

In continuation of COVID order 11 in reference above, the following guidelines are issued for sample collection, transportation and testing for COVID 19 in order to prioritize the population during community surveillance. The COVID 19 symptoms of sore throat/dry Cough/fever/difficulty in breathing shall be identified during the community surveillance.

1. Priority for sample collection and testing
   a) All the foreign returnees (FR) into India/AP within 14 days from the international travel with COVID-19 symptoms or people who attended the high risk event/place shall be mandatorily tested.
   b) All primary contacts of laboratory confirmed positive (who live 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.
   c) All symptomatic contacts of laboratory confirmed cases.
   d) All cases of ARDS and SARI admissions in hospitals shall be mandatorily tested.
   e) All symptomatic health care workers (SHC)
f) All persons of COVID-19 symptoms with co-morbid conditions
   (diabetes, hypertension, cancer, HIV, Immunosuppression etc.)

g) All adult population above 65 years who manifest COVID-19 symptoms.

h) All other cases of symptomatic cases of COVID-19

2. Mobile Sample collection teams shall be constituted for persons who
cannot be shifted to the sample collection centers

3. Whenever the persons for testing are being shifted they shall not be mixed
together and proper distancing shall be maintained.

4. The persons shall be kept in home isolation or in quarantine and not mixed
   up with others till the test results are ascertained.

5. The 14 days home isolation shall be advised for all the above persons as a
   matter of abundant precaution.

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.