

From

Director General Health Services .
Haryana, Panchkula

To

All Civil Surgeons
Haryana

No. 32/3/IDSP/20/ 2893 - 2914

Dated: 15-05-2020

Subject – Regarding the access to COVID-19 patient laboratory data and to maintain confidentiality of the data.

In reference to the ICMR letter vide dated 8th May, 2020, D.O .No. VIR/4/2020/ECD-(Vol.1)

2. It is informed that the Districts have been provided access to the Covid 19 patient's laboratory data .
3. Accordingly, login credentials have been shared with a primary objective of providing viewership of the data..
4. The data set consists of personal identifiers such as name, sex, place of residence etc. Such personal data is of interest in view of the potential therapeutic options like plasma replacement therapy etc. Besides, this information may be wrongly used to stigmatize the infected individuals and their families. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure that such information can be shared only with relevant health care providers belonging to Districts for contact tracing or providing care.
5. To maintain confidentiality of COVID-19 patients, following measures are to be taken:
 - A. A dedicated area with restricted access should be earmarked for maintaining the data servers.
 - B. Login credentials should only be shared with the concerned key personnel.
 - C. Person accessing data should be sensitized and committed to maintain confidentiality.
 - D. All the written documents should be placed in lock and key. It is advisable that access to these records should be given to only concerned.
 - E. Only limited numbers of trusted individuals should have access to soft-copy of the data.

- F. The data should not be copied in pen-drives or photographed using a mobile phone/camera.
- G. To minimize breach in data and maintain confidentiality, separate back-up of data is discouraged. ICMR is maintaining a robust data backup which can be provided to the State if needed.
- H. All personal identifiers to be removed before sharing data with others.
- I. A close vigil must be maintained for any reports/news of data leakage and quick remedial measures be taken after root cause analysis.
6. Hence, It should be ensured that the above directives are issued to the all concerned facilities and persons managing /dealing with the data of Covid 19 patients.


Director Health Services (IDSP)

Haryana, Panchkula



Endst No. 32/3-IDSP/020- 2915-17

Dated: 15-05-2020

A copy is forwarded to the following for kind information please:

1. Worthy ACS(Health) Haryana
2. M.D NHM -Haryana
3. Director General Health Service-Haryana


Director Health Services (IDSP)

Haryana, Panchkula



Email

dhs.idspdatam@hry.nic.in

Fwd: Urgent/Important letter from Director General, ICMR regarding Directives maintaining confidentiality of COVID-19 positive patients

From : DGHS Haryana <dhs.dghs@hry.nic.in>
Subject : Fwd: Urgent/Important letter from Director General, ICMR regarding Directives maintaining confidentiality of COVID-19 positive patients
To : IDSP SSU Haryana <dhs.idspdatam@hry.nic.in>

Mon, May 11, 2020 09:40 AM

1 attachment

From: acshealth2019@gmail.com
To: "DGHS Haryana" <dhs.dghs@hry.nic.in>
Sent: Saturday, May 9, 2020 1:05:00 PM
Subject: Fwd: Urgent/Important letter from Director General, ICMR regarding Directives maintaining confidentiality of COVID-19 positive patients

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Keshni Anand Arora <cs@hry.nic.in>
Date: Sat, May 9, 2020 at 12:51 PM
Subject: Fwd: Urgent/Important letter from Director General, ICMR regarding Directives maintaining confidentiality of COVID-19 positive patients
To: ACS Health <acshealth2019@gmail.com>, Nitin Kumar Yadav, IAS <ssps@hry.nic.in>, acsmer2016 <acsmer2016@gmail.com>

