



COVID-19 Outbreak Control and Prevention State Cell
Health & Family Welfare Department
Government of Kerala

Truenat Beta CoV Testing at Government Laboratories

NO: 31/F2/2020/Health- 25th May 2020

Truenat Beta CoV Testing shall be initiated in the following laboratories in Kerala.

1	GMC Thiruvananthapuram
2	GMC Kollam
3	TD Medical College, Alappuzha
4	GMC Idukki
5	GMC Kottayam
6	GMC Thrissur
7	GMC Kozhikode
7	DTC Palakkad
9	GMC Manjeri
10	Regional PH Lab, Kollam
11	Regional PH Lab, Kannur
12	PH Lab, Thiruvanthapuram
13	Regional PH Lab Pathanamthitta
14	PH Lab, Sulthan Batheri, Wayand
15	GH, Kasaragod
16	Regional PH Lab, Kozhikode
17	Regional PH Lab Ernakulam
18	District Hospital Palakkad

Truenat Beta CoV Step 1 testing is confirmatory for negative test. However, **all positive tests to be confirmed by a separate RTPCR (Open RTPCR/ Xpert test) or Step 2 confirmatory assay for RdRp gene in Truenat machine itself.**

ONLY the following samples to be processed using Truenat Tests.

1. Symptomatic pregnant mothers who are COVID suspects
2. Asymptomatic Pregnant Mothers with travel history outside Kerala, between 5-14 days on arrival in Kerala.

In addition to that, following samples with **Emergency nature** shall be processed



3. Any **COVID suspect** for whom an emergency surgery is planned
4. Any **COVID suspected** death which requires testing for further actions

Sample Collection: Oropharyngeal or nasopharyngeal swab specimen must be collected as per standard procedures using a standard nylon flocked swab. Insert the swab with specimen into the Transport Medium for Swab Specimen Tube provided and mix well by repeatedly twirling the swab in the buffer solution. Gently break the handle of the nylon swab at the break point, leaving the swab containing the specimen in the Transport Medium for Swab Specimen Tube. Tightly close the cap of the Transport Medium for Swab Specimen Tube. Specimen need to be collected ONLY in the VTM with virus lysis buffer provided with the kit.

Sample Storage and Transportation: Basic triple packaging as advised by WHO should be followed for transport of samples

Labelling of Samples: Samples in this category need to be labelled as "**For Truenat**" along with the other details routinely written.

Test Request: Along with routine ICMR test request, the **request for Truenat also need** to be filled for those samples for which a Truenat test is requested. (annexure-1). For specimens of asymptomatic pregnant mothers, **POOLED** need to be written on Viral Transport Medium.

Test: Laboratories shall follow standard process prescribed by the manufacturer. ICMR guidelines to be followed while performing the tests.

Pooled Testing: Samples from asymptomatic pregnant women shall be pooled, a maximum of 5 at a time. If negative, individual results may be reported as negative. If positive, each sample in the pool may need to be processed individually.

Transportation of Positive samples for confirmation of results: Laboratories need to send the positive samples to the RTPCR laboratory allotted for the district for confirmation (Annexure 2) till RdRp gene confirmatory assay in Truenat machine is available. District Health Administration may support the laboratories in transporting the samples.

Registration and Reporting: All Laboratories performing Truenat need to obtain login credentials at ICMR portal. Contact email Id for obtaining login ID and password for ICMR site is support.dmu@bmi.icmr.org.in. Kindly attach the letter of permission from Government while applying to ICMR. In addition laboratories need to register for Truenat at Government of Kerala portal <https://healthmon.kerala.gov.in/rapidtest/>.



TB Testing: Specimens for TB diagnosis from persons on quarantine/ COVID suspects shall also be processed using the Truenat machine using TB testing chip.

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'Rajin'.

Principal Secretary



**Annexure 1: Government of Kerala
COVID-19 testing USING Truenat**

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

Type of Sample: Nasopharyngeal/Oropharyngeal swab

Type of Testing: POOLED SAMPLE/ INDIVIDUAL TESTING

Name:		
Age:		Gender: Male/ Female/ Other
Address		
District		Phone Number:
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**

Group	
1	Pregnant mothers
2	Any COVID suspect for whom an emergency surgery is planned
3	Any COVID suspected death which requires testing for further actions
4	Others

Name of Referring Doctor:

Phone Number:



Annexure 2: Laboratories to where samples need to be sent for Confirmation

	Truenat Lab	Lab to which positive samples need to be sent for confirmation
1	GMC Thiruvananthapuram	GMC Thiruvananthapuram
2	GMC Kollam	RGCB Thiruvananthapuram
3	TD Medical College, Alappuzha	NIV Alappuzha
4	GMC Idukki	IUCBR Kottayam
5	GMC Kottayam	GMC Kottayam
6	GMC Thrissur	GMC Thrissur
7	GMC Kozhikode	GMC Kozhikode
7	DTC Palakkad	GMC Thrissur
9	GMC Manjeri	GMC Manjeri
10	Regional PH Lab, Kollam	RGCB Thiruvananthapuram
11	Regional PH Lab, Kannur	GMC Kannur
12	PH Lab, Thiruvanthapuram	SPHL Thiruvananthapuram
13	Regional PH Lab Pathanamthitta	SPHL Thiruvananthapuram
14	PH Lab, Sulthan Batheri, Wayand	GMC Kozhikode
15	GH Kasaragod	CUK Kasaragod
16	Regional PH Lab, Kozhikode	GMC Kozhikode
17	Regional PH Lab Ernakulam	GMC Ernakulam
18	District Hospital Palakkad	GMC Thrissur