



Karachi Dated 30-07-2018

## PRESS RELEASE

### PRECAUTIONS AGAINST CONGO CRIMEAN HAEMORRHAGIC FEVER

Congo Crimean Haemorrhagic fever (CCHF) is a viral disease which is highly contagious and has high fatality rate. It spreads by the bite of a "Tick" present on wild and domestic animals, such as cattle, goats, sheep and hares which serve as amplifying hosts for the virus or its contact with wound or abraded skin of handler (s).

Transmission of Congo virus to humans occurs through contact with infected ticks or animal / human blood. It can also be transmitted from one infected human to another by contact with infectious blood or body fluids. It also occurs in hospitals due to improper sterilization of medical equipment, reuse of injection needles, and contamination of medical supplies.

The public and animal handlers must use Personal Protective Measures like use of full clothing, gloves during handling and butchering of animals. Apply Anti Tick repellents on body *(e.g Diethyl toluamide- DEET)* and clothing *(e.g Permethrin)*. It is advised to wear light colour clothes that cover legs & arms and examine clothing & skin for presence of ticks while visiting cattle markets / slaughter houses. In order to contain the growth of Tick animals especially slaughter animals must be sprayed with or dipped into water having *Acaricide, Cypermethrin* etc. The use of insecticide chemicals around animal farms and slaughter houses to decontaminate animal's offal's / waste and secretions must be ensured in order to limit the spread of virus.

In case any person develops following signs / symptoms he may rush nearest health care service provider at the earliest.

Person having history of animal exposure Stomach pain, High grade fever, headache, back pain, joint pains etc. vomiting., Red eyes, flushed face, red throat, and red spots on the palate.

  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
GOVERNMENT OF SINDH

*This press release is being issued by Health Department Government of Sindh, in the best interest of general public.*