

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

No. Health.74/2020/Pt.II/22

Dated Shillong the 17th June, 2021.

NOTIFICATION

Protocol for RAT Testing in Home Deaths.

Any person who is declared dead in a place other than a Medical Institution, such as the residence of the deceased or other places, may be tested through Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) to ascertain the cause of the death and confirm COVID 19 infection. The District Surveillance Team or the Medical Officer of the closest health facility may decide the course of action relating to the testing of the dead body. If the dead body is found to be COVID Positive, then the dead body management is also to be done at the site by the concerned health authority as per the requisite protocols.

The following shall be considered as criteria for testing a deceased person for COVID 19.

1. Symptoms


- Fever
- Cough
- Breathlessness
- Loss of Appetite
- General Weakness
- Diarrhea

} In the
last one
week

2. If the deceased had recently been in contact with a positive COVID-19 person and had been classified as a high risk contact.
3. If any of the family members is/was positive for COVID-19.
4. If there is clustering or high transmission of the infection in the locality where the deceased resided or the area falls under Containment Zone.

The Medical Officer shall advise the family members to get tested under such circumstances and counsel them on the necessity to do so. The collection of samples may be done at the residence of the deceased/wherever the body has been kept/at the nearest health facility as per the local situation/convenience.

This may be adopted as a part of the protocol for dead body management in the context of home deaths, irrespective of the cause of the death.

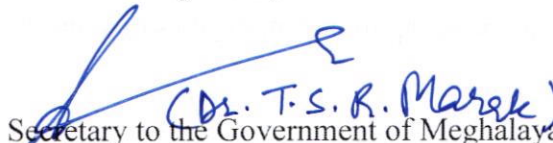

(Sampath Kumar, IAS)
Principal Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya,
Health & Family Welfare Department.

Copy to:

1. The Secretary to the Governor of Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information of the Governor.
2. The Private Secretary to Chief Minister, Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information of the Chief Minister.
3. The Private Secretary to Deputy Chief Minister, Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information of the Deputy Chief Minister.
4. The Private Secretary to the Speaker, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly, Shillong for kind information of the Speaker.
5. The Private Secretary to Health Minister, Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information of Minister.
6. Private Secretaries to all Ministers, Meghalaya, Shillong for kind information of the Minister.
7. The Leader of Opposition, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly, Shillong.
8. Private Secretary to Chief Secretary for kind information of the Chief Secretary.
9. The Additional Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries/ Commissioners & Secretaries/ Secretaries of all the Department, Government of Meghalaya.
10. The Deputy Commissioner,
East Khasi Hills, Shillong / West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin
South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat.
Ri Bhoi District, Nongpoh / West Jaintia Hills, Jowai
East Jaintia Hills, Khliehriat/West Garo Hills, Tura
East Garo Hills, Williamnagar/ South Garo Hills, Baghmara
North Garo Hills, Resubelpara/ South West Garo Hills, Ampati
11. The Mission Director, National Health Mission, Meghalaya, Shillong for information and necessary action
12. The Director of Health Services (MI)/ (MCH&FW) / (Research), Meghalaya, Shillong for information and necessary action
13. The Director of Information & Public Relation for wide circulation in the Print/Electronic media of the State.
14. The Joint Director of Health Services (MCH & FW) I/c IDSP, Meghalaya, Shillong.
15. The Joint Mission Director, National Health Mission, Meghalaya, Shillong.
16. The District Medical & Health Officer,
East Khasi Hills, **Shillong**/ West Khasi Hills, **Nongstoin**/ Ri Bhoi District, **Nongpoh**/
West Jaintia Hills District, **Jowai** / West Garo Hills District, **Tura** / East Garo Hills
District, **Williamnagar**/ South Garo Hills District, **Baghmara**/ North Garo Hills,
Resubelpara/ South West Garo Hills, **Ampati** / East Jaintia Hills, **Khliehriat**/ South
West Khasi Hills, **Mawkyrwat**.
17. All Administrative Department/Heads of Department.

For
information
and
necessary
action

By order, etc.


Under Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya,
Health & Family Welfare Department