

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**

**HEALTH MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

Order No.101 /COVID-19/2020-21

Date:09.04.2021

**COVID INSTANT ORDER -101**

Sub: HMFWD-COVID19- containment measures to control the spread of Covid19 in the state- certain instructions – reiterated - reg

Ref:- D.O letter from GOI No. Z.28015/66/2021-DMCell 5th April 2021

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The Government of India has indicated that Central multi-disciplinary teams deployed by this Ministry have repeatedly pointed out that the containment operations in many of the districts visited by them are sub-optimal. The Test-Track-Treat strategy for containment is crucial to limit COVID-19 transmission. Failure to do the same can potentially lead to overwhelming of the healthcare systems.

The Government of India has already recommended detailed containment strategy to be adopted at field level for limiting/dampening the COVID-19 transmission in the country and the same was successfully implemented in the state during 2020. However, any failure to undertake effective containment not only allows spread of infection to larger set of population but also leads to late identification, and late hospitalization which in turn leads to increased mortality.

It is accordingly requested that District Collectors need to focus on effective implementation of containment principles not only in pockets reporting higher cases but also where cases may be low presently and may surge in case containment activities are not taken up immediately. The implementation of containment plan in district needs to be monitored on real-time basis at district Command Control centre with dedicated teams. AS you all are aware that the main principles of containment zones are again reiterated as below:

1. COVID-19 containment entails

- formation, training of field-based surveillance teams,
- mapping of new cases,
- mapping of their contacts and their area of influence,
- drawing up perimeter to delineate containment zone,

- active house to house surveillance for undetected cases and contacts,
- follow up of persons under home isolation and home quarantine,
- intensive risk communication to promote adherence to COVID appropriate behaviour and
- early reporting of cases.

2. Containment operations should in compliance with SOPs for containment zone issued by Ministry of health are appended to this order.

3. Containment strategy would work only if there is efficient and strict perimeter control of containment zone. It is therefore crucial to limit people's movement not only across the perimeter but also within the containment zone and allow access primarily for essential services only.

4. Similarly, continuous review of sub-area (urban and rural) wise indicators like case positivity rate, rate of growth of cases, case fatality, doubling rate of cases etc. on a real-time basis is important. There is also need to ensure adequate testing facilities with particular focus on RT-PCR test besides Rapid antigen tests in case of emergency medical needs (RT-PCR test must preferably be more than 90% of the total tests performed).

5. The containment zones delineation is a dynamic exercise and the district should take into account evolving situation, especially the number of cases being reported from outside of containment zones. For example, if the number of new cases being reported from outside of containment zones are increasing, this requires that containment zone need to be redefined.

6. Effective community involvement is the key to success of containment operations. The District Administration should accordingly ensure use of local community volunteers, NCC, SHGs , Local body public representatives as part of containment zone management and implementation.

7. Required training, shall be provided to all surveillance teams, volunteers and community based organizations for containment activities. State and District TOT details availability of trained human resource has also been made available on <https://covidwarriors.gov.in> which can also be made use of. Manuals for orienting these volunteers as well as surveillance teams have been made available on the website of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare It must be ensured that the field-based team are trained and re-trained.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has also developed and issued a model micro-plan for COVID-19 containment which may be utilized in developing district specific plans.

8. In addition, it is important that a district Command Control Operation Centre with a

dedicated team to monitor key indicators should be made operational at the district headquarter level or Municipal Corporation level to provide data driven insights for effective implementation of contains activities.

9. With effective implementation of containment strategies, inculcating covid appropriate behaviour and availability of safe and effective vaccines, District Collectors should uphold the field team's morale and help them to keep the momentum going in covid containment activities.

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