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Three city hotels to function as pvt Covid care centres

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Months after closing, three budget hotels in the city will reopen to Covid-19 patients with no or mild symptoms. Kauvery Hospitals and Apollo Hospitals have been permitted to allow isolation in private and dual occupancy rooms for a cost.

The cost of care in these hotels will be between Rs 2,500 to Rs 7,000 a day as per tariffs committed by the hospitals to the government. These centres, however, could monitor and supervise but not treat patients, said director of medical services Dr S Gurunathan.

“We understand that there some healthy and young people who may not be able to stay in home isolation either because they have no caregivers or because they have vulnerable people,” he said.

The government offers isolation facilities in more than 25 places including the Chennai Trade Centre, newly constructed housing blocks of Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board or colleges within the city, where boarding and lodging are free for up to two weeks. The patients are then discharged.

Apollo Hospitals will admit patients to Lemon Tree in Manapakkam and Ginger in Vadapalani. Apollo group joint managing director Sangita Reddy has told the government that the hospital will charge between Rs 2,500 and Rs 3,000, inclusive of three meals, a day. As a part of the overall frame-

WHERE PATIENTS GO

MILD/NO SYMPTOMS (COVID CARE CENTRES)

Govt facilities 54 Beds 14,600

Private | Three hotels expected to function soon

MODERATE SYMPTOMS (GOVT HEALTH CENTRES)

Govt facilities 13 Beds 1,735

Private facilities 25 Beds 2,830

SEVERE SYMPTOMS (COVID HOSPITALS)

Govt facilities 13 Beds 5,270

Private facilities 46 Beds 4,339

(Chennai figures)

work, a nurse will be stationed at the hotel to collect vitals twice a day and there will be a video-consult with the doctor on a daily basis.

Kauvery Hospitals has been given permission to send patients to Hotel Clarion in Mylapore, where there are 90 beds. As per the hospital's protocol, patients will be evaluated at the hospital's fever clinic and later shifted to the care centre. Patients will be asked to purchase a 'Covid care kit' that has a pulse oximeter, digital thermometer, digital BP apparatus and a hand sanitiser at the time of admission.