

# DUBAI MEDICAL COLLEGE



## Guidance for DMC Students During the COVID-19 Pandemic

**COVID Response Team - 2020**

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## **GUIDANCE FOR DUBAI MEDICAL COLLEGE STUDENTS IN PRE-CLINICAL/CLINICAL PHASE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC**

### ➤ **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:**

This is a guidance document to inform all students in the pre-clinical and clinical phase about the COVID Response Team (CRT) and DMC guidelines, which will be adopted by the college. Based on MOE bio risk standards, all academic institutes are at the level of moderate risk. Moderate risk level states that: restricted basic educational process to be continued and withholding all extra curriculum activities while applying all precautionary safety measures in the hybrid learning process. This is the responsibility of all students for their own safety and the safety of others.

### ➤ **POSITION STATEMENTS FROM OTHER LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

The measures described here, are in alignment with the governmental authorities.

### ➤ **TIME FRAME:**

Return date: 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020

Valid through Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to be revised/updated regularly.

### ➤ **COVID RESPONSE TEAM (CRT):**

CRT is a subunit from Health & Safety committee at DMC. CRT guides DMC response to COVID-19 while developing and maintaining the capability to prepare for, respond to and recover from this threat.

#### Head of CRT:

Dr. Eslam El Nebrisi - Head of H&S committee

#### Members:

Eng. Jay Jay S Paracad - Safety officer

Dr. Sara Safwat

Mrs. Dana Al Tawil

Ms. Amira Al Haj

➤ **POLICY AND PROCEDURE:**

The policies and procedures in this document are presented in four sections:

**Section A: Administrative precautionary guide for DMC clinical/pre-clinical students.**

**Section B: Students' precautionary guide before joining the college.**

**Section C: Students' precautionary guide at the time of joining the college.**

**Section D: Precautionary guide for COVID testing.**

**Section E: Precautionary guide for DMC facilities.**

**Section A: Administrative precautionary guide for DMC clinical/pre-clinical students**

1- College shall provide bus transportation fulfilling all safety measures (regular disinfection and sterilization for all buses on daily basis, reduced bus capacities to 50% to maintain physical distancing protocols, measuring students' temperature before boarding the bus...etc.).

2- DMC Students will not be exposed to any form of direct contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19. However, this can't be guaranteed as non-COVID patients may turn out to have COVID later. (see point 4)

3- DMC to incorporate an alternative strategy and to provide an online option for all forms and documents.

4- Students will sign an undertaking that waive any right to legal action should they develop COVID-19 resulting from clinical rotations.

**Section B: Students' precautionary guide before joining the college**

**1- Medical History Form**

All students will need to provide a supporting complete official medical history form filled and signed by the student, especially those who declare themselves as immunocompromised or high-risk.

## **2- COVID -19 Training**

All students must complete an online training course on COVID-19 infection provided by the college.

DMC is committed to continuously educate, train and update all employees and students during the time of pandemic using all possible resources (online course, posters, awareness videos on COVID-19 ...etc.).

The Three certified online courses offered by WHO to be accomplished by all students:

- a. ePROTECT Respiratory Infections (EN) 6 ways to protect yourself from COVID 19
- b. COVID-19: How to put on and remove personal protective equipment (PPE)
- c. Standard precautions: Hand hygiene

## **3- COVID-19 Testing**

All DMC students must ensure that they are free from COVID-19 infection before attending the college/hospital. All students shall undertake to declare if they come into contact with coronavirus patients, or if they return from abroad for a period of less than or equal to 14 days. Valid accepted tests less than 48 hours from time of joining. Further details on the test will be provided by the college.

## **4- Al Hosn Application Registration**

All DMC students must download and register in Al Hosn application.

### **Section C: Students' precautionary guide at the time of joining the college**

1- All students must adhere to MOHAP infection prevention policies and guidelines at all times.

