Guidelines On The Referral to
COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center

MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

October 2021
1. **Key Recommendations**

1.1. Obstetric services, which includes early pregnancy care remains an essential priority. The quality of provision of such services should continue without disruption despite this pandemic, although there can be modifications of care.

1.2. Screening of suspected and management of confirmed COVID-19 patients should be as per MOH guidelines which are constantly updated.

1.3. Undesignated hospitals should identify a specific isolation room at the admission center, a labour suite and an operating theatre to manage potential suspected patient who may present in imminent labour. Pathways should be developed based on individual logistics and resources. These patients can then be referred to the designated COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center.


1.5. This guideline may need to be modified accordingly to suit local needs and available resources.

1.6. This guideline will be continuously updated if the need arises.

2. **Rationale of guideline**

2.1. The continuation of the safe and optimal provision of O&G services in health facilities in Malaysia during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2.2. This guideline is for the management of referral of COVID-19 obstetrics patients to designated COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center.

3. **Walk in of confirmed COVID-19 obstetric patients to non-COVID and Hybrid hospitals.**


3.2 Emergency / obstetric walk in patients must be managed at the respective hospital accordingly.
3.3 All undesignated O&G units should be prepared to manage suspected and probable COVID-19 patients who present in imminent labour and/or obstetric emergencies.

3.4 Referrals to regional Bed Management Unit (BMU) for admission to COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center should only be done once the patient is stabilized.

4. **Criteria of admission**

4.1. For criteria of admission to COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center, refer to Annex 2: Management Of Suspected, Probable And Confirmed COVID-19 Case

4.2. For criteria of admission to Low Risk COVID-19 Quarantine And Treatment Centers (PKRC), refer to Annex 2j: Management Of Confirmed Covid-19 Case In Low Risk COVID-19 Quarantine And Treatment Centers (PKRC)

4.3. For criteria of admission to Private Low Risk COVID-19 Quarantine And Treatment Centers (PKRC), refer to Annex 32b: Garis Panduan Penubuhan dan Pengoperasian Pusat Kuarantin & Rawatan COVID-19 Berisiko Rendah Swasta (PKRCS)

5. **Referrals to designated COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center**

5.1. Referrals from non-COVID hospitals, hybrid hospitals, PKRC and CAC to designated COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center is through the regional BMU.

5.2. Flow of transfer is as Appendix 1.

5.3. Once transfer of patient is allowed by regional BMU, the referring hospitals O&G specialist must consult with designated COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center O&G and Paediatric specialist for passover of the referred case.

5.4. Appropriate blood tests, Group & Cross-match and imaging done at the referring hospital should be made available to the receiving hospital.
6. **Transfer of care from COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center to non-COVID and hybrid hospitals.**

   6.1. COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center can transfer patients who are discharged and off tag for COVID-19 infection but still having active obstetric issues to non-COVID and hybrid hospitals.

7. **Distribution of human resources**

   7.1. Regional O&G services shall distribute human resources to designated COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center and regional PKRC to ensure optimal provision of obstetric services is provided and also to address staff fatigue and mental health.
Flowchart of referral to designated COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center

START

Patient walk in to Non-COVID hospital/Hybrid hospital/Health Clinic

negative
COVID-19

Pre-admission screening

Positive
COVID-19

CAC

Manage accordingly

Category 1 or 2

Meet admission criteria to PKRC

No

Yes

Refer Regional BMU

Admit to designated COVID-19 One Stop Perinatal Center

Manage accordingly

Off tag COVID-19

Transfer patient back to referring hospital

If patient condition deteriorating

Fit for discharge

Discharge

*refer to Annex 23 Guidelines on the management of COVID-19 in Obstetrics & Gynaecology / regional guidelines

Appendix 1

Page 4