



## Epidemiology Unit

### Ministry of Health & Indigenous Medical Services

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My Ref : EPID/400/2019/nCoV

29<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Provincial Directors of Health Services,  
Regional Directors of Health Services,

### **Follow up of Sri Lankan Students/Nationals and other Foreign Nationals returning from high risk areas for ongoing Corona Virus Transmission**

It is essential to follow up the Sri Lankan student returnees / nationals other foreign nationals returning from high risk areas for ongoing Corona Virus Transmission (eg- China) for a period of 14 days from the time of their arrival in Sri Lanka. It is essential to get the Regional Epidemiologist (RE), area Medical Officer of Health (MOH) and the area Public Health Inspector (PHI) to visit the students personally to assess the situation and get information.

The Epidemiology unit will regularly provide a list of the Sri Lankan students/nationals and Chinese nationals returning to the country through the Regional Epidemiologist to the respective Medical Officers of Health.

It is needed to get the PHI of the area to visit the house regularly up till 14 days. For the follow up activities the annexed follow up sheet should be used.

The following points should be adhered to by the health staff during the visit to the house.

- It is essential to follow up the student for 14 days. (approximate incubation period). Health staff are essentially duty bound to cooperate without any excuse.
- MOH should know the total number of returnees in the area and update the Epidemiology unit/ RDHS office or any other necessary institution when required.
- At the time of the PHI's visit to the house it is recommended to do it in a diplomatic and organized way which will cause no fear or social phobia to the occupants.
- There is no need to wear a face mask by the PHI when visiting returnees as there is no indication to do so.
- In case of a student developing sore throat, cough and fever (symptoms of new Corona virus) the PHI, MOH , RE should be informed immediately. (to advise the student regarding ways to communicate to PHI, MOH and RE)
- To give proper health education to the student/person and make available as a facilitatory person.


1. Wearing masks is a social responsibility of the individual returned from high risk country to minimize transmission (as there is a possibility of asymptomatic transmission).
  2. It is not essential for the family members/co-workers to wear masks.
  3. If there is provisions the person should stay in a separate room.
  4. Avoid public places as much as possible. e.g:- festive celebrations, parties, temples, churches, markets and all other places of public gatherings.
  5. To be away from high risk groups such as old people, young children, and immune compromised persons (chronic disease as lung, heart, metabolic, renal, liver or neurological disease) as much as possible as they come under the vulnerable group.
  6. To have personal hygiene and cough etiquettes as advised per circular No. DDG(PHS)/DO2/12-9/2019/10 Interim summary Guidelines for Clinical management of patients with novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV).
- All MOOH should inform the Epidemiology unit regarding each student by the end of 14 days of follow up after arrival using the attached format.

All other foreign nationals returning from high risk areas( e.g – China) also need to be regularly followed up by the Public Health Inspector of the area based on the information provided by the Epidemiology unit to assess the health status and provide information specified above.

If your MOH area has projects with significant number of foreign nationals who have come from high risk areas within last 14 days need to be followed up during the approximate incubation period using the same instructions.

Please bring the contents of this letter to all REE and MOOH of the area and ensure adherence to correct procedures will be followed.

Greatly appreciate your kind early attention in this regard during the country emergency situation.

  
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**Epidemiology Unit**

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## FOLLOW UP SHEET

### Details of Sri Lankan Students/Nationals and Other Foreign Nationals Returning from High Risk Areas for ongoing Corona Virus Transmission

[To be filled by the area PHI under the guidance of MOH]

<b>A. Student details</b>				
1. RDHS area:		MOH area:		
2. Name:				
3. Age:				
4. Sex:				
5. Address:				
6. Date of arrival to Sri Lanka:				
7. Name of city resided in China:			Province:	
8. Known contact history with a suspected case: Yes/No				
Place of contact:			Date of contact:	
<b>B. Health status follows up details</b>				
Review details	Date	Signs/Symptoms (Fever/sore throat/cough)	Remarks: detail identified during the visit & referrals if any	MOH Signature
Date of onset-Day 1				
Day 2				
Day 3				
Day 4				
Day 5				
Day6				
Day7				
Day8				
Day9				
Day10				
Day11				
Day12				
Day13				
Day14				

\*Copies of filled form should be sent after 14 days to RE and Epidemiology Unit. \* If positive case is found, need to inform Epidemiology Unit immediately Telephone: 2695112, FAX No: 2696583, E-mail: [chepid@slt.net.lk](mailto:chepid@slt.net.lk)