in covid service area
- Keep record of staff and visitors every day with their contact details in all Covid related imaging intervention area

TDS....

Lets Practice 'TDS' to fight Covid-19 also.

- **T...TIME**... Keep your potential exposure time to minimum i. e.. Go near and remain near patients for minimum duration and times.
- **D.... DISTANCE...** Maintain the maximum possible distance from each other. Don't limit to any given distance ...here also 'Inverse Square law' holds good.
- S... SHIELDING... Keep your self shielded appropriately i. e. Wear full covered cloths, use mask and/or other PPE as per requirement.

Post duty When reach home

Follow these guidelines (Issued by Telangana Govt....)

1. Ring up home when you start from office.



- Someone at home should keep the front door open (so that you don't have to touch the calling bell or door handle) and a bucket of water with washing soap powder or bleaching powder added to it in the front door.
- 3. Keep things (car keys, pen, sanitizer bottle, phone) in box outside the door.
- Wash your hands in the bucket and stand in the water for a few minutes. Meanwhile use tissue and sanitizer and wipe the items you have placed in the box.
- 5. Wash your hands with soap water again.
- 6. Now enter the house without touching anything.
- The bathroom door is kept open by someone and bucket of detergent soap water is ready. You take off all your clothes including innerwear and soak inside the bucket.
- 8. Then take a head bath with a shampoo and body bath with soap.
- Wash your clothes / put in washing machine with high temperature settings and dry clothes in direct sunlight,

Remember we have to serve with safety

and

We have to be safe to serve



Recommended

 For Donning and Doffing see this
I5 minutes+ video from AIIMS New Delhi at :

https://youtu.be/mdrK_zhHD88



जांच करें- पीपीई कहा या फटा न हो Do check for any tear, wear and appropriate size of PPE



दस्ताने की पहली जोड़ी पहनें. आस्तीन को जहां तक संभव हो खीं Wear first pair of gloves & pull the sleeves as far as possibl



हेंड सनेटाइज़र द्वारा हाथों को कीटाणुरहित कर Perform Hand hygiene



दोनों जूते कवर (अंदर और बाहरी) पहनें Wear both shoe covers (inner and outer)



हेंड सनेटाइज़र द्वारा हाथों को कीटाणुरहित कर Perform Hand hygiene



N95 मास्क पहनें और नाक के पुल पर ठीक से फिट करे Wear N95 Mask and fit over the nasal bridge properly



इससे गाउन की आस्तीन कवर होना चाहिए Wear a second pair of gloves. It should cover the arms of the gown



दस्ताने की दूसरी जोड़ी पहनें



डोनिंग क्षेत्र से बाहर आने के लिए तैयार Ready to leave the donning area.



हड पहनें और हड को सिर के पीछे बांधे Wear hood with breather mask and tie the hood at the back of the head



गाउन पहनें और फिटनेस की जॉंच करें

Wear gown and check the fitness

लीक प्रूफ टेस्ट करें Perform leak proof test

ष्यवितगत सुरक्षा उपकरण

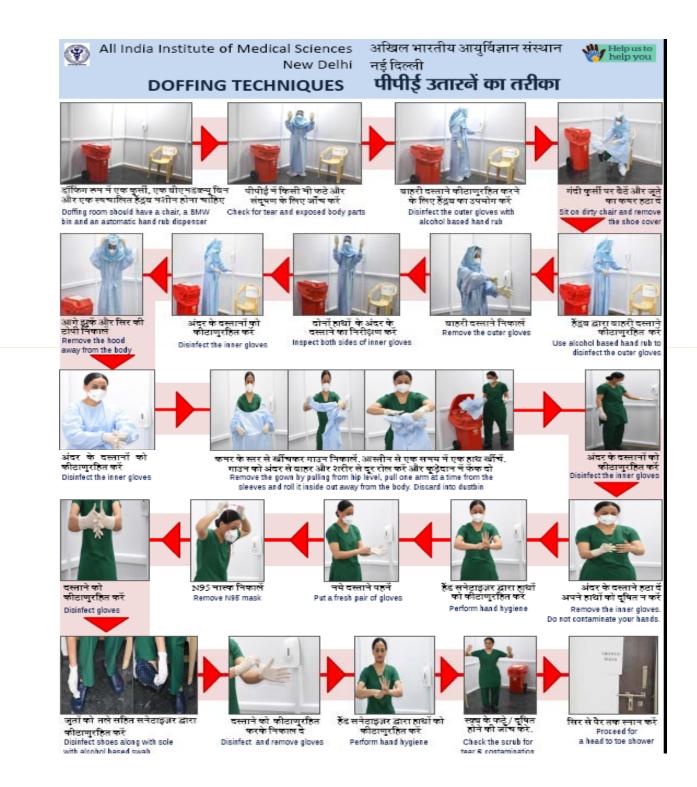




गाउन के फिटनेस की जॉंच करें Check the fitness of gown









Thank you

pkpopli@gmail.com