

Respiratory support in Covid 19 Patient

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Respiratory support in Covid 19 Patient

- Coronavirus disease 2019(COVID-19) pandemic is caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus -2 (SARS-Cov2).
- COVID 19 is a global health crisis.
- First being reported in Wuhan ,China in December 2019.

Virology and Epidemiology

- Corona viruses belong to a family of enveloped, single stranded ,zoonotic RNA viruses.
- They can rapidly mutate and recombine leading to novel viruses that can spread from animal to humans.
- SARS-Cov2 is transmitted through inhalation of respiratory droplets and through surface contaminated with the virus.

- Previous Coronavirus epidemic were SARS 2002-3 and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) infection.
- SARS-CoV-2 has a higher transmission capability compared to previous viruses.
- True case fatality rate vary between 0.5-5%

PATHOGENESIS

- SARS-CoV-2 virus utilizes ACE2 receptors as its cell surface receptors.
- ACE2 is expressed highly by ciliated epithelial cell in human lungs.
- Severe COVID -19 disease is characterized by three phases:
 - Viral phase
 - Cytokine storm
 - ARDS, impaired cardiac function and death

PATHOGENESIS

- Cytokine storm appears to be driven by a dysregulated host immune response.
- Cytokine storm is similar to secondary hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH).
- Higher D-dimer and FDP leading to thrombosis and multiorgan failure.

Clinical features

- Children of all age can be infected by COVID-19, with more cases reported in younger children and infant.
- Incubation period (2-10 days)
- Symptoms
 - Fever(50%)
 - Cough(38%)
 - Sore throat, rhinorrhea, myalgia, fatigue, diarrhea

Clinical features

- Severe COVID-19 manifest as features of hypoxemia and hypoperfusion.
- ARDS
- Myocarditis
- Septic shock
- DIC
- AKI
- MODS

Severity classification

- Severity is divided into asymptomatic, mild, moderate , severe and critical.
- The definition of severe included children with only mild hypoxia.
- Critical COVID-19 defined by presence of ARDS or organ failure

Laboratory diagnosis

- RT-PCR of nose and throat swab has been recommended as the confirmatory test for COVID-19.
- Alternative sample for RT-PCR include BAL and endotracheal aspirate.
- Rapid serology testing- may not be positive in first 7-10 days.

Laboratory diagnosis

- Sensitivity of RT-PCR patient is as follow
 - BAL(93%)
 - Sputum(72%)
 - Nasal swab(63%)
 - Bronchoscopic brush biopsy(46%)
 - Pharyngeal swab (32%)

General guidelines

- Trained health professionals to wear PPE with latex free purple nitrile gloves while collecting the samples.

Respiratory specimen collection method

Upper respiratory tract:

- 1) Use only synthetic fibre swabs(dacron or rayon) with plastic shafts.
- 2) Do not use cotton or calcium alginate swabs or swab with wooden shaft.
- 3) For nasopharyngeal swab tilt patient head back 70 degree.
- 4) For throat swab take a second dry swab.

Respiratory specimen collection method

Lower respiratory tract:

- 1) BAL and Endotracheal Aspirate-collect 2-3 ml into a leak proof sputum collection cup or sterile dry container.

Laboratory diagnosis

- CDC does not currently recommend chest radiography or CT to diagnose COVID-19.

