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	Document Title:	<b>EXIT ROUTE FOR DISCHARGE OF COVID-19 CASES</b>

### **PURPOSE:**


To provide specific routes during transport for discharge of patients who are either Suspect, Probable or Confirmed Covid-19 Cases.

### **LEVEL:**


Staff-in-charge in designated nursing units, Auxiliary, CRO, Security, Elevator Operator, Housekeeping, Nursing Supervisor

### **DEFINITION OF TERMS:**

- Suspect Case – a person who is presenting with any of the conditions below.
  - a. All SARI cases where no other etiology fully explains the clinical presentation
  - b. ILI cases with any of the following:
    - i. With no other etiology that fully explains the clinical presentation AND a history of travel to or residence in an area that reported local transmission of COVID-19 disease during the 14 days prior to symptom onset OR
    - ii. With contact to a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 in the two days prior to onset of illness of the probable/confirmed COVID-19 case until the time the probable/confirmed COVID-19 case became negative on repeat testing.
  - c. Individuals with fever or cough or shortness of breath or other respiratory signs or symptoms fulfilling any one of the following conditions:
    - i. Aged 60 years and above
    - ii. With a co-morbidity
    - iii. Assessed as having a high-risk pregnancy
    - iv. Health worker
- Probable Case – a suspect case who fulfills anyone of the following listed below.


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- a. Suspect case whom testing for COVID-19 is inconclusive
  - b. Suspect who tested positive for COVID-19 but whose test was not conducted in a national or sub national reference laboratory or officially accredited laboratory for COVID-19 confirmatory testing
- Confirmed Case – any individual, irrespective of presence or absence of clinical signs and symptoms, who was laboratory confirmed for COVID-19 in a test conducted at the national reference laboratory, a sub national reference laboratory, and/or DOH-certified laboratory testing facility.



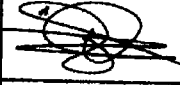

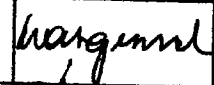
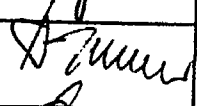

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### **POLICY:**

1. For Improved or Recovered Suspect, Probable or Confirmed Covid-19 Cases:
  - a. All improved or recovered Suspect, Probable or Confirmed Covid-19 cases to be discharged must exit through the main lobby entrance.
  - b. It shall be ensured that patients being discharged must wear face mask while in the hospital vicinity.
  - c. Intubated Suspect, Probable or Confirmed Covid-19 patients to be transferred to a different hospital, shall exit through the main lobby entrance.
  - d. Patient transporters for Suspected Probable or Covid-positive cases must abide with the use of the recommended personal protective equipment.
2. For Expired Patients:
  - a. Expired patients shall be placed in a double bag and labeled with "Covid-19 Related Case – Handle with Care" prior to transport.
  - b. All expired, Suspect, Probable and Confirmed Covid-19 patients shall exit through the chapel.
  - c. Housekeeping personnel shall follow the trail of the cadaver and consistently do appropriate disinfection.
  - d. The elevator used to transport the chapel area and the articles used to transport the cadaver shall be disinfected afterwards.
  - e. Coordination between departments must be done in order to have a smooth flow in the exit of the cadaver. All departments where the cadaver will pass by shall be informed prior to transport.


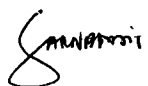
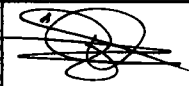



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**APPROVAL:**

	Name/Title	Signature	Date
Prepared by:	MARY ANGELI D. MONTERO, RN Infection Prevention and Control Nurse		07-01-2020
Verified:	APRIL ROSE N. BERJIT, RN OIC – Infection Prevention and Control Nurse Supervisor		07-01-2020
Reviewed:	BERNIE B. SIASON Non-Patient Care Analyst		07-01-2020
	DENNIS C. ESCALONA, RN, MN, FPSQua Quality Assurance Supervisor		07-01-2020
Recommending Approval:	MA. ANTONIA S. GENSOLI, MD Medical Director		7.3.2020
	HENRY F. ALAVAREN, MD, FPSMID, FPSQua Total Quality Division Officer		7/24/20
Approved:	GENESIS GOLDI D. GOLINGAN President and CEO		07062020