From: "Secretary DHR" <secy-dg@icmr.gov.in>
To: "healthbih" <health-bih@nic.in>, secretaryhealthcg@gmail.com, "hlthdept fdi" <hlthdept.fdi@gmail.com>, "Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare" <pshealth@mp.gov.in>, phsrajasthan@gmail.com, "Secretary H and FW Deptt Odisha" <orhealth@nic.in>, "psecup health" <psecup.health@gmail.com>, secynkjha@gmail.com, admsecyhealthjk@gmail.com, "Ram Dass Dhiman" <healthsecy-hp@nic.in>, samirksinha69@gmail.com, kalingtayeng@gmail.com, "V. Mang" <mang@nic.in>, pwingty@yahoo.co.in, "fanail" <fanail@ias.nic.in>, himatoz@yahoo.com, secretary-tripura@yahoo.in, "Dr. Rakesh Sarwal" <secy.hfw-tr@gov.in>, healthsecyskm@yahoo.com, "prl secy hmfwap" <prl.sec.y.hmfwap@gmail.com>, "Principal Secretary, HM & FW" <prlsecy_hmfwp@telangana.gov.in>, cohealth@gujarat.gov.in, fchm@hry.nic.in, prs-hfw@karnataka.gov.in, "Secretary CM" <sect-cmo.goa@nic.in>, "Prl Secy Health" <secy.hlth@kerala.gov.in>, "psec pubhealth" <psec.pubhealth@maharashtra.gov.in>, "acs pubhealth" <acs.pubhealth@maharashtra.gov.in>, pstca14@gmail.com, hfwsec@gmail.com, "prin secy wbhealth" <prin.sec.y.wbhealth@gmail.com>, "commr andaman" <commr.andaman@gmail.com>, "Arun Kumar Gupta" <hs-chd@nic.in>, "Maria Celest e Fernandes" <advadmr-dnh@gov.in>, "Advisor to Administrator.." <devcom-dd@nic.in>, "Mrs. Padmini Singla" <pshealth@nic.in>, "Farooq Khan" <lk-admin@nic.in>, "Mihir Vardhan IAS" <lk-advisor@gov.in>, "Secretary to Government Government of Puducherry" <secyfin.pon@nic.in>, "CS AP" <cs@ap.gov.in>, "Chief Secretary Andamans" <cs-

andaman@nic.in, cs-arunachal@nic.in, "Chief Secretary Bihar" cs-bihar@nic.in, "Chief Secretary Office" csoffice.cg@gov.in, "Chief Secretary" cs-go@nic.in, "Shri Vijay Kumar Dev" csdelhi@nic.in, chiefsecretary@gujarat.gov.in, "Keshni Anand Arora" cs@hry.nic.in, "Shri Anand Kumar Khachi" cs-hp@nic.in, "cs-jandk" cs-jandk@nic.in, csjharkhand@nic.in, cs@karnataka.gov.in, "Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala" chiefsecy@kerala.gov.in, "cs" cs@mp.nic.in, cs@maharashtra.gov.in, "cs-manipur" cs-manipur@nic.in, "cso-meg" cso-meg@nic.in, "cs-mizoram" cs-mizoram@nic.in, "Chief Secretary Nagaland" csngl@nic.in, "Chief Secretary Odisha" csori@nic.in, cs-ori@nic.in, "Chief Secretary CS, Puducherry" cs.pon@nic.in, "cs pondicherry" cs.pondicherry@nic.in, "Chief Secretary Punjab" cs@punjab.gov.in, "Prakash" cs-skm@hub.nic.in, cs@tn.gov.in, "Chief Secretary" cs@telangana.gov.in, "cs-tripura" cs-tripura@nic.in, cstripura@gmail.com, "CHIEF SECRETARY GoUP" csup@nic.in, chiefsecyuk@gmail.com, "cs-westbengal" cs-westbengal@nic.in, "Shri Sukhdev Singh" cs-jharkhand@nic.in

Cc: "gupta drnivedita" gupta.drnivedita@gmail.com, "Preeti Sudan" secyhfw@nic.in, aspswcd@gmail.com, balrambhargava@yahoo.com, "Dr. RR Gangakhedkar" rgangakhedkar.hq@icmr.gov.in

Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 7:24:28 PM

Subject: Urgent/Important letter from Director General, ICMR regarding Directives maintaining confidentiality of COVID-19 positive patients

Kind Attn: **PPS to Chief Secretaries/Addl.Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of All States of India**

Sir/Madam,

As directed attached please find a letter from Prof.Balram Bhargava, Secy DHR & DG, ICMR regarding Directives maintaining confidentiality of COVID-19 positive patients. Kindly submit the same to Hon'ble Sir/Madam,.