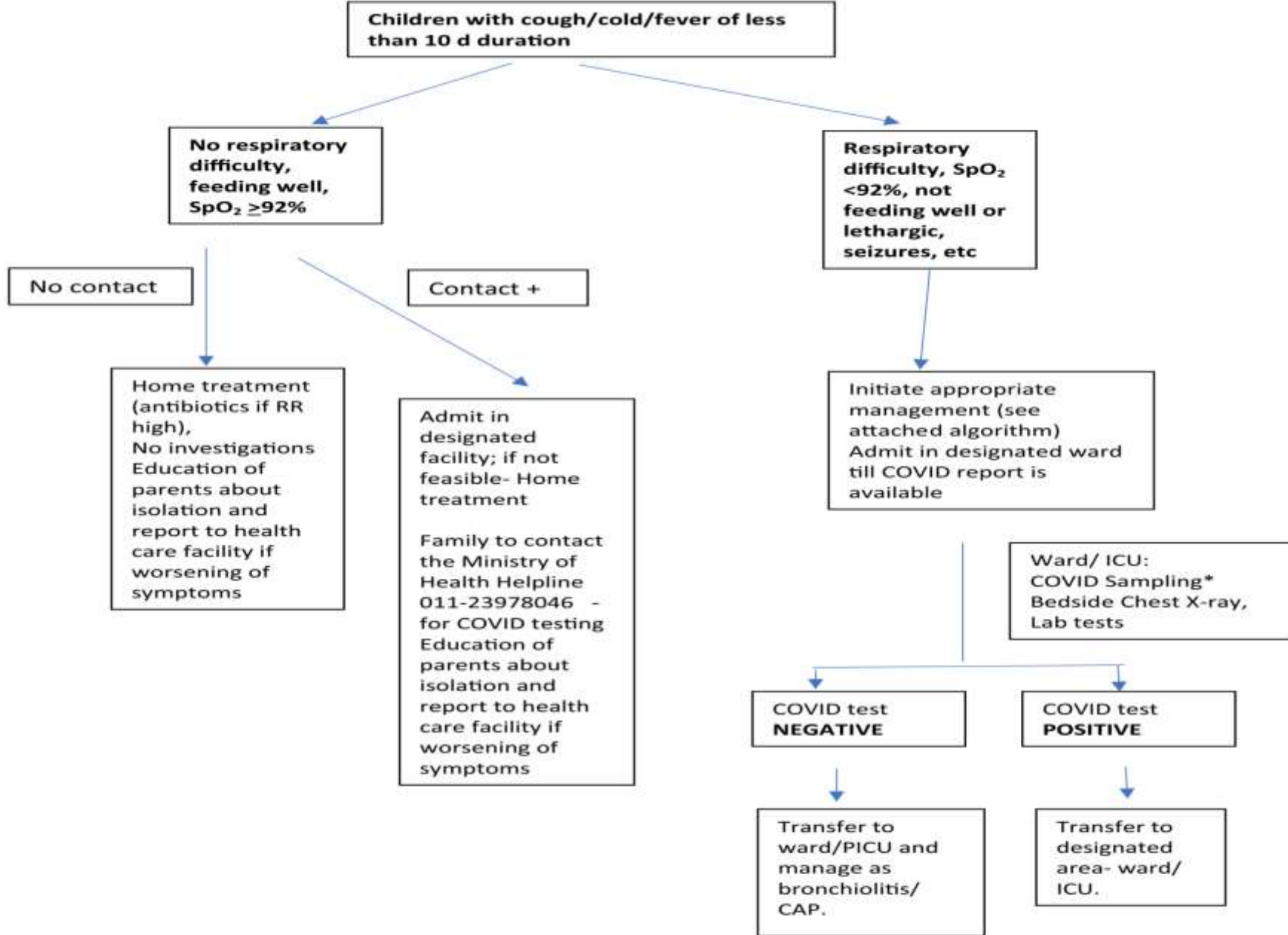
CT findings – Ground glass opacity(33%)

Consolidation with

surrounding halo is typical of paediatric patients.

Laboratory diagnosis

- Normal to low leucocyte counts
- Elevated CRP and procalcitonin
- Relatively lower rate of lymphopenia and elevated inflammatory markers as compared to adults.
- Deranged LFT and KFT
- Deranged coagulation profile



***Testing**

Respiratory sample: Nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal swab together sent in viral transport medium, posterior-pharyngeal swab, endotracheal aspirate, or bronchoalveolar lavage.

Management of paediatric COVID-19

- Infection prevention control(IPC)
- Standard precaution such as hand hygiene, use of PPE, safe waste management.

Indication for hospital admission

- Patients classified as Severe pneumonia and critically ill should be admitted to hospital.
- Following criteria may particularly be considered for admission (**Any One**)
 - Respiratory distress
 - Spo2 < 92% on room air
 - Shock/poor perfusion
 - Poor oral intake
 - Lethargic/seizure/encephalopathy

- At present there is no separate guideline for children who is having underlying chronic illness, immunocompromised state, heart disease and CKD patient.

