

# FOR GPs/PRIVATE HOSPITALS LOOKING AFTER DENGUE PATIENTS

## Warning Signs for Referral

Severe Epigastric Pain

Tender Hepatomegaly

Persistent vomiting with inability to tolerate oral fluids

Moderate bleeding from more than one site

Urine output less than 100 mls in 4 hours in adults or less than 0.5 mls/kg/hr in children despite adequate intake of fluids

Excessive Lethargy / cold clammy extremities

Severe breathlessness when lying flat

Presence of free fluid in pleural space or peritoneal cavity on ultrasound scan

**Tachycardia disproportionately high for the degree of fever**  
(for every 1 degree centigrade or 1.8 degree Fahrenheit rise in temperature the heart rate rises by 10 beats per minute)

Pulse pressure less than 20 mm Hg  
( pulse pressure is the difference between systolic and diastolic pressure in mm Hg)

Fall in platelet count  $\geq 50,000$  below baseline (150,000) in 24 hours or less

Rise in baseline hematocrit equal to or more than 20% or  $\geq 50$  in adults or  $\geq 40$  in children

Co Morbid conditions eg chronic liver disease, uncontrolled diabetes mellitus, end stage renal disease, COPD, age  $<1$  year or  $>70$  years may require early referral and admission to a hospital

### \*Note:

Resolution of fever may be seen as patient enters the critical phase and may herald worsening of disease