

STANDARD OPERATING PROTOCOL (SOP) FOR RE-OPENING OF MAIDS FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC





MAULANA AZAD INSTITUTE OF DENTAL SCIENCES New Delhi

Website: www.maids.ac.in

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BACKGROUND

Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences has been continuously providing dental health services to the patients in a safe and healthy environment with utmost care to minimize the spread of COVID 19 further. MAIDS has implemented strict protocols to follow the general preventive measures with adequate training of the staff and routine awareness among the patients through health education measures.

The on campus academic activities were deferred as per guidelines of the GNCT of Delhi and GoI (UGC) since March 2020 Lockdown to further contain the spread the SARS COV 2 infection among students and then to the communities. MAIDS has continued to disseminate the academic lectures and orientation through online teaching modes. As efforts are being made to develop strategies to resume academic activities, Dental Council of India, has issued guidelines for reopening of dental colleges as per the order no. DE-22-ACADEMIC/(BDS)/2020/4332 dated 02-12-2020 by Officiating Secretary, DCI.

Dental education is unique because students have to start performing dental procedures from 3rd Year onwards under supervision. Hence Dental Colleges have been asked to create tailor made standard operating protocols and guidelines as per current prevailing social and medical conditions before resuming on-campus teaching activities.

The current guideline is divided into five sections:

- i. General Preventive Measures During COVID-19 Pandemic
- ii. Measures by the Dental Students in Institutional Premises
- iii. Measures for the Hostel Facility
- iv. Measures for the Institute- Department Clinic Preparedness
- v. Containment measures and alternate plan in case of outbreak or discontinuation of classes.

GENERAL PREVENTIVE MEASURES DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The following health measures are to be followed to reduce the risk of COVID- 19 by all (faculty members, employees, students and visitors) at all times:

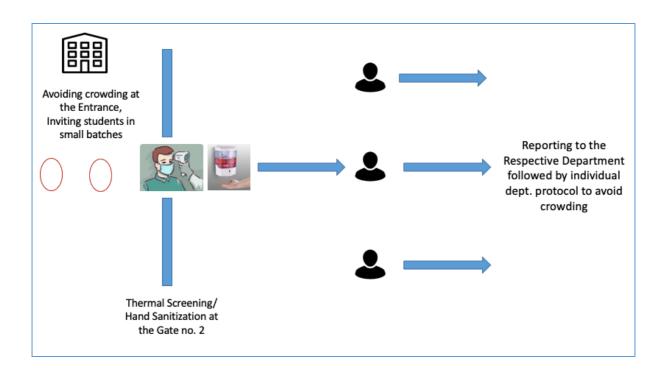
- I. Physical distancing of at least 6 feet to be followed as far as feasible.
- II. Use of face covers/masks to be made mandatory.
- III. Frequent hand washing with soap (for at least 40-60 seconds) even when hands are not visibly dirty. Use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers (for at least 20 seconds) can be done wherever feasible.

- IV. Respiratory etiquettes to be strictly followed. This involves strict practice of covering one's mouth and nose while coughing/sneezing with a tissue/handkerchief/flexed elbow and disposing of used tissues properly,
- V. Self-monitoring of health by all and reporting any illness at the earliest to the concerned Staff/Head of Department.
- VI. Spitting shall be strictly prohibited and punishable offence inside the campus as per the local Govt. College authorities.
- VII. Installation and use of Aarogya Setu App shall be advised wherever feasible.
- VIII. Regular training of faculty, students, paramedical staffs and other supporting staffs should be provided on infection control and methods for preventing spread of transmission.
- IX. Regular screening of faculty, staff and students should be carried out for any COVID like symptoms at points of entry of the college as well as hostels.
- X. The period of absence of students on account of being quarantined due to COVID-19 shall not adversely affect their attendance on furnishing the necessary documents in support of their claim.
- XI. Students may report any concerns to the designated Student counsellor. Further the students may allay their anxiety, stress or fear during the pandemic time to the designated Student counsellor. (**Dr.Priya Kumar-9654700985**)
- XII. Guidelines regarding air conditioning / ventilation as mentioned in UGC/CPWD guidelines may be followed.

