GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
HEALTH MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Order No115 /COVID-19/2020-21Date: 04.05.2021

COVID INSTANT ORDER –115

Sub: HMFW-COVID19- Focussed Testing strategy – communication of guidelines-reg

Ref:- 1. Covid instant order 11 dated 28.03.2020
2. Covid instant order 11A dated 03.04.2020
3. covid instant order 54A dated 26.02.2021
4. Covid Instant order 94 dated 15.03.2021

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With references to 1st to 4thcited, Government have issued certain guidelines for surveillance and collection of samples from certain categories of people and primary and secondary contacts of the positives. Keeping in view of available resources at RTPCR labs in the state, sample collection need to be focussed and dynamically arrived in various Districts. Overloading of the Labs shall lead to delay of results and non declaration of positives in 24 hours will increase the contamination to others.

Hence, it has been decided to realign the testing strategy with the existing COVID situation. The main aim is to do focused testing to identify the positive persons early and to start treatment early. To focus the energies of the field staff and to maximise the testing capacity to yield better results only the symptomatic primary contacts have to be tested. Whereas contact tracing needs to be improved to identify every contact of a positive person, it is not necessary to do covid test for each of them.

All the contacts of a positive person, shall be kept in Home Quarantine, and shall be monitored by ASHA workers and Village / Ward Volunteers on a daily basis. They shall not be allowed to move freely for 14 days. These persons if they develop symptoms shall be tested on the same day they develop symptoms and result of the tests be obtained expeditiously. If they are found to be positive, they shall be triaged by the medical officer and treatment can be started at Home, CCC or Hospital.

Principal Secretary to the Government

To
All the Collectors and District Magistrates in the state
All Joint Collectors (development) in the state
All the DMHOs/DCHSs in the state