Mild illness: No respiratory difficulty, are feeding well, SpO₂ > 92%

- 1) The current guidelines recommend admission in isolation facility for all positive cases
- 2) Appropriate antibiotic, if respiratory rate is high.
- 3) Supportive care : Control of fever, avoid NSAIDs.
- 4) Ensure adequate hydration.

Management in hospitalized cases

- General measures:
 - 1) Oxygen supplementation to maintain $SpO_2 > 92\%$.
 - 2) Fluid management
 - 3) Symptomatic treatment of fever
 - 4) Empirical antimicrobial after sending blood culture
 - 5) Oseltamivir may be considered if influenza is suspected.
 - 6) MDI with spacer is preferred

Respiratory support

- One of the key considerations during management is mitigating risk to HCW
- Hypoxemia can be managed by oxygen supplementation.
- Management of SARI in COVID-19 is similar to any other viral pneumonia with ARDS but with strict precautions to reduce risk of transmission.

Protection from Aerosol

- Use of PPE
- Replace nebulizer by MDI with spacer for nebulisation.

Oxygen Therapy

- Start oxygen therapy for patient with spo₂ less than 92% and/or with signs of respiratory distress.
- Low flow oxygen devices are recommended.
- Nasal cannula at flow of 2-4 L/ min for milder form of SARI.
- Triple layer mask over nasal cannula should be used.

Heated Humidified high flow nasal cannula(HHFNc/HFNC)

- HFNC can be useful special situation for hypoxia. A flow of 2-3 ml/kg with Fio₂ targeted to spo₂ is used.
- For HFNC ,child should be managed in **negative pressure rooms** if available.
- HFNC should be tried for a maximum of 1-2 hours

Non invasive ventilation

- There is paucity of literature regarding use of NIV in respiratory pandemics.
- Routine use of NIV is not recommended in COVID-19. It should be used only in selected patients with hypoxemic respiratory failure.
- **Negative pressure rooms** are preferable for patient on NIV.

Non invasive ventilation

- Risk of NIV include delayed intubation, large tidal volume and injurious trans pulmonary pressure.
- P/F ratio is an accurate indicator of oxygenation on NIV.
- Invasive ventilation must be considered if P/F ratio is below 300.
- S/F ratio if arterial line is not possible.

Non invasive ventilation

- WHO also recommend the use of NIV for mild cases of ARDS without hemodynamic instability.
- Conventional ventilator with NIV option is safer option than NIV ventilator.

Non invasive ventilation

- Bubble CPAP: Where both NIV and invasive mechanical ventilation is not available, bubble CPAP may be used .

Invasive ventilation

- Patient with known contraindication of NIV like moderate ARDS($P/F < 200$), hemodynamic instability , multi-organ failure, altered sensorium should receive invasive ventilation.
- Worsening trend of S/F ratio < 200
- Worsening respiratory distress
- $> 60\%$ oxygen requirement on HFNC
- MODS

Invasive ventilation

- Video laryngoscopy is ideal.
- Premedication with benzodiazepine and fentanyl combination.
- Pre oxygenation with NRM
- Avoid bag and mask ventilation to limit aerosol.

Invasive ventilation

- Intubation with cuffed ET tube in all ages.
- Use disposable circuits with viral filter attached at expiratory limb.

Invasive ventilation

Lung protective mechanical ventilation.

- Low tidal volume
- Limiting plateau pressures to < 30 cm H₂O
- High PEEP >10 mm Hg.
- Permissive hypercapnea.

Invasive ventilation

- **Prone ventilation**: Recommended strategy in adults with P/F ratio <150 .
- Patient is kept for 12-16 hours .
- In children it may not be possible due to limited availability of HCW and PPEs.
- if P/F ratio >150 for 1 to 2 hours---may change the posture

Fluid management

- Fluid restriction to 70-80% of maintenance.

VAP Prevention

- VAP bundled strategy should be strictly implemented as per recommendation.