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	DENNIS C. ESCALONA, RN, MN, FPSQua Quality Assurance Supervisor		07-01-2020
Recommending Approval:	MA. ANTONIA S. GENSOLI, MD Medical Director		7.3.2020
	HENRY F. ALAVAREN, MD, FPSMID, FPSQua Total Quality Division Officer		7/29/20
Approved:	GENESIS GOLDI D. GOLINGAN President and CEO		

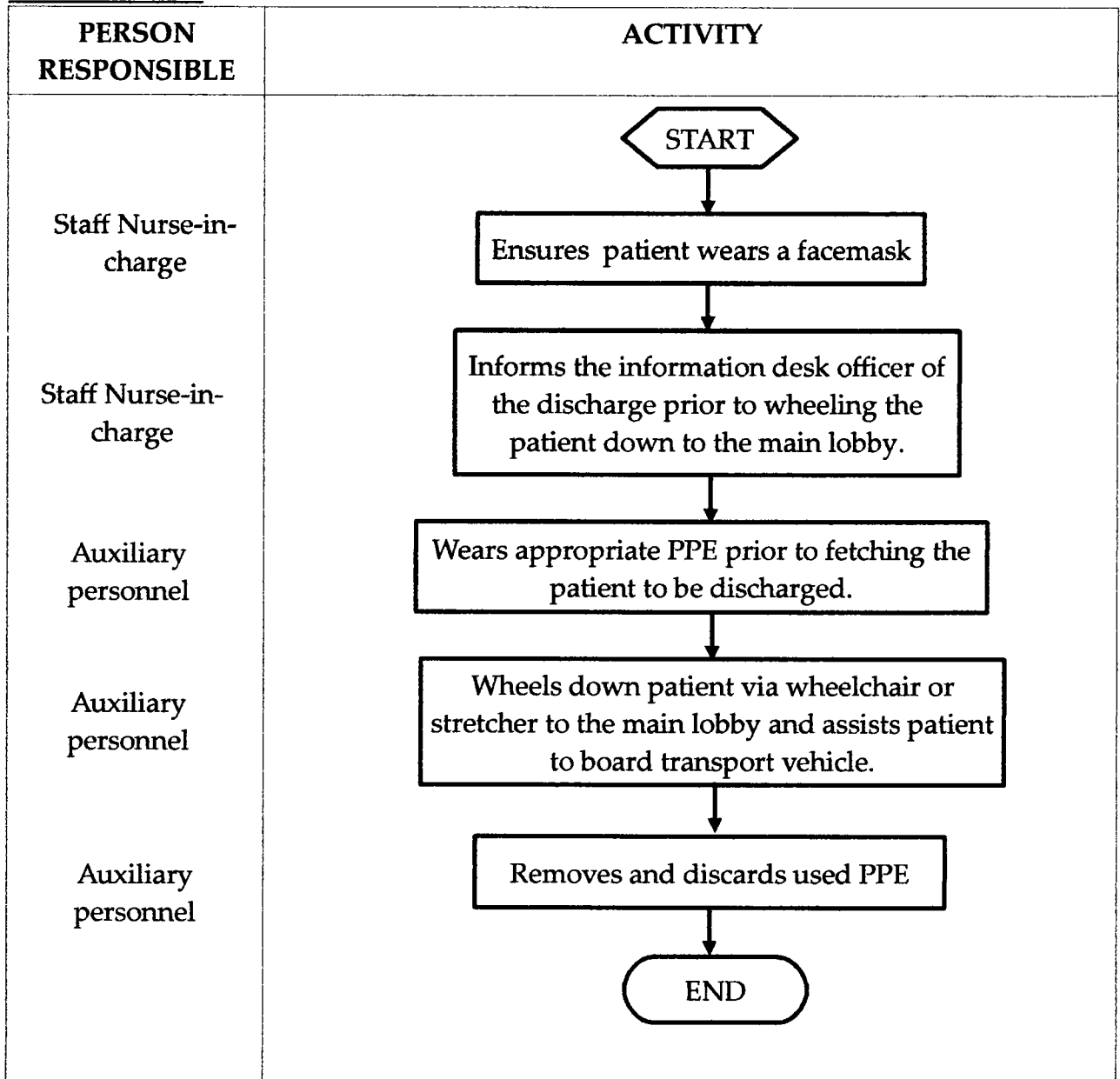
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### **PROCEDURE:**

