

FRHS India Statement on COVID-19

The Novel Coronavirus ¹ (COVID-19) outbreak, which has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organisation, has alarmed health officials in India, following a spike in new cases being reported from several States over the past few days.

More than 171 countries have reported cases of COVID-19. Globally, there are now over 191,127 confirmed cases and over 7,807 COVID-19 related deaths ². More than 143 countries have reported cases of COVID-19. Globally, there are now over 191,127 confirmed cases and over 7,807 COVID-19 related deaths ³.

FRHS India is India's No. 1 provider of clinical family planning services in the NGO and the private sector, and we strictly follow our values of 'Accountability,' 'Client-Centeredness,' 'Mission Driven' and 'Courageous.' Our colleagues both on-field and off-field are working together to uphold our 'mission' and our clients' and staff safety is at the centre of our operations. We are closely monitoring the evolving situation and the whole organisation is following all public health guidelines issued by the Government of India. Through our social media channels, we are spreading awareness about COVID-19 and are encouraging our staff, our clients, community health workers to take necessary preventive measure through hand hygiene, social distancing, to keep themselves protected from the infection and for 'breaking the chain' as advised by the Government of India and World Health Organisations.

At the workplace, the work-from-home policy for staff members has been put into effect immediately, to encourage social isolation, thereby reducing the risk of social contact and curb the spread of COVID-19. Additionally, FRHS India's management has cancelled all interstate and international travel for its staff members. This policy is effective till 31st March 2020 and the management team is constantly monitoring the situation and shall extend the limits as per government guidelines.

As part of programming, FRHS India has decided to not conduct any group meetings with clients, frontline community health workers, youth, women and the like. We have reviewed our field operations and are closing Fixed Day Services as per instructions from state and district authorities.

The situation is being monitored consistently at the community level and each one of us is taking the responsibility to spread authentic information to curb the spread of the virus.

We are available for any emergencies at: info@frhsi.org.in

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1 & 2 <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

3 <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/>