Management of septic shock

- As per **Surviving sepsis campaign** guidelines

Supportive care

- Head elevation
- Oral hygiene
- Glycemic control
- Foley' catheterisation
- Ryles tube
- Central venous catheter
- Posture change

Weaning and extubation

- Extubation should be performed if patient is ready for extubating to nasal O₂.
- Post extubation NIV **is avoided**.

Specific Therapy

- No specific antivirals have been proven to be effective as per currently available data.
- Hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine have been demonstrated to have anti SARS-CoV-2 activity in vitro.
- Mechanisms for antiviral activity of hydroxychloroquine include inhibiting membrane fusion, inhibiting viral entry by changing glycosylation of ACE2 receptor.

Specific Therapy

- Azithromycin
- Lopinavir/Ritonavir
- Currently there are no paediatric studies.
- Clinical indications for starting virus suppressive therapy(Hydroxychloroquine or Lopinavir/Ritonavir) include patient with suspected or confirmed COVID 19 with severe pneumonia or critically ill patient.

Specific Therapy

- Dose of hydroxychloroquine 7-8 mg/kg/dose twice daily for day 1 and then day 2-5, 7-8 mg/kg once a day.
- Do not co-administer Lopinavir/Ritonavir and Hydroxychloroquine due to drug interaction.
- Anti IL-6 receptor antibody (Tocilizumab).
- IL-1 receptor blocker (Anakinra)
- Janus Kinase inhibitor
- Convalescent plasma transfusion.

