

**Fixation of rate for conducting
RtPCR Covid-19 test in NABL &
ICMR approved private laboratories**

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

Public Health Department,
G.T. Hospital Compound, 10th Floor,
Mantralaya, Mumbai-400 001

No. Corona-2020/C.R.123/Arogya-5, Date: 13 June, 2020.

- Ref: 1) ICMR's D.O letter No. ECD/COVID-19/MISC/2020, dated 25.05.2020
2) Public Health Department, GOM, Government Resolution No. Corona-2020/C.R.123/Arogya-5, dated 02.06.2020

ORDER

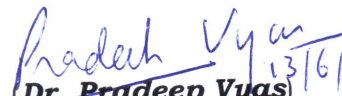
The Covid-19 pandemic not only presents a public health Crisis but also imposes a great financial hardship on most of the vulnerable population. Presently in Maharashtra there are 53 Government laboratories which are mostly in the Medical colleges, State Government Hospitals and institutions and 43 private laboratories which are NABL accredited and approved by ICMR for testing the samples for Covid-19. As per ICMR circular issued on 17th March, 2020, RtPCR testing for Covid-19 was made available through private laboratories and upper limit of single test charge was capped at Rs 4500/-. Meanwhile RtPCR testing kits are now being manufactured in India and are readily available and hence ICMR vide letter dated 25th May, 2020 has communicated to States to negotiate and fix mutually agreeable price for RtPCR tests for Covid-19.

2. Hence vide Government resolution dated 2nd June, 2020 a committee was constituted to fix the rate for RtPCR test in the State of Maharashtra for Covid-19 to be done in the private laboratories. The committee discussed the issue with private laboratories and submitted its report to the Government. Based on the report State Government exercising the powers bestowed under the Epidemic Act, 1897 directs that no private laboratory should charge any amount more than indicated below for RtPCR test for Covid-19 in the State of Maharashtra.

Sr No.	Particulars	Rates per test (in Rs.)
1	Pickup of sample from collection site, Transportation and Reporting (including all charges)	2200/-
2	Collection of sample from patient's residence / Health care facility, Transportation & Reporting (including all charges)	2800/-

- i. All the testing protocols as laid down by ICMR and the Government of India from Time to Time shall be followed by the Private laboratories.
- ii. The Private Laboratories shall share the data pertaining to the results of these tests for Covid-19 with state Government and ICMR on a real time basis through ICMR portal (cvanalytics). Any violation of the same shall lead to suspension or cancellation of permission to carryout RtPCR Tests.
- iii. All the private NABL & ICMR approved Labs are instructed that, information of the patients should be maintained with utmost confidentiality. All the private Covid-19 testing labs must preserve the RtPCR machine generated data and graphs for future verification by the State Government. The labs are also instructed to display the rates in visible manner.
- iv. The management of approved private lab should appoint a Nodal Officer from their side and submit their details to the concerned Municipal Commissioner and/or district Collectors.
- v. Municipal Commissioner & District Collectors should develop mechanism to collect the samples of the eligible person as per the prevalent testing criteria and also should appoint a Nodal Officer for smooth operation
- vi. Concerned authorities (if applicable in case of certain Municipal Corporation/ Districts) shall expedite processing of the pending bills of private laboratories.
- vii. All the private NABL & ICMR approved labs, in the state are directed to follow the above guidelines scrupulously.
- viii. All the District collectors and Municipal commissioners in the state shall monitor the above labs closely, enforce the rates strictly by giving wide publicity on the issue of Covid-19 tests by the Private NABL & ICMR approved labs in the state.
- ix. The new revised rates would be effective from 14th June, 2020.

By Order and in the Name of the Governor of Maharashtra


Dr. Pradeep Vyas
Principal Secretary

Copy to:

Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra.
Additional Chief Secretary to Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra.
Secretary to Dy. Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra
Private Secretary to Health Minister, Government of Maharashtra
Secretary, Department of Medical Education and Drugs, Ministry, Mumbai
Commissioner, Health Services and Director, National Health Mission, Mumbai
District Collector (All)
Municipal Commissioner (All)
Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad (All)
Director, Health Services, Mumbai and Pune