GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
HEALTH MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
Order No 11/COVID-19/2020 Dt 28.03.2020

COVID INSTANT ORDER 11

Sub Health Medical & Family Welfare Department – Prevention and Management of COVID 19 – Certain instructions for sample collection, transportation and testing – issued – Reg

In continuation of protocols and guidelines issued for various actions for Prevention and Management of COVID 19, the following guidelines and protocols are issued for sample collection, transportation and testing for COVID 19.

I. Criteria for sample collection(Whom to test)

1. All the foreign returnees(FR)into India/AP within 14 days from the international travel with symptoms(fever/Cough/Difficulty in breathing) shall be mandatorily tested.
2. All primary contacts of confirmed positive (who lives in the within the same households and who have been in close contact with FR) shall be tested without reference to symptoms between 5 to 14 days of such contact
3. All symptomatic health care workers.
4. All cases ARDS and SARI admissions in hospitals shall be mandatorily tested.
5. All asymptomatic FRs from High risk countries with in fourteen days of international travel
6. During the fever Surveillance in the community, all symptomatic (fever/Cough/Difficulty in breathing) suspects, who are identified in surveillance, shall be tested if
   a. History of Fever/Cough or both for more than three days
   Or
   b. Sudden onset of breathlessness without any previous history
c. All persons with co-morbid conditions (diabetes, hypertension, cancer, HIV, Immunosuppression) and elders (above 65 years) who manifest symptoms in 6(a) 6(b)

2. Protocols for Transportation of suspects

1. Identified suspect cases shall be transported in RRT ambulances to the designated sample collection centre.
2. All the suspect cases shall be admitted in the isolation wards and sample shall be collected at isolation wards.
3. MO PHC or MO in the urban ward level surveillance teams shall be responsible for conducting surveillance and decide for fit cases for sample collection.
4. In addition to the two ambulances at the district HQ level, Designated ambulances shall be increased to one per division level for transport of suspects.
5. MO concerned shall inform the District RRT. The District RRT shall take steps for conducting community level surveillance as per the epidemiology.
6. MO shall fill the format A and submit to the District surveillance unit.
7. The designated ambulances shall take the suspect along with the EMT to the designated sample collection hospital.
8. The suspect shall suitably handed over nodal officer of isolation centers in designated sample collection centre.

3. Protocol at the sample collection centres

1. Every District Collector shall ensure nodal officer isolation centers shall be designated and notified to the state and district control centre.
2. Necessary precautions for the suspect isolation shall be taken at centers.
3. All GGH and DH shall be designated in list annexed shall be designated as sample collections which shall be readied as per protocol.
4. Necessary indent shall be placed to VDRL for collection of sample.
5. After the examination of the suspect, swab collection shall be done by pulmonologist/ENT specialist.
6. Sample collected shall be sent to microbiology department for triple layer packing the sample as per ICMR protocols

7. The details of sample collected shall be entered in to the online lab management (MSS-COVID) given for this purpose so that the same is properly tracked

8. Suspects who are brought to sample collection center shall be dealt with as per patient management protocol conveyed.

5. Sample transportation protocol

1. The samples collected shall be transported to the designated laboratory under proper supervision on daily basis. Frequency shall be increased based on the sample load.

2. Dedicated vehicles shall be deployed at district for this purpose. Two vehicles shall be hired for this purpose per each district.

3. Details of sample transportation shall be uploaded in the online system in MSS-COVID

   All the District Collectors shall take steps for close monitoring of the sample collection and laboratory testing by way of designating one Joint collector responsible for both surveillance and sample collection activity who will be the single point of contact for aforesaid activities.

   DMHOs shall coordinate the aforesaid arrangement and report to the District collector, JC(Nodal Officer) and the district control room on daily basis.

   SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

   To,

   All the District Collector in the state
   All the DMHOs in the state
   All the superintendents of teaching hospitals.
ANNEXURE

LIST OF SAMPLES COLLECTION CENTRES

1. GGH Srikakulam
2. District Hospital Vizianagaram
3. KGH Vishakhapatnam
4. DH Anakapalli
5. GGH Kakinada
6. DH Rajahmundry
7. DH Eluru
8. GGH Vijayawada
9. DH Machilipatnam
10. GGH Guntur
11. DH Tenali
12. GGH Prakasam
13. DH Kandhukuri
14. GGH Nellore
15. SVRR GGH Tirupathi
16. DH Madanapalli
17. GGH Anathapur
18. DH Hindupur
19. GGH Kurnool
20. DH Nandyala