



GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

File No. HFW-SCH-I-COVID-0030-2021- 19678 /H Dated, 13-07-2021

From

Shri P.K. Mohapatra, IAS,
Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

To

The Director, RMRC, Bhubaneswar

The Director, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar

The Director, ILS, Bhubaneswar

The Director, IISER, Berhampur

The Director IGH, Rourkela

The Prof. HOD, Deptt. of Microbiology, SCB MCH, Cuttack / MKCG
MCH, Berhampur / VIMSAR, Burla / BB MCH, Bolangir / SLN MCH, Koraput /
PRM MCH, Baripada / FM MCH, Balasore

The DPHO & Microbiologist Puri / Jharsuguda / Angul / Keonjhar / Deogarh /
Kalahandi / Nayagarh / Nawarangpur

The Prof. HOD, Deptt. of Microbiology, HITECH MCH / SUM MCH

The Proprietor / Microbiologist, in-DNA-P / REDCLIFF-G / ZEUSNJOVE-G /
SUM-G / VIKASH MSH-G / inDNA-G / REDCLIFF-P / APOLLO / SUM-P /
Gen-X / ZEUSNJOVE-P / VIKASH MSH-P / TATA MEDICA / TRIVENI-P

Sub:- Preservation of Covid-19 positive samples and sharing of information on the backlog data to the corresponding districts for entry into ICMR portal.

Madam/Sir,

With reference to the topics cited above, I would like to draw your kind attention to immediate implementation at your level to facilitate proper documentation of the testing data of the state and preservation of the Covid-19 positive sample for genomic sequencing as per the ICMR guideline.

1. In the " Genomic Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 in India, Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Consortium-INSACOG jointly issued by MOHFW, DBT and ICMR clear-cut guidelines have been issued regarding collection and preservation of the Covid-19 positive samples (Annexure-1).

To reiterate some points like preservation of the positive samples is to be done at – 80 degree Celsius in the deep freezer provided. In the districts like

Deogarh and Nayagarh having no - 80 degree Celsius in the deep freezer the samples can be preserved in - 20 degree C for up to 3 months. The Laboratories with high positive case load facing storage space constraint are advised to preserve the samples in 1ml. aliquots instead of the VTM. By this much more number of samples can be stored for future reference studies.

2. There has been a wide discrepancy in the testing data entry in ICMR Portal and IDSP Portal by the districts. It may be due to varied reasons like -non entry of the negative results, sending multiple samples in one SRF Id, not mentioning a repeat sample in case of RAT test done and result already uploaded in the Portal, inconclusive result, insufficient sample and so on. So, please validate the data and send it to the corresponding districts in Excel Sheets so that it can be entered into the portal at the district level at the earliest.

This may kindly be treated as **most urgent**.

Memo No. 19679 /H

Copy forwarded to the MD,NHM(O) / DHS(O) / DPH(O) / DMET(O) for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,
13/07/2021
Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Dated, 13-07-2021

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