

PAKISTAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



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Dr. Muhammad Nasir Sulaiman

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PRESS RELEASE

Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) is very much concerned over the speedy surge of Covid-19 patients and terrible increase in number of deaths. **We fear that if we do not take the appropriate measures to control the epidemic we may also face India like situation.** Our weak health delivery system could not bear this abnormal situation; we will have to take strict measures. Although the markets are closed at 6:00pm but this is not enough, inter provincial transport is still not stopped yet. The pandemic is spreading rapidly from one province to another which could only be control by banning interprovincial transport. Different variants of Covid-19 have reached Pakistan from abroad so we suggest government to put complete ban on international flights and domestic flights should also be operated with strict SOPs, particularly passengers should be made sit at distance by leaving one seat vacant. **Under the prevailing circumstances, we suggest government to implement complete lockdown in the country to save the lives of the people.**

PMA feels that our vaccination process is very slow; it should be speeded up to vaccinate more people in shorter time. At least 70-75% of population of Pakistan should be vaccinated as early as possible. According to Mr. Asad Umer, NCOC Head, **three million people have been vaccinated so far in the country during three months since the beginning of Covid-19 Vaccination in the country from February 03, 2021. It means 12 million people will be vaccinated in a year and 120 million will be vaccinated in next 10 years.** This shows our vaccination campaign is moving with slow pace. We suggest that vaccination process should be made speedy and **at least 600, 000 people should be vaccinated daily.**

Vaccination of healthcare workers should be made mandatory. Provincial Governments should get lists of vaccinated healthcare workers from both public and private hospitals to know how many workers have been vaccinated and how many have not got vaccinated.

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PMA beg people to adopt preventive measures for the sake of their families and the whole society. Wear mask whenever you go out because **MASK is a vaccine against Covid-19**; make it essential part of your dress. Keep social distance, wash or sanitize your hands with proper intervals. PMA requests all people to avoid going into crowds. Save yourself and **your family and do not go for Eid shopping this year**. If you are safe you can have shopping in future. We appreciate NGOs and philanthropists who are providing free Iftar to people but we request all to maintain SOPs during this virtuous practice. Government should also make sure to implement Sops strictly. We also suggest government to implement complete lockdown during upcoming Eid Holidays.

Dr. S.M Qaisar Sajjad
Secretary General
Pakistan Medical Association (Centre)

