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NOTIFICATION

(Guidelines for Covid-19 test)

No. D. 33011/39/2022-HFW (SOP)/Pt.II (i), the 14th March, 2022: In supersession of this office even no. dated 23.02.2022 and following the recommendations of the State Level Expert Team for Covid-19 Management meeting dated 23.02.2022, the following guidelines are hereby notified for strict compliance by all concerned with immediate effect until further order:-

1. **Persons to be tested for Covid-19:** All persons belonging to the following categories shall be tested for Covid-19 as follows:
 - 1.1 All persons entering the State of Mizoram, as per the standing SOP, **Revised Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Covid-19 tests at the entry points of the State of Mizoram** issued vide No. **D.33011/39/2021-HFW (SOP)/Pt.4/H:** dt. 14.10.2021 for screening at Entry Points.
 - 1.2 All persons who have **symptoms of Covid-19** (regardless of vaccination status of prior Covid-19 infection, etc), such as fever, sore throat, cough, rhinitis, diarrhoea, anosmia (reduced or loss of sense of smell) and shortness of breath (SOB), should be tested immediately with Rapid Antigen Test (**RAgT**).
 - 1.3 **Primary High-Risk Contact:**
 - A. **Primary High-Risk Contact living with Covid 19 patient in the same household**
 - i. **Asymptomatic Primary High-Risk Contact** does not need Covid-19 testing but should monitor their health in home quarantine for 7 (seven) days from the last day of contact with Covid-19 positive person.
If symptoms develop during quarantined period, the person shall be tested with RAgT. If RAgT is negative, RT-PCR/Truenat test should be conducted immediately. If RT-PCR/Truenat test is negative again, the person shall continue to be quarantined for 7 (seven) days from the last day of contact with Covid-19 positive person.
 - ii. Even if asymptomatic, elderly patients aged more than 60 years and those with co-morbid conditions such as Hypertension, Diabetes, Heart Disease, Chronic Lung/Liver/Kidney Disease, Cerebrovascular accident, Cancer, Transplant patient, PLHIV etc. should be tested with RT-PCR/Truenat test within 5 to 7 days from the last day of contact with Covid-19 positive person.
 - iii. **Discharge protocol for primary high risk contact living with covid 19 positive in the same household (Home Isolation)**
 - a) **A covid-19 positive family member in home isolation may be discharged from home isolation after 7 days of being tested Covid-19 positive (provided that he/she does not develop fever within 3 days before the 7th day of being tested positive) even if other members of the family who are also in Home Isolation starts to develop Covid-19 symptom and are tested Covid-19 positive.**

- b) ***If symptom does not develop after 7 days of Isolation, such family put in home isolation may be discharged from home isolation.***

B. For Contacts not living with Covid-19 patient in the same household:

- i. Asymptomatic Primary High Risk contact does not need Covid-19 testing and home quarantine, but monitor their health and follow Covid-19 Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) strictly. If symptom develops, the person shall be quarantined immediately and tested with RAgT. If RAgT is negative, RT-PCR/Truenat test should be conducted immediately. The person shall continue to be quarantined for 7 (seven) days even if RT-PCR/Truenat test is negative.
- ii. Even if Asymptomatic, elderly patients aged more than 60 years and those with co-morbid conditions such as Hypertension, Diabetes, Heart Disease, Chronic Lung/Liver/Kidney Disease, Cerebrovascular accident, Cancer, Transplant patient, PLHIV etc. should be quarantined and tested with RT-PCR/Truenat test within 5 to 7 days from the last day of contact with Covid-19 positive person.

C. Testing of Covid-19 recovered patient

It is found that traces of Covid-19 virus can still remain in the body of a recovered Covid-19 patient till 3 (three) months from being discharged, which may be detected by RT-PCR test. Hence, if such person is a primary/high risk contact, he/she shall not be tested for 3 months after discharge if he/she does not develop any covid-19 symptom. Moreover, even if such person develops Covid-19 symptoms test shall be conducted only in consultation with his/her Doctor (Medical Officer)

- 1.4 Persons who have been advised by their healthcare provider or authority concerned for Covid-19 test.

2. Testing:

- 2.1 Record of sample collection shall include the **date and time** (hour and minutes) of the collection and the same shall also be indicated in the Test result/certificate.
- 2.2 **Confirmatory test (re-test) is not required for any positive RAgT test result.**
- 2.3 If the result of RAgT test of a **symptomatic person is negative**, he/she should be tested again with RT-PCR / TrueNat immediately.
- 2.4 If any **symptomatic person** tested **negative** with RT-PCR/ TrueNat has **fever with temperature of > 100.40 F, or SpO2 (blood oxygen level) of <93% or worsening cough**, he/ she should be referred to the **nearest Hospital/ Doctor.**
- 2.5 **All positive and negative results** of covid-19 tests shall be **uploaded** in the **ICMR portal** by the testing agency **on the same day of the test** positively.
- 2.6 **All persons tested positive for Covid-19 by any method**, including, **self-test**, shall report the matter to the Local/ village Level Task Force concerned, and **seek/follow advice** from the nearest CMO/MO concerned or the Helpline at telephone Nos. 102/ 0389 2323336 / 0389 2322336 / 0389 2318336.
3. **No dead body of any person should be tested for Covid-19.**

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