Yours faithfully,

Vinod Bhatt

Private Secretary to

Prof. (Dr.) Balram Bhargava

Secretary to the Government of India

Department of Health Research

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare &

Director-General,

Indian Council of Medical Research,

V.Ramalingaswamy Bhawan,

Ansari Nagar,

New Delhi-110029.

Tel.(Off.) +91-26588204, 26589620

Fax.(Off.) +91-11-26588662

E-mail: secy-dg@icmr.gov.in

Website: www.icmr.nic.in



सत्यमेव जयते

प्रोफेसर (डा.) बलराम भार्गव, पदम श्री

एमडी, डीएम, एफआरसीपी (जी.), एफआरसीपी (ई.), एफएसीसी,
एफएएचए, एफएमएस, एफएनएस, एफएससी, एफ.एन.ए., डी.एस.सी.

सचिव, भारत सरकार

स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय एवं
महानिदेशक, आई सी एम आर

Prof. (Dr.) Balram Bhargava, Padma Shri

MD, DM, FRCP (Glasg.), FRCP (Edin.),
FACC, FAHA, FAMS, FNASc, FASc, FNA, DSc

Secretary to the Government of India

Department of Health Research
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare &
Director-General, ICMR



icmr
INDIAN COUNCIL OF
MEDICAL RESEARCH
Serving the nation since 1911

भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद

स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग

स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय

भारत सरकार

वी. रामलिंगस्वामी भवन, अंसारी नगर

नई दिल्ली - 110 029

Indian Council of Medical Research

Department of Health Research

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Government of India

V. Ramalingaswami Bhawan, Ansari Nagar

New Delhi - 110 029

D.O.No. VIR/4/2020/ECD-I (Vol.I)

8th May, 2020

To All Chief Secretaries/Addl.Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries (Health) All states of India

Dear Colleagues,

In view of repeated requests from various states and subsequent directive of Cabinet Secretary, for fast-tracking contact tracing, ICMR has provided access to COVID-19 patient and laboratory data with all the states. Accordingly, login credentials have been shared with each state with a primary objective of providing viewership of the data to each state and also align the central and state Govt. reporting. Each state has been provided access to their own state's data only.

This data set consists of personal identifiers such as name, sex, place of residence etc. Such personal data is of interest in view of the potential therapeutic options like plasma replacement therapy etc. Besides, this information may be wrongly used to stigmatize the infected individuals and their families. Therefore, it is necessary to remember that such information can be shared only with relevant health care providers belonging to state and central Govt. for contact tracing or providing care.

To maintain confidentiality of COVID-19 patients, following measures are suggested:

- A dedicated area with restricted access should be earmarked for maintaining the data servers.
- Login credentials should only be shared with the concerned key personnel.
- These personnel should be sensitized and committed to maintain confidentiality.
- All the written documents should be placed in lock and key. It is advisable that access to these records should be given to only one individual.
- Only limited numbers of trusted individuals should have access to soft-copy of the data.
- The data should not be copied in pen-drives or photographed using a mobile phone / camera.
- To minimize breach in data and maintain confidentiality, separate back-up of data at the level of states is discouraged. ICMR is maintaining a robust data backup which can be provided to the States if needed.
- All personal identifiers to be removed before sharing data with others.
- A close vigil must be maintained for any reports / news of data leakage and quick remedial measures be taken after root cause analysis.

It should be ensured that the above directives are issued by you to the testing laboratories and health care providers involved in managing COVID-19 cases and their contacts.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Balram Bhargava

(Balram Bhargava)