Children with COVID-19 RT-PCR positive

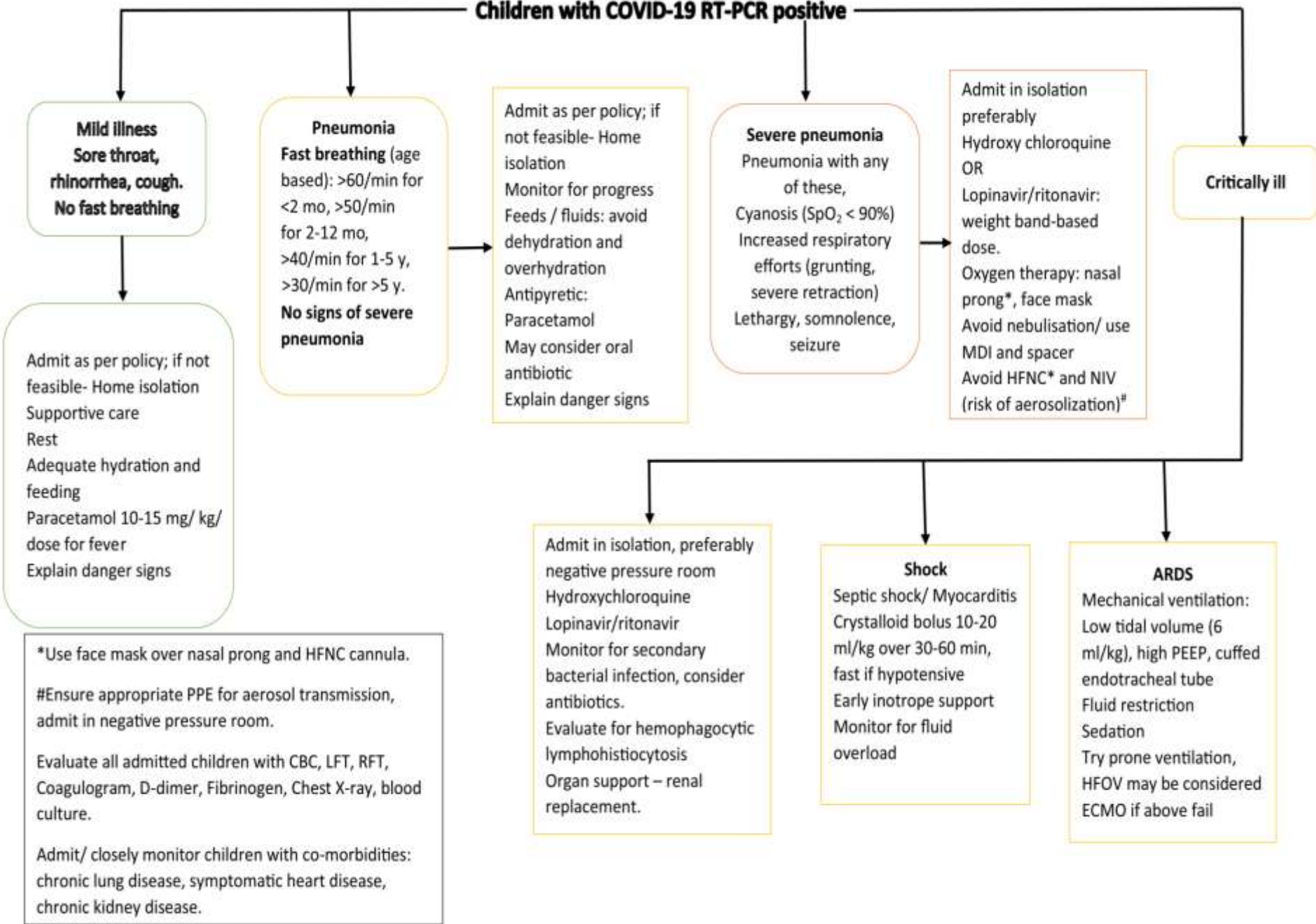
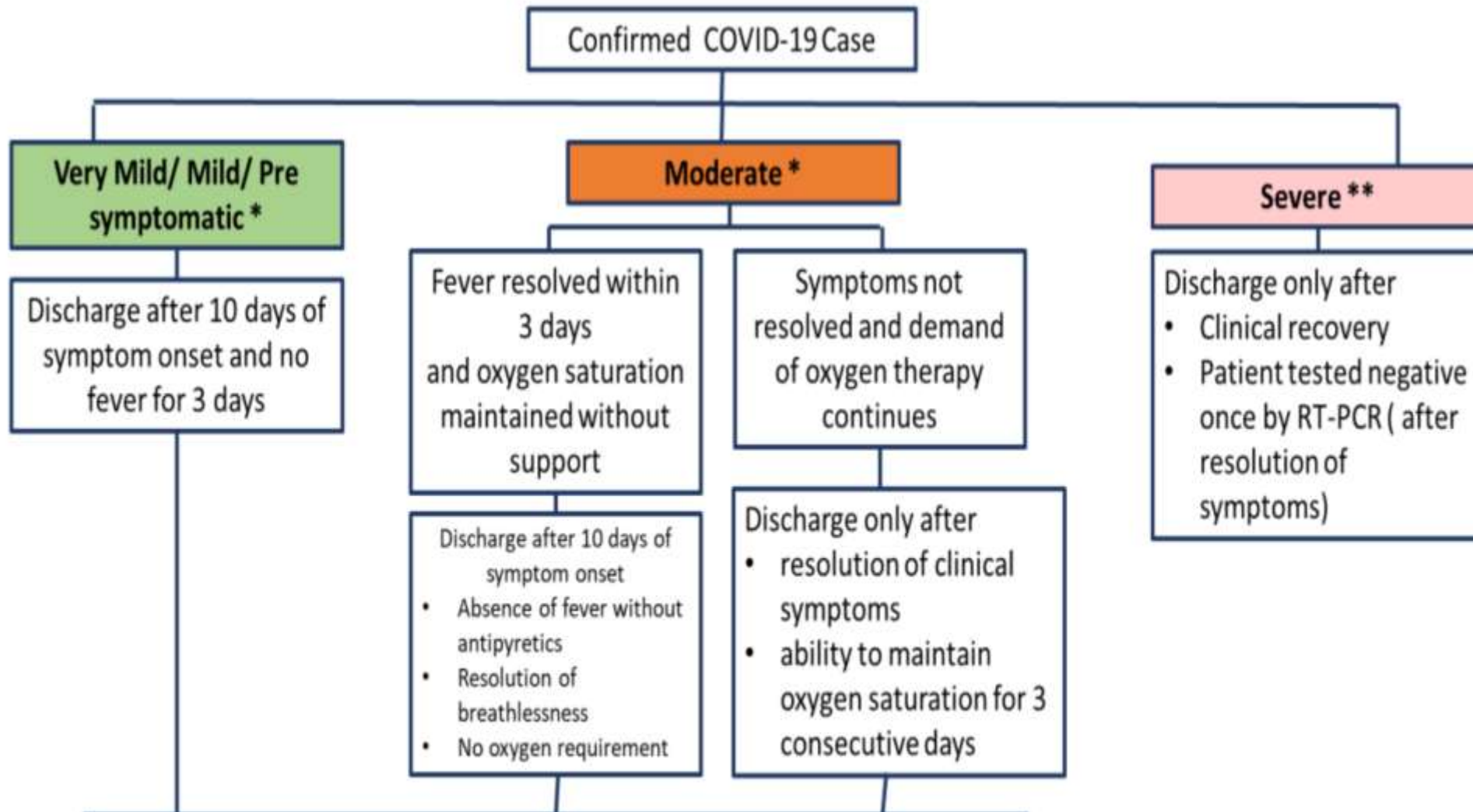


