

Guidance for Safety and Security on infection prevention and access management during the Covid-19 emergency response operation

Sites include: National Society HQ Office Compounds, Healthcare-facilities, Warehouses, and temporary camps

This is the first version of guidance on infection prevention and access control strategies for use when COVID-19 is suspected. It has been adapted from WHO's recommended approaches.

Security guards at the National Society HQ offices including the National Society Health facilities, are at the front line of the COVID-19 outbreak response and as such are exposed to hazards that put them at risk of infection. Hazards include pathogen exposure, long working hours, psychological distress, fatigue, occupational burnout. This document highlights the specific measures needed to protect occupational safety and health measures at National Society facilities and sites for the Staff and Volunteers operating and exposed to these hazards.

Guidance on infection prevention and access management at National Society HQ and Regions and Branches sites:

Roles and responsibilities

Senior Managers at National Society HQ offices and Health facilities must Consider the following:

- Assume overall responsibility to ensure that all necessary preventive and protective measures are taken to minimize occupational safety and health risks of the guards, staff, Volunteers beneficiaries and visitors.
- Supportive materials including the Health Messages, Directions and IEC material for the awareness arising by the National Society Health Dept Technical team. provide information, instruction, and training on occupational safety and health, including;
 - training on infection prevention and control;
 - use, putting on, taking off and disposal of personal protective equipment (PPE);
 - provide adequate PPE supplies (masks, gloves, goggles, gowns, hand sanitizer, soap and water, cleaning supplies) in sufficient quantity to the guard force. National Society Health will certify the needs and the procurement will be done through National Society logistics
 - familiarize personnel with technical updates on COVID-19 and provide appropriate tools to assess visitors, the criteria's will be disseminated to all concerned parties.
 - provide appropriate security measures as needed for personal safety;
 - advise guards on self-assessment, symptom reporting, and staying home when they are facing illness and not Good health conditions when they are exposed to suspected cases.
 - Implementation of occupational safety and health management systems to identify hazards and assess with the relevant staff and volunteers
 - maintain appropriate working hours with breaks for the guards the business continuity plan and approval from National Society is in place and remote monitoring is done.
 - provide access to mental health PSS (Psychosocial support) and counselling resources.
 - Cooperation with the health assigned team and the guards at the Gates for screening of the Staff and visitors coming to National Society during official time.
 - Referral of the suspected cases to the Health facilities specialized for COVID19 with direction of assigned Health technical team

Responsibilities

Guards should:

- Follow established occupational safety and health procedures, avoid exposing others to health and safety risks, and participate in National Society-provided occupational safety and health training;
- swiftly follow established health reporting procedures of suspected and confirmed cases;

- put on, use, take off, and dispose of PPE properly and other protective tools as mentioned and used;
- self-monitor for signs of illness and self-isolate and report illness to managers, if it occurs;
- advise management if they are experiencing signs of undue stress or mental health challenges that require supportive interventions; and

Access Operational Procedure

A triage includes a system for assessing all at main access entry points, allowing for early recognition of possible COVID-19 and immediate isolation of patients with suspected disease in an area separate from other staff/visitors). To facilitate the early identification of suspected COVID-19 cases, facilities should when the suspected cases are identified please contact Health Department for further investigation:

- establish a well-equipped triage station at the entrance to the facility, supported by trained health care staff;
- institute the use of screening questionnaires according to the updated case definition by National Society health dept. as listed below.
- post signs in public areas reminding symptomatic patients to alert HCWs.

All main entry points to National Society sites and facilities with large volumes of travelers or significant infrastructure (for example, National Society office compounds, and Healthcare facilities) should have at least one medical staff or appointed health care worker on site by the main entry points who is designated to support the guards in health screening personnel.

These medical personnel should have a supply of recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (i.e. to ensure contact and droplet precautions plus goggles/eye protection) and follow the infection prevention and control (IPC) guidelines outlined here.

Equipment: If temperature screening is applied, no touch thermometers, either handheld or thermal imaging cameras for ascertaining temperature, should be used. Manual thermometers that require contact with skin or mucous membranes should not be used.

INDIVIDUAL HEALTH SCREENING

For arriving staff, visitors, beneficiaries and patients, individual health screening for individual conditions may be provided. This may take place upon first arrival/registration at the guard reception gate. It is important to ensure that the screening process covers identification of signs and symptoms of COVID-19, as well as the risks of exposure, for example:

Ill individuals may be detected through self-reporting, visual observation, or temperature measurement.

- Self-reporting, individuals experiencing signs and symptoms of illness may approach the guards for assistance. These self-reporting ill travelers should be managed following the same procedures.
- assessment of signs and symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 by interview/observation only (personnel should not conduct a physical examination);
- temperature measurement with no-touch thermometer technology;

Individuals should be assessed for the following signs or symptoms of respiratory infections:

- a. Fever greater than 38.5° C or feeling feverish;
- b. Cough;
- c. Breathing difficulties
- d. Flue

Temporary isolation and initial case management of suspected ill travelers with signs and symptoms of respiratory infection should be isolated until they are able to be safely transferred to a health care facility for further assessment.

Health screening also serves as an opportunity to provide information on prevention measures, important behavior and habits to maintain.