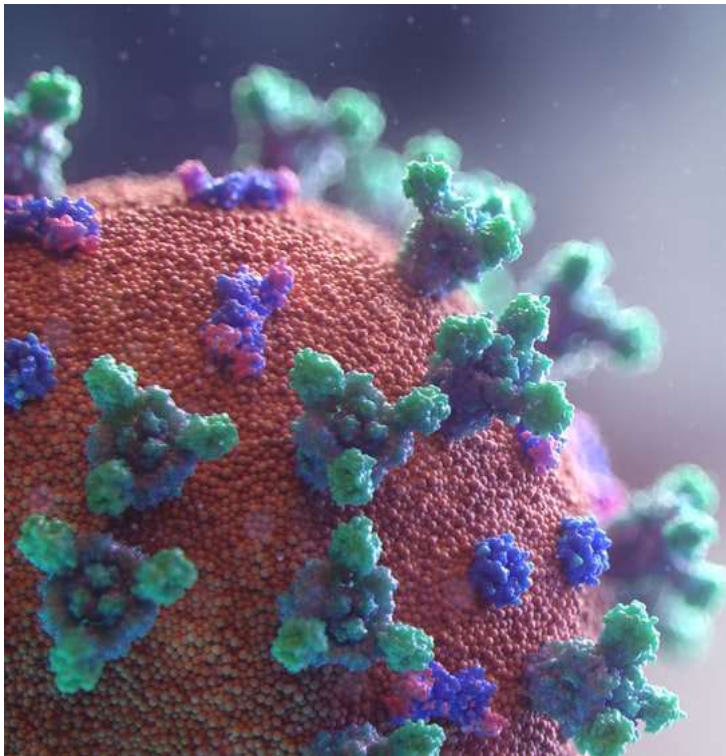


PROTOCOL FOR DEALING WITH MAYYITS WITHIN THE AL MAHDI CENTRE



Due to the lack of community testing available, the following policy will apply to all deaths that occur within the community until the threat posed by Covid-19 is deemed to be at an acceptable level.

FROM THE MOMENT OF DEATH



A surgical mask should be placed on the deceased immediately



Volunteers dealing with the body from the point of death should wear PPE



Anyone who receives the body at the Al Mahdi Centre should do so in PPE



There will be no overnight holding of the Mayyit in the centre

Any support given to the family immediately after the death will be by video link

Any household members that are self-isolating will **not** be permitted to attend the funeral rites

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Volunteers should all wear the full personal protective equipment (PPE)

This includes volunteers for Ghusl, Kafan and Hunoot

The donning and doffing of PPE will be supervised by a volunteer trained in using PPE



N95 Face Mask



Goggles



Gloves



Shoe Covers



Hooded Overall

All volunteers should not be over the age of 60 and must be without underlying medical conditions that would increase their risk of Covid-19.

Nobody who is considered extremely vulnerable or meets the criteria for self-isolation will be able to participate in the Ghusl, Kafan or burial, including family members

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE GHUSL ROOM

1. Ghusl/Kafan will only be performed if safe to do so and PPE is available.
2. A maximum of 5 volunteers will be involved in each Ghusl and Kafan.
3. Volunteers are to wear clothes that can be washed at 60 degrees.
4. No family members will be allowed to come into the Ghusl room.
5. The Mayyit and any Ghusl/Kafan volunteers should enter from the external entrance to the Ghusl room.
6. From the moment that the Mayyit enters the Ghusl room, all access to the Ghusl room should be via the external entrance.
7. The door between the Ghusl room and the main halls (gents and ladies) will remain locked until the Ghusl room has been fully cleaned.
8. Ghusl, Kafan and Hunoot should be performed as usual other than:
 - a. The Mayyit will wear a surgical mask (except when washing the face)
 - b. The volunteers must wear PPE as above and two layers of gloves
 - c. External gloves should be changed when moving from a dirty task (e.g. cleaning body fluids or spillage) to a clean task
 - d. If any of the Mustahabbaat are deemed to pose logistical difficulty or an increased risk to volunteers, then these will not be performed
 - e. Leftover camphor not placed in the body bag must be discarded in the clinical waste bin
9. After Kafan is complete, the body should be placed in a transparent plastic body bag (with some fine sand placed inside) and then placed inside the coffin. The bag and coffin should be wiped with disinfectant and taken out through the external entrance onto the hearse.
10. All clinical waste must be placed into a clinical waste bin.
11. Volunteers will discard their disposable PPE into a clinical waste bin at the entrance of the Ghusl room after leaving the room.
12. The Ghusl room will be professionally cleaned after use. Nobody is to return into the Ghusl room until this has happened.



BEFORE & AFTER BURIAL



1. Anyone handling the coffin or attending the burial must wear gloves.
2. The mosque will remain locked except for the Ghusl room. Any family members wishing to pay their last respects must wait in their cars whilst Ghusl is performed and then can bid their final farewells outside the Ghusl room once the Mayyit has been brought out.
3. Outside the Al Mahdi centre, before the Mayyit is loaded onto the hearse, the coffin will be opened to allow family members to bid their final farewells. Family members wishing to do so must not touch/open the plastic body bag and must also wear a surgical mask and gloves.
4. The time for paying final respects must be kept to a bare minimum and is available for immediate family members only. The body bag will remain closed and there is to be NO physical contact with the body bag by family members.
5. The burial is to be attended by no more than 30 people.
6. Salaatal Mayyit will take place at the cemetery with a maximum of 30 people, standing at a 2-metre distance from each other.
7. If the coffin is opened, any persons in proximity will be required to wear a surgical mask and gloves. This includes the person reciting Talqeen, those turning the body within the coffin and anyone else in this category. At no point can the bag be opened.
8. A 2 metre distance between attendees is to be maintained whilst placing soil in the grave, pouring water on the grave, during the recital of Talqeen and during recitation of Surah Fatiha.
9. There is to be no hand-shaking or hugging at any time during the funeral.