

COMPREHENSION-4

A. Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The corona crisis in Delhi has had unusual fallout — nearly 50% reduction in patients rushing to hospitals, even for emergencies such as heart attack, stroke and head injury due to accident.

“Acute heart attack is often precipitated by factors such as stress, smoking and pollution. These are largely under control, and could be one of the reasons why lesser number of people is landing in emergencies with heart attack,” said Dr Ashok Seth, chairman, Fortis Escorts Heart Institute (FEHI). He added that many might not be able to reach hospitals due to unavailability of transportation too.

Dr D S Rana, chairman (BOM), Sir Ganga Ram hospital, said people try to delay visiting hospitals fearing they might contract Covid-19. “This could lead to a crisis situation or may already be leading to one, as many needy may be suffering without treatment,” he said.

A study published by the Spanish Society of Cardiology and the Association of Interventional Cardiologists recently showed that the number of primary angioplasties — the main treatment for heart attack — in the country dropped by 40% since the beginning of the coronavirus lockdown. The study said fear of visiting hospitals and catching the virus was the main driver of this reduction.

Recently, the Centre and the state both have come up with advisory notifying that non-Covid-19 emergencies should be given equal importance. Delhi government even listed hospitals where treatment for various specialties was available. But lack of transportation and fear of getting infected continue to be a major hindrance.

According to Dr MV Padma Srivastava, professor and head, neurology, AIIMS, low footfall for emergencies involving noncorona problems has been observed not just in the country, but even in the US and UK. “Nearly 30-40% reduction in footfall has been observed in cases related to stroke,” she said.

A person experiencing sudden loss of speech, vision or trouble walking should immediately visit a hospital, she added. The Indian Stroke Association (ISA) too has issued detailed guidelines about management on stroke cases during pandemic.

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1. On the basis of the above passage mark the following statements as true or false.
 - i. There has been a sharp increase in the number of patients reporting to hospitals for emergencies in Delhi.
 - ii. Stress levels and pollution levels have seen a sharp increase due to the corona crisis.
 - iii. Many people could be suffering because they fear going to the hospital least they catch the Corona infection.
 - iv. The unavailability of ambulances and other modes of transport is a problem that patients might be facing.

- v. The central as well as state government has asked hospitals to give importance to people suffering from ailments other than Covid-19 too.

2. Fill in the blanks with words from the passage.

- i. You should ----- school on time.
- ii. Many students are unable to get admission in University of Delhi due to-----of seats.
- iii. Do not go out without a mask or you might----- Covid-19.
- iv. Delhi has seen a sharp-----in pollution levels due to the lockdown.
- v. The craze of dance is-----on.

3. Answer the questions given below.

- i. How has the outbreak of Corona affected people suffering from other ailments?
- ii. What are the leading causes of heat attack?
- iii. What are the main reasons that prevent people from visiting hospitals?
- iv. According to doctors which are the symptoms that should not be ignored by a person? What action should the person take immediately?