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National Health Mission, Himachal Pradesh

To

All the Chief Medical Officers
in Himachal Pradesh

All the Principal
Govt. Medical Colleges
in Himachal Pradesh

All the Medical Superintendents
In Himachal Pradesh

Dated Shimla-9 the



Subject : Revised Strategy of COVID-19 Testing.

Sir/Madam,

This is with reference to revised Strategy of COVID-19 testing received from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India (Copy enclosed for ready reference).

In this regard, you are requested to adhere by above advisory in your respective Health Institutions. It is further directed that entry of reports shall be done by testing laboratories on portal as directed by Director-General, ICMR during Video Conference today on 21.03.2020. The revised testing strategy is given below:

- i. All symptomatic persons (fever, cough, difficulty in breathing) within 28 days on international travel.
- ii. All symptomatic contacts of confirmed cases.
- iii. All symptomatic healthcare workers.
- iv. All hospitalized patients with Severe Acute Respiratory illness (fever AND cough and/or shortness of breath).
- v. Asymptomatic direct and high-risk contacts of a confirmed case should be tested once between day 5 and day 14 of coming in

his/her contact. Direct and high-risk contact include

- those who live in the same household with a confirmed case and
- healthcare workers who examined a confirmed case without adequate protection as per WHO recommendations.

Above mentioned testing guidelines may be followed in letter and spirit.

N. J. ...
21/3/20.
Spl. Secy. (H)-cum-Mission Director
National Health Mission
Himachal Pradesh

MISSION DIRECTOR (NHM)

21 MAR 2020

New Shimla-9 (H.P.)

Endst. No. As above dated Shimla-9 the
Copy to:

1. The ACS (Health) to the Govt. of H.P. for information please.
2. All the Deputy Commissioners, in H.P. for information please.
3. The Director Health Services, H.P. for information please.
4. The Director Medical Education, H.P. for information please.

N. J. ...
21/3/20.
Spl. Secy. (H)-cum-Mission Director
National Health Mission
Himachal Pradesh

INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH

Revised Strategy of COVID19 testing in India (Version 3, dated 20/03/2020)

Background:

WHO declared an outbreak of febrile respiratory illness of unknown etiology in December 2019 from Wuhan, Hubei province of China. Since its emergence, the disease rapidly spread to neighboring provinces of China as well as to 182 other countries. Infection is spread through droplets of an infected patient generated by coughing and sneezing or through prolonged contact with infected patients.

Currently, India has witnessed cases of COVID19 mostly related to travel and local transmission from imported cases to their immediate contacts. Community transmission of the disease has not been documented till now. Once community transmission is documented, the above testing strategy will undergo changes to evolve into stage appropriate testing strategy.

Advisory for testing are being reviewed and updated periodically (09/03/2020, 16/03/2020 and 20/03/2020). The testing strategy is reviewed by the National Task Force constituted by Secretary DHR & DG, ICMR and Chaired by Prof. V. K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog.

Objectives:

- To contain the spread of infection of COVID19.
- To provide reliable diagnosis to all individuals **meeting the inclusion criteria of COVID19 testing.**

Current testing strategy:

- i. All asymptomatic individuals who have undertaken international travel in the last 14 days:**
 - They should stay in home quarantine for 14 days.
 - They should be tested only if they become symptomatic (fever, cough, difficulty in breathing)
 - All family members living with a confirmed case should be home quarantined
- ii. All symptomatic contacts of laboratory confirmed cases.**
- iii. All symptomatic health care workers.**
- iv. All hospitalized patients with Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (fever AND cough and/or shortness of breath).**
- v. Asymptomatic direct and high-risk contacts of a confirmed case should be tested once between day 5 and day 14 of coming in his/her contact.**
 - Direct and high-risk contact include those who live in the same household with a confirmed case and healthcare workers who examined a confirmed case without adequate protection as per WHO recommendations.