Sub: Xpert-SARS-CoV-Testing

Xpert-SARS-CoV testing have been initiated in the following laboratories in Kerala.

1. GMC Thiruvananthapuram
2. GMC Ernakulam
3. GMC Kozhikode

Xpert-SARS-CoV is a confirmatory RTPCR test. The results could be obtained in 45 minutes.

ONLY the following samples with emergency nature to be processed using Xpert-SARS-CoV-Tests.

1. Any COVID suspect for whom an emergency surgery is planned
2. Any COVID suspected death which requires testing for further actions
3. Any symptomatic health care worker who worked in a setting with high exposure to COVID-19
4. Any sick patients with SARI for whom an early test results will have a role in clinical management.

All other samples need to be processed using In-house PCR.

Sample Collection: Only Nasopharyngeal swabs to be collected and placed in 3ml Viral transport medium for testing using Xpert- SARS-CoV2. The vial with the sample needs to be maintained in storage condition of 15-30°C up-to 8 hours. If delay of more than 8 hours is expected sample to be stored at 2-8°C. Basic triple packaging as advised by WHO should be followed for transport of samples

Labelling of Samples: Samples in this category need to labelled as “For Xpert” along with the other details routinely written.

Test Request: Along with routine ICMR test request, the request for Xpert also need to be filled for those samples for which an Xpert test is requested. (annexure-1).
Annexure 1: Government of Kerala
COVID-19 testing USING **XPERT**

SAMPLE ID NO: _________/ ________/_______ (DISTRICT /DATE/SAMPLE NO.)
[ eg. PKD / 24-04-2020/ 01]

**Type of Sample:** Nasopharyngeal swab

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Gender: Male/ Female/ Other</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age:</td>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>District Phone Number:</td>
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</table>

**Name of LSG**

1. Is the subject Symptomatic/ Asymptomatic? ___________________

2. If Symptomatic; data of onset of first symptoms: ____/___/________

3. Which Out of the four groups the sample belongs to? **CIRCLE**

<table>
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<th>Group</th>
<th>Description</th>
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