

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
HEALTH MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT  
Order No.150 /COVID-19/2020-21

04/07/2022

COVID INSTANT ORDER — 150

Sub: HMFWD-COVID19- Communication of operational guidelines (revised) on surveillance strategy on covid19- eg.

Ref:- D.O No. Z.28015/61/2022-DMcell dated 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

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Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has issued 'Operational Guidelines for Revised Surveillance Strategy in context of COVID-19' on 9th June 2022 with the long term vision to fully integrate COVID-19 surveillance within existing Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) surveillance mechanism.

As per these guidelines, revised strategy for surveillance with focus on the following to be taken into account.

- i. Early detection, testing, and timely management of suspected and confirmed cases;
- ii. Detection and containment of outbreaks of new SARS-CoV-2 variants and monitoring the trends of existing variants, and
- iii. Monitoring long term epidemiological trends through the established genomic surveillance strategy through INSACOG network of laboratories(SMC Vijayawada)

Hence, the following activities are to be taken .

**1. Surveillance of Incoming International Travelers-**

- Random screening of( 2% ) of passengers in each incoming flight into Andhra Pradesh by RT-PCR at the airport itself.
- All positive specimens to be sent for genomic sequencing lab at SMC Vijayawada.
- Passengers who test positive need to be advised home isolation and clinically managed as per prevailing guidelines.

**2.Sentinel-sites based surveillance- under revised strategy the sentinel surveillance shall be under taken at hospitals ,testing labs and community as detailed below**

**A. Health facility-based surveillance:**

- All public and private healthcare facilities shall be instructed to report Influenza Like Illness (ILI) cases (P form reporting units under IDSP-IHIP)

- District Surveillance Officer (DSO), shall be made responsible to analyse the data and a proportion (1 in 20 i.e. 5 %) of such ILI cases shall be tested through RT-PCR.
- strict Monitoring of Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI) cases in all Area Hospitals, District hospitals , Teaching hospitals & Private Hospitals and undertaking their RT-PCR testing for Covid-19 shall be done.
- District IDSP team shall be responsible to share data on daily basis to the state IDSP unit and which in turn will consolidate and share to GOI.

**B. Lab based (Virology) surveillance:**

- All Government and Private RTPCR Labs testing for COVID-19 should upload their data on ICMR portal mandatorily and district administration shall ensure it.

**3. Community-based Surveillance** - For early detection of unusual events in the community such as large outbreaks, unusual clinical presentation of cases, mortality. etc., the /District Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) units shall make use of:

- Event based surveillance through media scanning and verification cell established at District Collectorate.
- Updating and monitoring the Event alert generation on IDSP-IHIP portal
- Indicator based surveillance through routine IDSP/IHIP reporting

These unusual events shall be promptly assessed by the District Rapid Response Teams for outbreak investigation.

**4. Whole Genome Sequencing:**

- All international travellers arriving in Andhra Pradesh testing positive for COVID-19 shall be sequenced invariably.
- Identify and establish suitable linkages between RTPCR labs and INSACOG network laboratories (SMC , Vijayawada) to send samples for Whole Genome Sequencing.
- Positive samples from large clusters / outbreaks in the community and unusual events should also be sent for Whole Genome Sequencing.
- Modalities and detailed guidelines on the same have been made available at: <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/INSACOGGuidanceDocumentdated15July2021final.pdf> may be perused and take appropriate action

Further, the district IDSP team shall also call for sewage / wastewater surveillance, which may provide early warnings on the potential local surge of COVID-19.

Hence, District Collectors shall take necessary steps on the above guidelines to ensure proper surveillance and containment of covid19 in the state.

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**J NIVAS IAS, DIR(JN), O/o DIRECTOR-CHFW**

To

All Collectors and District Magistrates in the state All DMHOs in the state  
All superintendents of AH, DH and Teaching Hospitals in the state through Commissioner  
APVVP and DME.