1. For Improved or Recovered Suspect, Probable or Confirmed Covid-19 Cases:
  - a. Staff Nurse-in-Charge ensures that patient to be discharged wears a face mask.
  - b. Staff Nurse-in-Charge informs the information desk officer of the discharge prior to wheeling the patient down to the main lobby.
  - c. Auxiliary personnel wears appropriate PPE prior to transporting the patient to be discharged.
  - d. Auxiliary personnel wheels down patient via wheelchair or stretcher to the main lobby and assists patient in boarding the transport vehicle.
  - e. Auxiliary personnel removes and properly discards used PPE in dedicated disposal bins.

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### **FLOWCHART:**




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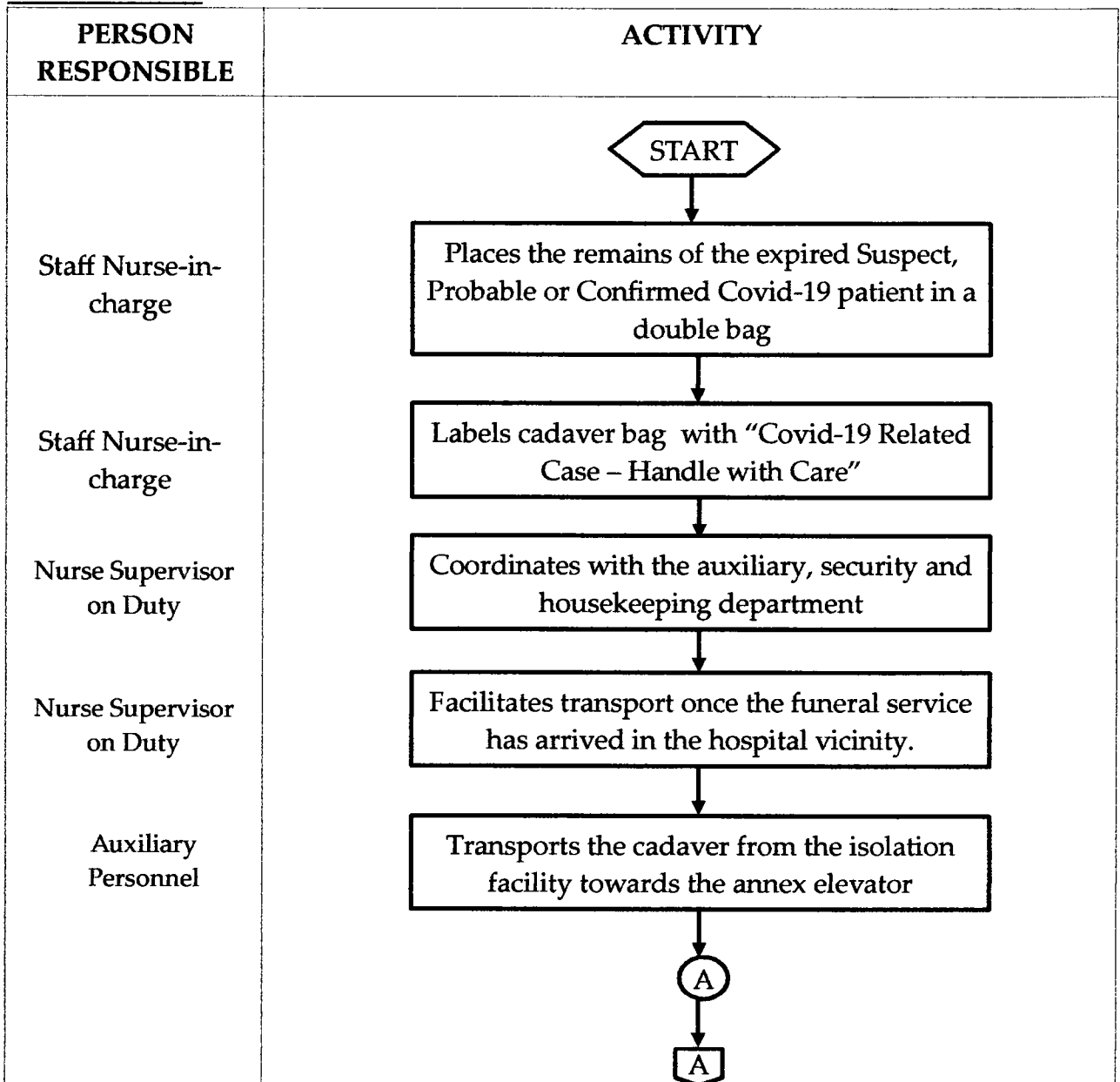
## 2. For Expired Patients:

