



Kenya Medical Association

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

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23rd April, 2020

KMA COVID-19 RESPONSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (KMA-CRAC) MEETING RESOLUTIONS

At its sixth meeting on Wednesday 22nd April 2020, the Kenya Medical Association's COVID-19 Response Advisory Committee reviewed the current state of the response and issued the following recommendations:

1. PROPER USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

KMA notes the government decision on resumption of care for chronic disease and other conditions across the country, and we agree that this is key for continuity of care and reduction of suffering among Kenyans with illnesses other than COVID-19.

Even as these services resume, **KMA provides firm guidance to health workers that they MUST always don the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) before any patient interaction.**

Health workers are a useful resource and getting decommissioned because of exposure to COVID-19 would be unfortunate. KMA shall continue sharing guidelines on the appropriate PPE to use while performing various roles in our health facilities.

2. TELEMEDICINE GUIDELINES

As part of the COVID-19 response and prevention, many medical practitioners have enquired about use of teleconsultation in patient care. However, we note that there are currently no guidelines or published procedures for licensing of providers employing digital media.

KMA urges the Cabinet Secretary for Health to urgently gazette the telemedicine regulations developed in 2019 by the Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentists Council (KMPDC).

In the interim, **we advise the KMPDC to move with speed and urgently publish and circulate the rules as an interim guideline for use during the COVID-19 emergency period.**

3. MOVEMENT OF HEALTH WORKERS

Many health workers, and especially medical practitioners, have complained of being detained or turned back at police roadblocks on their way to or from health facilities. This is causing unnecessary interference in care, and anguish for these critical essential staff.

KMA strongly urges the security agencies to adhere to the Presidential directive designating health workers as essential service providers, and to allow them free and expedited passage upon presentation of proof of status from the regulatory boards and councils, or hospital administrations.

The Committee will meet again on **Wednesday 29th April 2020** to review the situation and issue further guidance and recommendations.

Signed,

**Dr. Jacqueline Kitulu,
President.**

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