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कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

Indian Council of Medical Research
Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health
and Family Welfare, Government of India

To,
Mr. Anurag Ahluwalia,
A 46, LGF,
Defence Colony,
New Dehi-10024.

No. 477/Legal Cell/2020

Dated 20th July, 2020

Sub: ICMR's clarification of the letter No. F. 253/DGHS/PHW-IV/COVID-19/NCDC Lab/2020/ss3hfw/504 dated 17th July, 2020 of Govt. of NCT of Delhi-regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the above mentioned subject and to say that in response to your letter No. F. 253/DGHS/PHW-IV/COVID-19/NCDC Lab/2020/ss3hfw/504 dated 17th July, 2020 it is submitted that currently, the strategy for COVID-19 testing in India is focused on testing symptomatic individuals, close contacts of lab confirmed cases and high risk individuals pre-op, immune compromised etc. Opening up testing for all asymptomatic will create an un-necessary burden on labs which will lead to missing of individuals who are in actual need of the test. To maintain these checks and balances, testing has been recommended for eligible individuals coming with due prescription. Recently, ICMR has sent a letter dated 01.07.2020 to States/UTs advising to allow private practitioner also to advice testing based on ICMR criteria. This move is expected to liberalize testing.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. R. Lakshminarayanan
Assistant Director General (Admn.)

Copy to:-

1. PS to D.G., ICMR/Sr. D.D.G. (A), ICMR/Addl. D.G., ICMR/Head (ECD), ICMR.

वी. रामलिंगस्वामी भवन, पोस्ट बॉक्स नं. 4911,
अंसाही नगर, नई दिल्ली - 110 029, भारत
V. Ramalingaswami Bhawan, P.O. Box No. 4911,
Ansaahi Nagar, New Delhi - 110 029, India

Tel: +91-11-26588895 / 26588980 / 26589794
+91-11-26589336 / 26588707
Fax: +91-11-26588662 | icmr.nic.in