- a. Staff nurse-in-charge places the remains of the expired Suspect, Probable or Confirmed Covid-19 patient in a double bag and labels it with "Covid-19 Related Case – Handle with Care". Using Heavy duty tape and smear-proof marking pen.
- b. The nursing supervisor on duty coordinates with the auxiliary, security and housekeeping department to facilitate transport once the funeral service has arrived in the hospital vicinity.
- c. The auxiliary staff will don full PPE and pick up the cadaver from the room.
- d. Using a stretcher with cadaver transport cover, the auxiliary personnel transports the cadaver from the isolation facility towards the annex elevator.
- e. CRO ensures that foot traffic at the ground floor areas must be cleared of people prior to the passage of the cadaver.
- f. Upon exiting the annex elevator the cadaver will be wheeled through the back passageway of the Department of Imaging Sciences (DIS) towards the Outpatient Department and through the Chapel.
- g. The funeral service on standby at the chapel exit will have to receive the cadaver and load straight into their vehicle to the receiving and immediately transport it to receiving funeral parlor.
- h. After endorsing the cadaver, auxiliary personnel will properly doff their PPEs at the point of exit and do proper hand hygiene.
- i. The housekeeping personnel disinfects the elevator and chapel.
- j. The housekeeping personnel disinfects the stretcher and all other articles used during the transport of the cadaver prior to returning it to the unit
- k. The elevator and the chapel remains inaccessible until disinfection has been done.



