

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES**  
**HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATION BRANCH, GRANTHAGAR BHAVAN**  
**SWASTHYA BHAVAN, GN 29, SECTOR V, BIDHANNAGAR**

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Memo no- Hfw-40012/11/2021-HA/355

Date – 10.06.2021

**ORDER**

As part of ongoing Quality Assurance programme, Microbiological surveillance of Labour room, Operation Theatre, CCU and SNCU are routinely done for all secondary tier facilities (DH/ SDH/ SGH/ SSH/ De Centralised Hospitals).

Similarly, implementation of microbiological surveillance of Labour room and Operation theatre of Rural Hospitals and BPHCs was under active consideration of this Department for a long time. Now, after careful consideration of the above matter, it has been decided that Rural Hospitals and BPHCs will have to get swab cultures of their Labour room and Operation theatre (if functional) tested every month. Samples are to be sent to their nearest District Hospitals/ Multi/Super Speciality Hospitals where MO (Microbiology) are posted.

For Districts, where there is a Medical College but no District Hospital, and if no MO Microbiology is posted in any SDH/SSH within the District, in case of those Districts only, samples are to be sent to Microbiology Departments of nearest Medical Colleges,.

Hospitals where MO (Microbiology) are posted will have to develop their own system for testing of swab samples sent from RH/ BPHCs. Already fund for microbiological surveillance has been given to all Hospitals of secondary tier., out of which such arrangements can be made. Once the system is stabilized, secondary tier facilities will also start sending swab samples to these hospitals.


CMOHs of Districts will arrange to issue an order mentioning roster of specific days of a month in which swab samples are to be sent by RH/BPHCs within the District.


The following guidelines are hereby issued for implementation of microbiological surveillance for the RH/ BPHCs which are now included for swab testing -

1. The swabs for microbiological examination must be collected from –
  - (i) Labour room – maximum 5 samples
    - Middle portion of Labour table
    - Foot end of Labour table
    - Floor area beneath Labour table
    - Floor area close to the entrance to LR
    - Radiant warmer
  - (ii) Operation theatre - maximum 5 samples
    - Middle portion of OT table
    - Floor area beneath OT table
    - Floor area close to the entrance to OT
    - Shelf or platform over which sterilised drums are kept
2. The swabs must be collected monthly and are to be sent in poly-propylene test tubes with cotton swabs available in pre sterilized packs or in test tubes sterilized by hot air oven as directed by MO Microbiology. Procedure of collection, transport of swabs and time of submission after collection may be finalised after prior discussion with the MO Microbiology
3. The swab culture reports are to be sent by Superintendent of DH/SDH/SSH or by Head of the Department of Microbiology, of respective Medical Colleges, by email, in the mail address of the RH/ BPHCs from where samples have been sent for testing.
4. Definitive action is to be taken by the RH/ BPHC depending on the culture swab test report.
5. A register is to be maintained for the same.
6. The Infection Control Committee , Infection Control Team and Infection Control Nurse of every RH/BPHC under NQAP will supervise the implementation of the system and place the reports in the monthly meetings and discuss steps needed as and when necessary.

7. Report return has to be submitted monthly to District Quality Assurance Unit (DQAU) e, which will compile and send a consolidated report to State level.
8. Any fund required for logistics support may be met out of own available fund.

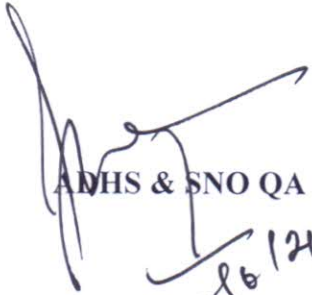
This has approval of Secretary and Mission Director, National Health Mission.

  
**Director of Medical Education**  
**West Bengal**

  
**Director of Health Services**  
**West Bengal**

**Memo no- K W - 40012/11/2021 - KA/355/1 (11) Date - 10.06.2021**  
Copy for information and n.a.to-

1. MD NHM
2. SS MERT
3. MSVP- all Medical Colleges
4. Head of the Department - Microbiology Department – all Medical Colleges
5. DDHS Admin
6. CMOH –all Districts
7. Superintendent- all District Hospitals/ De Centralised Hospitals
8. Superintendent – all SDH/SGH/SSHs
9. BMOH- all
10. District Consultants under Quality Assurance
11. State Consultants under Quality Assurance.

  
**ADHS & SNO QA**  
10/6/21