



## COVID-19 Outbreak Control and Prevention State Cell

### Health & Family Welfare Department

#### Government of Kerala

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#### **Advisory on testing of Expatriates screened positive for IgM at Airport**

No 31/ F2/2020/ Health- 25<sup>th</sup> June2020

The Government Order (Rt) No 380/2020/NORKA dated 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020 has been issued to screen expatriates arriving at airports in Kerala with the Antibody tests. In this context, following advisory is issued regarding testing of expatriates who screened positive for IgM at the airports in Kerala

1. Passengers should be given priority for IgM Antibody testing to following categories by having an independent counter.
  - a Pregnant women, Postnatal women with neonates
  - b Children less than 10 yrs
  - c Challenged passengers and differently able passengers
  - d Passengers with severe comorbidity
  - e Elderly
  - f Family members accompanying any of the above mentioned passengers
2. All symptomatic people arriving at airport need to be isolated to COVID hospital/ CFLTC irrespective of antibody test results.
3. All those tested negatives for IgM shall be sent to home for strict quarantine as per existing protocol following 'sanitised corridor'
4. All those who found positive for IgM antibody need to be shifted to COVID Care Centres with individual rooms and attached bathrooms.
5. Nasopharyngeal swab need to be collected from those tested positive for IgM and sent to laboratory for RTPCR test as follows. Priority samples (Samples of pregnant women, postnatal, children < 10yrs, handicapped, elderly may be tested using Xpert/Trunat machines available at district for speedy decision making). Write in SRF as IgM positive.



## 6. Laboratory to which sample needed to be sent for confirmation

Airport	Laboratory to which sample for RTPCR to be sent (from those with IgM Positive)	Xpert/Truenat Laboratory for samples from priority groups (Pregnancy, Children, Elderly) who were IgM positive
Trivandrum International Airport	Sree Chitra Institute of Medical Sciences	State PH Lab Thiruvananthapuram  Government Medical College Thiruvananthapuram
Cochin International Airport	RGCB, Thiruvananthapuram	GMC Ernakulam  Regional PH Lab, Ernakulam
Calicut International Airport	GMC Kozhikode	Regional PH Lab, Kozhikode  GMC Kozhikode  GMC Manjeri
Kannur International Airport	MCC Pariyaram	MCC Pariyaram  Regional PH Lab, Kannur

7. If the passengers found negative on RTPCR and if asymptomatic, they can be sent home for quarantine at home following protocol and 'sanitised corridor'
8. If found positive on RTPCR and symptomatic, they need to be isolated at COVID Hospital and if found positive on RTPCR and asymptomatic they need to be isolated at CFLTC based on existing protocol.
9. Sufficient HR to be ensured at all testing laboratories from NHM/HMC to run the tests for 24 hours.
10. Since these are samples of IgM positive individuals, pooling of samples should not be done.
11. Laboratories are also advised to fastrack the sample of expatriates and provide results at the earliest.

  
**Principal Secretary**