

NCDC Checklist for Hospital Preparedness & Infection Prevention and Control Assessment and Improvement Plan for COVID-19

General Information

Background

This checklist was prepared initially for assessing COVID-19 isolation facilities and provided as an annexure in the NCDC Guidelines for isolation facilities in March 2020. (<https://ncdc.gov.in/showfile.php?lid=503>) This checklist was prepared by the EIS officers and their EIS mentors of India EIS- Programme at NCDC and received inputs from WHO, UNICEF, CDC and MoHFW. Initially it was intended only for COVID Hospitals and COVID care centers. However, there were requests from many health facilities to have a comprehensive tool with some scoring for assessing District hospitals, Medical college hospitals and other referral centers regarding the basic IPC needs which would guide the facilities and program managers to identify the gaps and focus on improvement plan

Who should complete the tool?

This tool is ideally completed by a member of the Hospital Infection Control Committee (HICC) such as the infection control nurse or other member responsible for organizing and implementing IPC activities. If there is no HICC, a senior facility manager can complete the tool with action plan, timelines and responsible persons and should be shared with the Hospital Superintendent and district authorities

How should this tool be use ?

The primary goal of the tool is to assess the situation of COVID-19 specific IPC practices at the health care facility level and to monitor the improvement of COVID-19 related IPC activities over time through repeated use. Users should address any gaps that the tool finds so that the risk of COVID-19 transmission is reduced in their healthcare facility. For a Designated COVID -19 Hospital or a COVID Care Centre Health Facility the COVID-19 Facility tab with 150 questions Should be used. For ALL Other Secondary or Tertiary care facilities Non-COVID- Facility Tab in Excel should be used.

Why do we need to assess a non COVID-19 Facilities for IPC practices?

Infection Prevention Control practices should be mandatorily implemented in all healthcare facilities. Standard precautions and transmission based precautions should be followed in all the health facilities to prevent infectious disease transmission at all times. Even though a facility is not designated COVID facility there are high chances that an undiagnosed COVID-19 patient can end up in a non COVID facility for essential medical services for other ailments. Also considering long incubation period of SARS CoV2 infection (2-14 days), the pre-symptomatic can still be present in any health facility. Hence standard IPC practices has to be strictly adhered to prevent healthcare associated transmission.

What does this tool contain?

