Circular

Sub: Revised Lab Testing Protocol – COVID – 19
Ref: D.O.No. R15013/01/2020-HR-VRDL ,
Dated: 21/3/2020 of ICMR.

Dear All,

In view of evolving situation of COVID-19 in Karnataka, the revised testing strategy is given below:

i. ALL symptomatic persons (fever, cough, difficulty in breathing) within 14 days of international travel.
ii. ALL symptomatic contacts of confirmed cases.
iii. ALL symptomatic healthcare workers.
iv. All hospitalized patients with Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (fever AND cough, and/or shortness of breath) – After ruling out other causes.
v. Asymptomatic direct and high-risk contacts of a confirmed case should be tested once between day 5 and day 14 of coming in his / her contact. Direct and high-risk contact include

- Those who live in the same household with a confirmed case, and
- Healthcare workers who examined a confirmed case without adequate protection as per WHO recommendations.
- Arrangements have to be made by DSU for above to collect samples from their home through microbiologist by following protocols for all the reported positive cases in your District.

To:
1. All District Health & FW Officers.
2. All District Surveillance Officers- to take necessary actions.

Copy for kind information:
1. Addl. Chief Secretary, Health & FW. Dept, Vikasa Soudha, Bengaluru.
2. The Commissioner, Heath & FW Services, Anandarao Circle, Bengaluru.