Fig. 2 Summary of management of children with COVID-19

Revised discharge policy for nCOVID-19 cases as per MOHFW



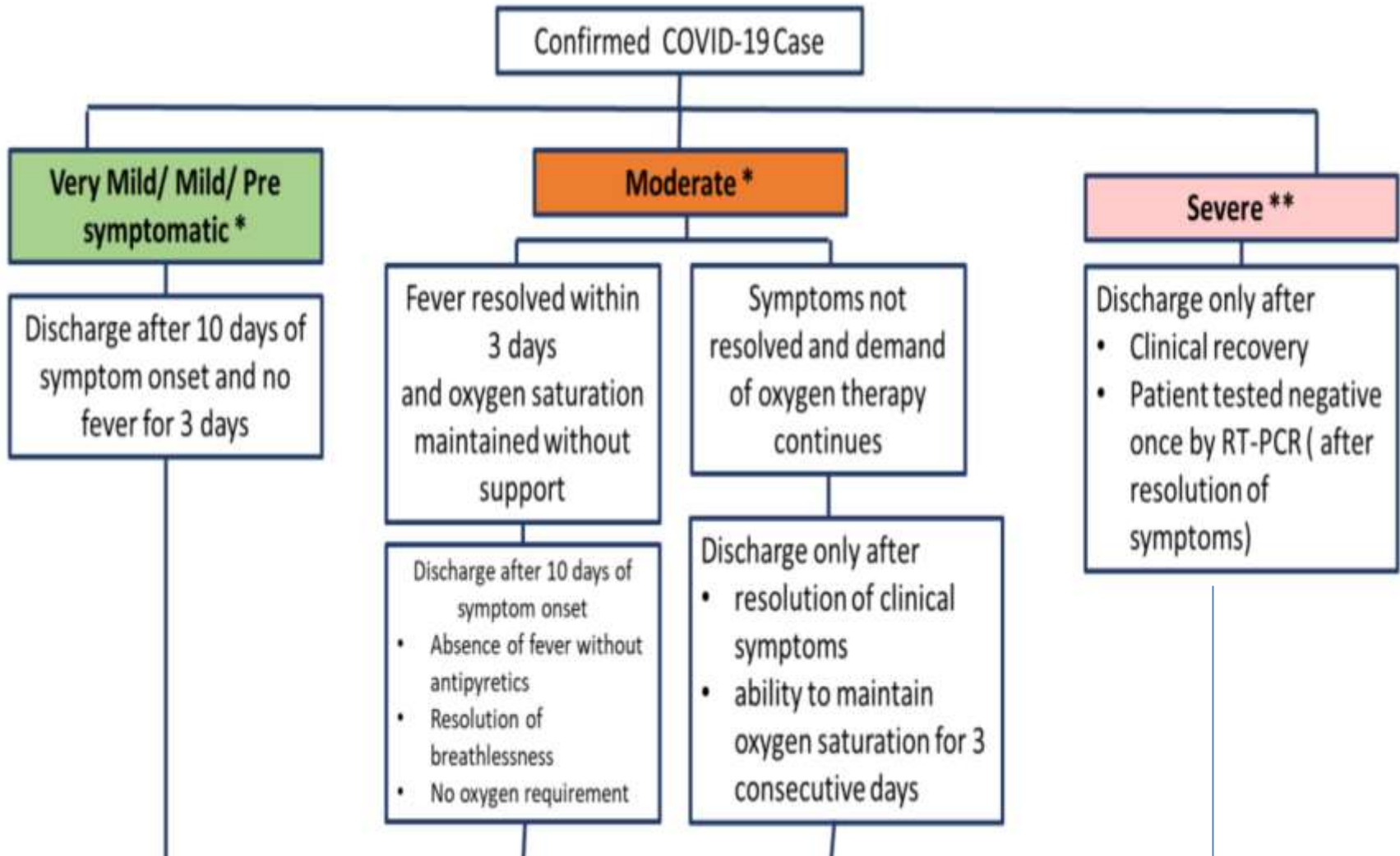
NO RT-PCR test required before discharge