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### **FLOWCHART:**

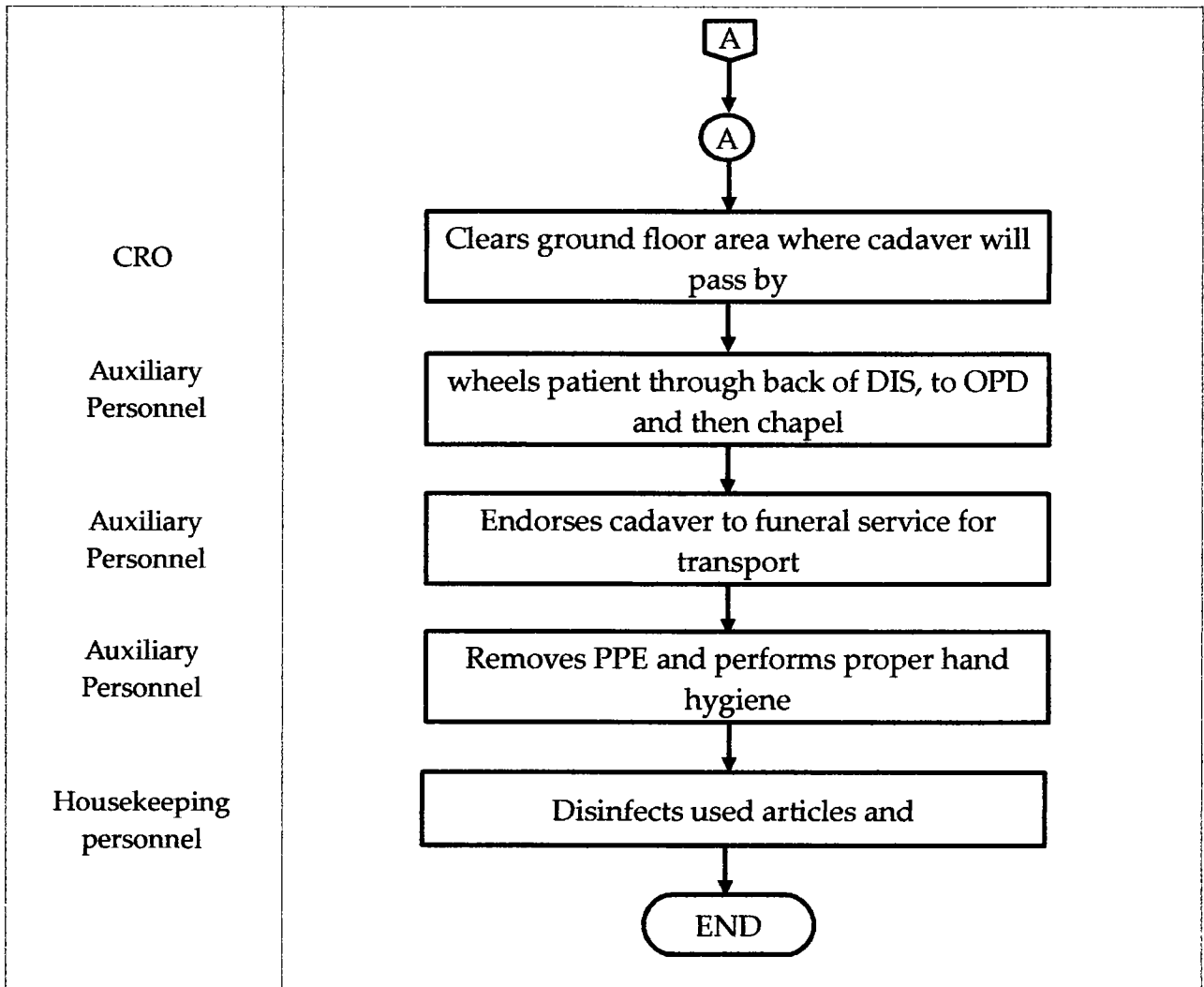





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MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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### **WORK INSTRUCTION:**

#### **Staff-in-charge in designated nursing units**

1. Informs relevant departments about the patient to be discharged
2. Ensures patient to be discharged wears a mask.
3. Ensures cadaver is properly placed inside the cadaver bag prior to transport.

#### **Nursing Supervisor**

1. Ensures proper coordination between departments to properly discharge patients.

#### **CRO**

1. Facilitates traffic flow.

#### **Housekeeping**


1. Ensures proper disinfection is done on articles and the path used for transport.

### **DOCUMENTATION:**

Clearance/ Discharge Slip

### **DISSEMINATION:**

Communicator

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### **REFERENCE:**

Department of Health. (2020, April 9). Revised Administrative Order No. 2020-0012 "Guidelines for the Inclusion of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the List of Notifiable Diseases for Mandatory Reporting to the Department of Health" dated March 17, 2020. Retrieved from <https://www.doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/health-update/ao2020-0013.pdf>