2- Pre-clinical/clinical capacity for teaching students at DMC (college, hospitals and clinics) will be modified for student's safety based on the COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency status. The curriculum will be reviewed and modified to ensure all the above is in place. The curriculum will be a blend of face to face and virtual teaching. Students in clinical placement will be limited to 5-6 per group *[College Readiness Plan for the Academic Year 2020-21]*.

3- DMC faculty, staff and students should comply with the latest safety measures and any extra measures required by the training sites. This includes but is not limited to wearing

recommended PPE at all times (face shield, mask, gloves ..etc), having their temperature tested, maintaining social distancing, using hand rub with 70 % Alcohol hand sanitizer frequently, follow cough etiquettes & avoid touching eyes, nose & mouth and observing recommended hand hygiene practice in both patient and non-patient care areas. DMC faculty, staff and students must also agree to adhere to current national guidance regarding policies designed to reduce the risk of infection transmission, at all times.

4- Students who have any potential COVID-19 related symptoms or had an unprotected contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 should not to attend college/hospital and must report to DMC point of contact for appropriate screening. DMC determined point of contact [CRT member: Ms. Amira, Tel.: 971524466222] shall be contacted for any concerned issue. Ms. Amira shall report to Dr. Eslam (pre-clinical) and Dr. Dr Badriya Alawar (clinical departments).

5- Limit students gathering, to the extent possible, and suspending group activities, either in the college (cafeteria, student lounge, study area) or hospital (reception, corridors, cafeteria or break rooms) and social distancing must be maintained at all times. Encourage videoconferencing and telecommuting.

6- All college/hospital premises used by students to be fumigated with disinfectants at least twice daily.

#### **Section D: Precautionary guide for COVID testing**

1- Negative-tested cases: If a student begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 during the semester, they must get isolated instantly, and the parent/ guardian of the student to be notified immediately and the patient should be referred to the hospital to take the necessary action. The patient should not return to school until the PCR result is obtained. If the result is negative and there is a clinical assessment of a probable COVID-19 case, the patient should complete a 14-day quarantine. If the result is negative and there is no clinical assessment for a probable case, the student can resume the rotation so long as they are symptom-free.

2- Positive-tested cases: If the result is positive, the traced contacts of the patient, including faculty/clinical instructor along with the classmates of a student, or colleagues are all considered close contacts (Anyone who spent more than 15 minutes in a proximity

of 2 metres with the positive case, from the day of symptoms onset, or the day of the positive PCR test). They should all commence the 14-day quarantine counted PCR from the day of the positive test, or from the day of the onset of symptoms if ascertained by the clinician.

### **Section E: Precautionary guide for DMC facilities**

#### **1- DMC library:**

To apply all the above-mentioned safety measures as required at DMC library, as well as:

#### **2- DMC Cafeteria:**

To follow all the above-mentioned rules and regulations as required at DMC Cafeteria, as well as:

Rearrangement of seating places

DMC cafeteria to sell ready-made packaged food only

Separate entry and exit points must be used, applying physical distancing at least 2 meters apart.

All gathering activities are prohibited.

#### **3- DMC students' hostel:**

To follow all the above-mentioned rules and regulations as required at DMC hostel, as well as:

Redistribution of students to apply social distancing

All gathering activities are prohibited

Identification of the isolation area

Re-establishment of hostel clinic

Sharing students' medical information with the hostel administration.

**Approvals:**

<b>Prepared by</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Dr. Eslam El Nebrisi</b> <b>Head of CRT - H&amp;S committee</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> August 2020

<b>Reviewed by</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Dr. Dima Abdel Mannan</b> <b>Clinical Dean</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> August 2020
<b>Dr. Yousif El Tayeb</b> <b>Academic Head of Surgery, Vice Clinical Dean</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> August 2020
<b>Dr. Fouzia Shersad</b> <b>Director of Institutional Effectiveness</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> August 2020

<b>Approved by</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Prof. Galal El Din Ahmed</b> <b>Dean of Dubai Medical College</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> August 2020