

TREATMENT OF MODERATE AND SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION (SAM)

INPATIENT MANAGEMENT OF SAM AND MAM

1. Follow national treatment protocols while treating SAM children with medical complications in Inpatient Therapeutic Care (ITC) Centres and Nutrition Rehabilitation Homes (NRHs)
2. Allocate separate isolation areas for patients with suspected influenza and/or with any other respiratory symptoms
3. Ensure adequate stock level of F-75, F-100, ReSoMal, medicines and other logistics during the emergency situation
4. Follow IPC measures while managing SAM children with medical complications
5. If the MAM child has medical problems treat the child as per the IMCI protocol
6. Manage specific isolation room in the ITC if the SAM child is infected with COVID-19 with medical complication

OUTPATIENT MANAGEMENT OF MAM AND SAM BY USING SIMPLIFIED APPROACH

It is not possible to assess the nutrition status of under five children due to COVID-19. Therefore, the simplified approach will be followed to treat the children aged 6-59 months with SAM and MAM at the OTCs as follows:

- Assess the nutrition status of 6-59 months children by using MUAC tape and identify moderate and severe acute malnutrition. If the child is moderate (MUAC is in between 11.5 to less than 12.5 CM) or severe (MUAC is in between less than 11.5 CM), admit the child in the OTC.
- Similarly, assess nutrition oedema of the child. If the child has nutritional oedema, consider that child is SAM and manage based on the level of Oedema.
- Follow the process of appetite test by using RUTF and provide RUTF to both SAM and MAM as; 2 sachets for SAM child per day and one sachet for MAM child per day for one months and ask the child to come to the OTC for the follow up in one months.
- Advice the caretaker of MAM child to feed the RUTF properly with nutritious family food at home. But advice to the SAM child feed only RUTF, water and breastmilk if the child is breastfed child, if not breastfed, use only RUTF and water.
- Once the MUAC of both SAM and MAM children reach to 12.5 CM or more, give the RUTF for next one week with same dose and ask to give nutritious family food properly

ASSESSMENT FOR NUTRITIONAL OEDEMA (ASSESSMENT OF NUTRITIONAL OEDEMA AND ITS TREATMENT):

- Apply thumb pressure gently for at least 3 seconds on the topside of each foot to determine the presence of oedema. The client has oedema if the depression caused by the thumb remains for

some time after lifting the thumb. It is important to test both feet; if the pitting is not bilateral, the oedema is not of nutritional origin. Nutritional oedema should be classified in order to determine severity and mode of care (see Table below). For example, a client who presents with oedema +++/Grade 3 should be initially managed in inpatient care.

- The patient who has +++ oedema, he/she should be considered as SAM with medical complication and should be referred to the inpatient treatment center for the management of complication.
 - The patient who has + or ++ oedema, he or she need to consider as SAM without medical complications and provide RUTF two sachets per day for one months as the RUTF was provided to the wasted children; and ask to come for follow up in one month.
1. Continue admitting (registering) MAM and SAM children without medical complications in Outpatient Therapeutic Care (OTC) Centres following this interim guidance note
 2. If there is lockdown and/or strict restrictions in movement then provide one month's ration of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) after admitting the SAM case and request to visit OTC centre after a month
 3. Ensure adequate stock level of RUTF, medicines and other logistics during the emergency situation
 4. Provide take-away de-worming tablet so that the MAM and SAM child can take it after one week of starting date of the treatment
 5. Follow up each SAM cases by phone on a weekly basis (calling by health worker from the health facility and/or FCHVs of that area)
 6. Arrange for household service delivery for any SAM children refusing to visit OTC centres fearing COVID-19 disease and/or suspected with COVID-19
 7. Follow IPC measures while managing SAM cases in OTC centres
 8. Follow national protocols for all other actions other than mentioned in this guidance e.g. calculation of RUTF, dosing of de-worming tablets, antibiotics etc.