*At the time of discharge, the patient will be advised to isolate himself at home and self-monitor their health for further 7 days.

** Clinical categorization of patients as per guidelines
(<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/FinalGuidanceonMangaementofCovidcasesversion2.pdf>)

**** including immunocompromised (HIV patients, transplant recipients, malignancy)**

Revised discharge policy for nCOVID-19 cases as per Govt Of Bihar



Patients tested negative –Once for RT-PCR

*At the time of discharge, the patient will be advised to isolate himself at home and self-monitor their health for further 7 days.

** Clinical categorization of patients as per guidelines (<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/FinalGuidanceonMangaementofCovidcasesversion2.pdf>)

** including immunocompromised (HIV patients, transplant recipients, malignancy)

SARS-CoV-2 in neonates

Controversy exists regarding COVID -19 transmission in utero.

Before delivery:

- 1) Specific simulation training on management of mother and infant with COVID-19 in every delivery setting.
- 2) Organize a separate path for suspected or diagnosed COVID-19 cases.

SARS-CoV-2 in neonates

- 3) Assure screening procedure in a dedicated area before arrival in delivery unit.
- 4) Suspected or diagnosed mother should be managed in airborne infection isolation until delivery.
- 5) Dedicated delivery room/operating theater (Negative pressure room).
- 6) Designate a room equipped with an infant warmer next to delivery room or resuscitation bed > 6 feet from mother bed.

SARS-CoV-2 in neonates

- 7) Multidisciplinary team with minimum number of HCW for scenario(ideally, 2 members for neonatal resuscitation).
- 8) Clearly define function and roles of team members for resuscitation.
- 9) Equipment check(based on NRP guidelines)
- 10) Videolaryngoscopy.
- 11) Rescue personnel for resuscitation.

SARS-CoV-2 in neonates

During delivery:

- 1) Personal protection
- 2) Delayed cord clamping
- 3) Skin to skin contact **not** recommended
- 4) Neonatal stabilization/resuscitation steps as usually indicated

SARS-CoV-2 in neonates

After delivery:

- 1) All PPE should be removed
- 2) Cleaning of delivery room
- 3) Manage mother in an isolated room
- 4) Care of the baby at a distance of >6 feet from mother or in a different room
- 5) Send the maternal specimen for SARS-CoV-2 testing

SARS-CoV-2 in neonates

- 7) Test the baby for SARS-CoV-2 (nasal and oropharyngeal swabs) 24 hours after delivery.
- 8) Consider expressed breast milk.
- 9) Healthy and neonate with two negative SARS-CoV-2 tests 24 hours apart should be discharged to their mother with contact and droplet precautions until mother has two negative tests.

SARS-CoV-2 in neonates

- 10) Mother should wear the face mask and should be managed based on routine local protocols.
- 11) All test for SARS-CoV2 in breast milk were negative in 6 mothers reported by **Chen et al.**
- 12) However there is insufficient evidence regarding the safety of breast feeding and the need for mother-baby separation.

CONCLUSIONS

Current recommendations on the management of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 mothers and their infants are based on limited and incomplete data, requiring continuous and comprehensive updates.



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