



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

National Health Mission

Directorate of Health & Family Welfare Services

1st Floor, Arogya Saudha, Magadi Road, Bangalore-23

No:NHM/12/MDNHM/2020-21

Date: 13-11-2020

CIRCULAR

Sub : Guidelines regarding Sample collection and packaging for testing by pooling

Ref : Circular No: NVBDCP/EST7C/COVID-19/20-21 dtd: 22-10-2020

In continuation to the circular mentioned in the reference regarding pooling of COVID samples from talukas where the positivity rate is <5%, a spreadsheet for sharing the data of both taluk wise sample collection with number of proposed samples for pooling and testing details at COVID lab has already been shared and instructed to update the same on daily basis. Though most of the districts are entering the data in the spreadsheet with few defaulters, testing laboratories are not able to update the data of taluk-wise testing under pooling. It is learnt from the testing laboratories that they are not receiving any relevant details along with the samples.

Hence, it is hereby instructed to follow the below guidelines while shifting the sample to lab for COVID testing.

1. Inform all the swab collectors if their Taluka/zone is notified for pooling based on the last one week's positivity rate (should be <5%).
2. Train the swab collectors to segregate the samples at the point of collection as below:
 - a. **Category A**, should include the samples from all **symptomatic** individuals, dead patients and primary contacts of known positives.
 - i. Note: Only close contacts like family members should be considered in this category.
 - b. **Category B**, should include samples from all other **asymptomatic** individuals.
3. Box containing Category B samples should be labeled as below:

"Samples for Pooling"
"Name of the Taluk: XYZ"

Hence, it is hereby instructed to implement the above with immediate effect and to update the pooling details on the spreadsheet on daily basis without fail.

The web link for updating the spread sheet is as below:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1VIBuuDjpE0uOjoGx4DKnJb2XRzbFHNYH/view?usp=sharing>


13/11/20
Mission Director,

National health Mission, Bengaluru

To,

1. The Commissioner, BBMP.
2. The Deputy Commissioners, All Districts
3. The Chief Executive Officers, Zilla Panchayat, All Districts.
4. The District Health & family Welfare Officers, All Districts
5. The District Surgeons, All Districts
6. The Dean cum Directors, Medical Colleges
7. The President – IMA, IAP, PHANA for circulation to all the members & Heads of all Private medical establishments.