MEASURES BY THE DENTAL STUDENTS IN INSTITUTIONAL PREMISES

- 1. Sensitization of the students about the general preventive protocols of the Institutes and respiratory etiquettes- through Institutional notice and mails.
- 2. All students must bring a RT-PCR report that is negative at the time of re-joining the Institute. The test report should have been carried out in the last three days.
- 3. The student should be not having any Influenza like infections (ILI) symptoms while reporting to the Institute.
- 4. The students will be called in batches to avoid crowding.
- 5. Disposal of the facemask, gloves, and personal protection to be followed in accordance with biomedical guidelines of the Institute.

FLOW OF STUDENTS INTO THE BUILDING



MEASURES FOR THE INSTITUTE

- 1. Re-opening of the Institute and Clinical posting will be initiated in a phase wise manner-Final year students shall report first followed by third and 2nd year BDS.
- 2. Allotting 30% of the dental chair for the clinical teaching purpose.
- 3. Having a plan ready for those students who cannot join due to travel restrictions and follow mandatory quarantine protocol wherever deemed necessary.
- 4. Should ensure that no more than 50% of the total students be present at any given point of time.
- 5. Train the staff and students to undertake the work related safety and health to prevent an outbreak of the pandemic in their campuses.
- 6. Adhering to the general protective measures like use of Face mask, Social distancing and Hand hygiene.
- 7. Routine and Adequate supply of personal protection/ sanitizer/ facemask etc for the Student/Doctor
- 8. Minimum 6 feet distance between the students, crowding must be avoided at any time by ensuring prior information about the class timing to the students.

- 9. Non-resident students should be allowed in campuses only after thermal scanning, sanitization of their hands, wearing of face masks and gloves. Symptomatic students should report the matter and necessary medical care directions shall be provided.
- 10. Any high risk exposure to infected person (s) should be appropriately reported.
- 11. Proper signage's, symbols, posters etc. should be prominently displayed at appropriate places to remind the students, faculty and staff for maintaining physical distancing.
- 12. Regular hand sanitisation or hand washing for the student under supervision of the teaching official.

SAFETY MEASURES AT ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS

- 1. Arrangements of thermal scanners, sanitizers, face masks will be made available at all entry and exit points, including the reception area.
- 2. For ensuring queue management, inside and outside the premises, specific markings on the floor with a gap of 6 feet may be made and be adhered to.
- 3. Screening of students, faculty and staff, wearing of face covers/mask, sanitizing of hands etc. will be ensured at all entry points.
- 4. Those having COVID like symptoms of fever, cough or difficulty in breathing etc should not be allowed to enter and necessary reporting of these students should be done by the respective departments.
- 5. The students should be strictly instructed not to engage in crowding among themselves.

MEASURES FOR THE HOSTEL FACILITY:

- 1. List and Contact numbers of students requiring hostel facility will be obtained.
- 2. The hostel warden/ official shall be informed prior about the stay of the students who will be coming from within Delhi/ different states.
- **3.** The students will be required to fulfill the necessary document (negative COVID certificate) before joining the hostel.
- 4. Symptomatic students should not be permitted to stay in the hostels under any circumstances.
- 5. Since residential students may be coming from different locations across India, they shall remain in quarantine and self-monitor their health for a period of 7 days before being allowed to attend classes or as per the policy opted by the State Government for quarantine.
- 6. Density in dining halls, common rooms, playing areas should be limited, keeping in view the requirement of physical distancing.

CONTAINMENT MEASURES AND ALTERNATE PLAN IN CASE OF OUTBREAK:

- 1. As soon as a student, are detected COVID-19 positive, such person should be immediately isolated as per the directive/advisory of the Government.
- 2. High risk contacts like Roommates and Close contacts should be quarantined and symptomatic ones to be immediately tested
- 3. The resident students who test positive and are isolated will be referred to the LNH COVID facility for further management and supervision.
- 4. The guidelines restricting social and physical contacts and mobility in such parts of residential places in the campus, where positive cases have been found, will be strictly enforced.
- 5. Measures like holding no class, not leaving the rooms for hostellers, if applicable; no take away arrangement of food from mess etc. may be enforced, depending upon the severity of the situation.
- 6. The Committee shall take a decision regarding continuing the classes during such outbreak.
- 7. Following the quarantine period of 17 days the student may report for COVID testing (RTPCR) and shall resume physical classes only after being testing negative. Till then they shall follow all necessary protocol of the isolation.
- 8. The Students shall coordinate through the Class representative