



COMMISSIONER, BRUHAT BANGALORE MAHANAGARA PALIKE

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No: COMM/CWR/SoP-RAPID ANTIGEN TESTING/2020-21

Date: 16-07-2020

SoP – Rapid Antigen Testing

The Government of Karnataka has given Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) 50,000 Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) kits to identify COVID-19 Positive cases, trace their contacts and isolate them at the earliest to break the chain of transmission of the virus. These Rapid Antigen Testing kits are distributed to the Zonal Command Centres (ZCC) and the PHCs in the jurisdiction of BBMP and Bengaluru Urban district.

It is important to have a clear strategy for carrying out testing, target the right population to reduce the fatality rate and also, have effective containment of the spread of the pandemic in the city. The rationale¹ for identification of the target population can be on the following lines:

- >50% of symptomatic individuals are Positive - 50% lesser RT-PCRs in this group.
- Test positivity rates among asymptomatic are <10% (cumulative figures since the start of RAT).
- Symptomatic individuals must be targeted- especially those in whom a quick decision will aid in decision-making - reducing deaths and exposure of other individuals to these patients:
 - a. All SARI Cases.
 - b. People with co-morbidities with ILI symptoms.
 - c. Senior citizens (above 60 years) with ILI symptoms.
 - d. Pregnant Women.
 - e. Lactating mothers with ILI symptoms.
 - f. Frontline workers with ILI (both by symptoms and on a routine/scheduled basis as well).
- Wards with high numbers of Positive Cases / Streets or micro-areas within wards / Slums and Clusters / Congested areas shall be prioritized for testing. The list of

¹ With inputs from the Data Analysis Team of BBMP COVID-19 War Room on the lines of Adaptive Stratified Random Sampling Method and the development team of Aarogya Setu App for MoHFW.

Containment zones and the spread of Positive Cases in the wards shall guide this entire exercise of strategic identification of the target population.

- Actionable Hotspots as identified and shared from the BBMP War Room can be considered in the process of identification.
- Due care shall be taken to ensure there is no mixing of symptomatic patients and asymptomatic suspected patients at the Swab Collection Centres.

Following discussion with the Task Force Team Leader for Testing and Team members during the 09:00 am Inter-departmental Coordination Meeting at the BBMP War Room on 16.07.2020, these general guidelines are issued for implementation of the Rapid Antigen Testing in the jurisdiction of BBMP and Bengaluru Urban district:

1. Primarily, Testing / Swab Collection has to be decentralized. For this, the swab collection center is to be established in Booth Level.
2. A dedicated Nodal Officer should be deputed at the ZCC for close monitoring of this specific task.
3. Zone-wise PHC and hospital information are to be collected. Swab Collection Centres are mapped within the wards and Zonal Command Centres under the direction of Zonal Coordinators shall identify the wards with high intensity/occurrence of COVID-19 Positive Cases in the last 2 weeks.
4. Persons with ILI / SARI symptoms shall be tested at the Fever Clinics and Primary Health Centres. ILI / SARI data needs to be collected from all the establishments registered under KPME, which is currently done by the KPME portal and Taskforce Team on Testing shall use this information.
5. It is the responsibility of the Booth level teams to identify and direct Primary Contacts of ILIs / SARI cases for testing to such centers.
6. Mobile teams shall be formed constituting a Lab Technician and an Assistant. They shall be placed at the disposal of the Zonal Command Centres. Mobile teams to be provided with the necessary kits (swabs for RT-PCR test or kits for Rapid Antigen Test).
7. Containment Zone swab collection is to be done in Containment Zone only. Mobile Medical Units must be utilized for this.





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8. Data entry must be done simultaneously. Jurisdictional PHCs will be the nodal point for monitoring and updating the same to the Zonal Command Centers.
9. BBMP Zonal Command Centres to identify Science graduates who can be trained as Swab collectors & deployed. For the training of such personnel, the Nodal Officers at the ZCC shall contact Ms. Pramila, Microbiologist, State Surveillance Unit, Phone No. 94813-75122 & Ms. Manjushree, Entomologist, Bengaluru, Phone No. 94494-84612.
10. The Circular issued by the Commissionerate of Health & Family Welfare Services, Government of Karnataka No: SSU/COVID-19/19/2020-21 dated 16.07.2020 is annexed here for more information to the Surveillance Officers and teams.

This SOP is issued for immediate action and necessary compliance of all concerned Officials and Health department staff in BBMP. Zonal Command Centers and Booth level teams shall train and implement the testing activities on these lines at the field level.

B H Anil Kumar IAS

Commissioner,

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike.

Copy to the following for information and necessary action:

1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
2. Worshipful Mayor, BBMP.
3. Hon'ble Dy. Mayor, BBMP.
4. ACS, Home Department, Government of Karnataka.
5. ACS, Health & Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka.
6. The Commissioner, Health, and Family Welfare Department.
7. Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru City.
8. Task Force teams appointed vide Order No. RD 158 TNR 2020 dated 15-06-2020.
9. Special Officers Deputed by GoK for Zonal Monitoring (COVID-19).
10. All Special Commissioners, BBMP.
11. Special Officer, War Room, BBMP, and MD, Bengaluru Smart City Limited.
12. All Zonal Joint Commissioners, BBMP.
13. CHO, Public Health & CHO, Clinical, and All Health Officers concerned for immediate action and compliance.
14. All Zonal Chief Engineers.
15. PRO, BBMP to inform all Standing Committee Chairpersons, BBMP, and Elected Representatives.
16. Office copy.