



Isolation protocol for Covid-19 positive travellers coming from other countries

Notification

HPH/9M-21/2020/Part-II/371

Dated: 21st December, 2021

International travellers, who are tested positive for Covid-19 by RT-PCR at the airport on arrival in India, are not allowed to move to the respective destination. These passengers must be put in **separate isolation** in any of the health facilities identified for this purpose. Any traveller testing positive for Covid-19 on a later date, who has a history of travel in last 14 days to a "country at risk for Omicron" will be subjected to a similar isolation measure as above.

The **isolation strategy** should be as per the following guideline:

- Authority must ensure that the specimen is collected on arrival and sent to STM for genome sequencing.
- It would be a **separate isolation** i.e. an enclosure (room/ward) exclusively for such cases and there should not be any mixing with other positive cases.
- It should have separate toilet & bathroom so that there is no mix-up with other cases within the facility.
- Care providers should enter this separate isolation with PPE and maintain stringent infection control protocol so as to prevent cross-infection and to protect themselves.
- If a case, admitted in separate isolation, needs to be taken outside the isolation for any diagnostic procedure, outside stay should be as **minimum** as possible. No mixing up with other people must be ensured during the transport.

The following points regarding management of such cases should be ensured.

- Treatment of the case should follow a standard protocol.
- The case has to be kept in isolation at least till the receipt of the genome sequencing report.
- If the report comes negative for B.1.1.529 (Omicron variant), the case may be discharged as per discretion of the treating physician with intimation to the Deptt. of H & F.W., Govt. of West Bengal.
- If the genomic test report comes positive for B.1.1.529 (Omicron variant), the case **MUST** not be discharged **until two successive Covid-19 RT-PCR reports (48 hours apart) become negative.**
- Their health status should be intimated to Deptt. of H & F.W., Govt. of West Bengal on regular basis.

DM
21/12/21
**Director of Medical Education
West Bengal.**

[Signature]
21/12/21
**Director of Health Services
West Bengal.**