

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

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**Orders by the Governor**

**NOTIFICATION**

**Dated Shillong, the 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2020.**

**No.Health.141/2020/88:-**The Protocol for Rapid Antigen Testing for COVID-19 in Meghalaya is issued for information and compliance of all concerned.

**Protocol for Rapid Antigen Testing for COVID-19 in Meghalaya**

**Detailed instruction**

- ❖ Each district to set up adequate number of Antigen Testing Centers (ATC), preferably near containment zones.
- ❖ Temporary arrangement can be made with following condition.
  - ✓ The ATC room should be air-conditioned to ensure that the preferred temperature of the kits is maintained between 2° to 30° C.
  - ✓ ATC should have water for hand washing, electricity & internet.
  - ✓ ATC should have 2-4 rooms or dedicated space divided by partition for arranging sample collection, testing & data entry.
  - ✓ Each room should preferably have one counter and a maximum of 2 counters for the same.
  - ✓ Each ATC should have one qualified Medical doctor for supervision.
  - ✓ Each counter should have Lab Technicians /Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) Medical Officers, one Data entry operator (DEO) / staff nurse (SN) for entry, dedicated staff to avoid over crowding.

**Essentials required for Rapid antigen test:-**

- ❖ PPE is mandatory for all personnel involved in Sample testing
- ❖ Disinfectants/ Hand sanitizer
- ❖ Soap and water (for hand washing)
- ❖ Refrigerator/Vaccine carrier box for storing antigen kits
- ❖ 1% sodium hypochlorite for cleaning work surfaces
- ❖ Appropriate biomedical waste management bags for disposal of infectious wastes
- ❖ VTM and swabs (for collection of samples for RT-PCR for symptomatic negative suspected case)

**Other instructions**

- ❖ The rapid antigen test should be performed as per the manufacturer's instructions.  
The video link can be accessed at
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=syXd7kgLSN8>
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBdaOHJWxl4&feature=youtu.be>

- ❖ Sample collection should be done by trained personnel wearing proper PPE.
- ❖ **Only nasopharyngeal swab should be collected from each person. No other sample should be collected.**
- ❖ For discarding of the kits and PPE, proper biomedical waste management bags should be available at the ATC.

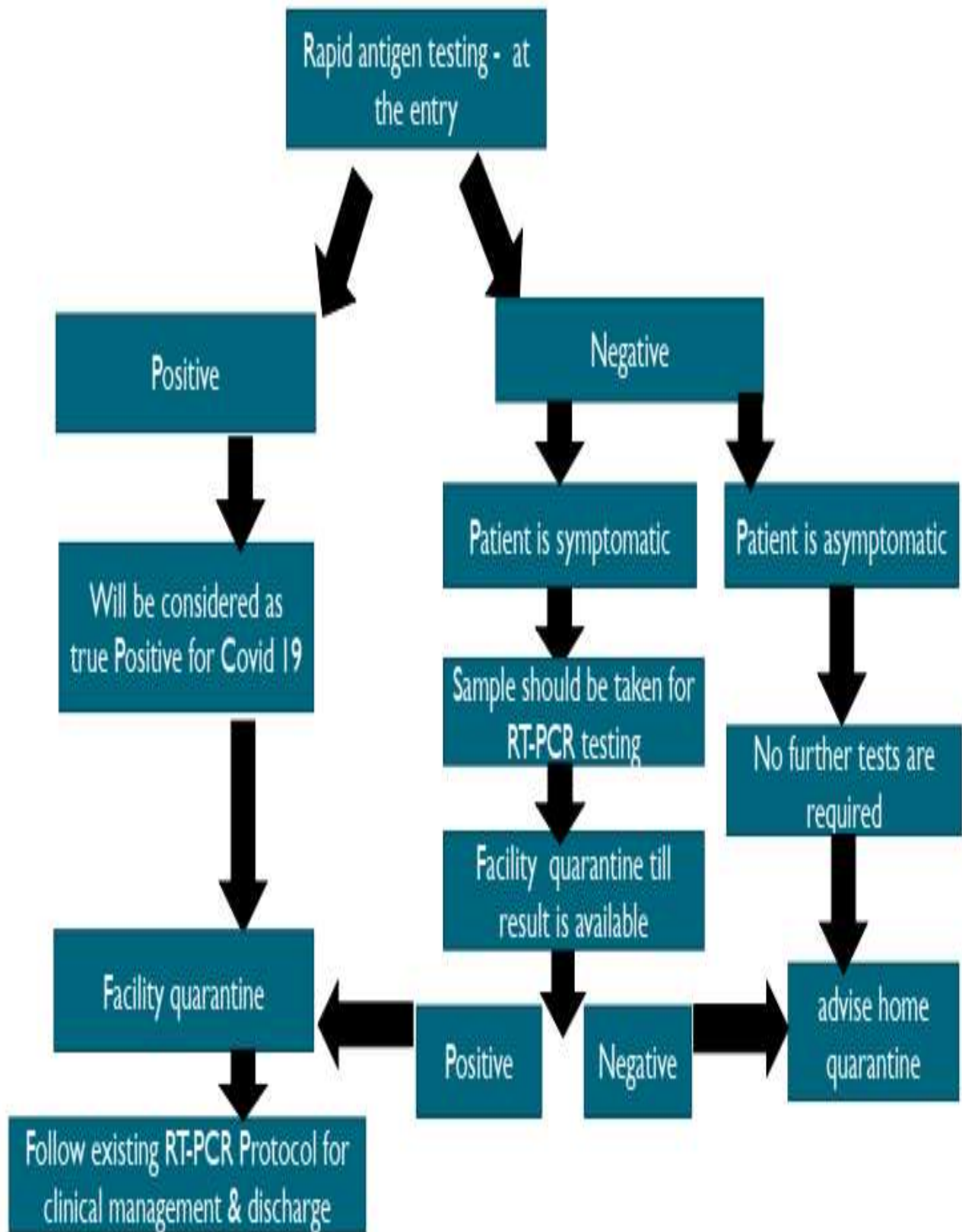
#### **Recording & reporting in ICMR portal**

- Details of the patient tested must be filled up in the Specimen referral form (SRF).
- Current version of the SRF available at [icmr.gov.in](https://icmr.gov.in) must be used.
- Each district will be given five login credentials to enter the antigen test details.
- All the results should be uploaded on the ICMR portal: "<https://cvstatus.icmr.gov.in/login.php>" on a real time basis.
- Results should be certified by MO
- No results should go unrecorded
- In antigen testing, once MO confirms the result, the test shall not be repeated under any circumstances unless advised by MO.
- SRF for RT-PCR should be duly signed by MO

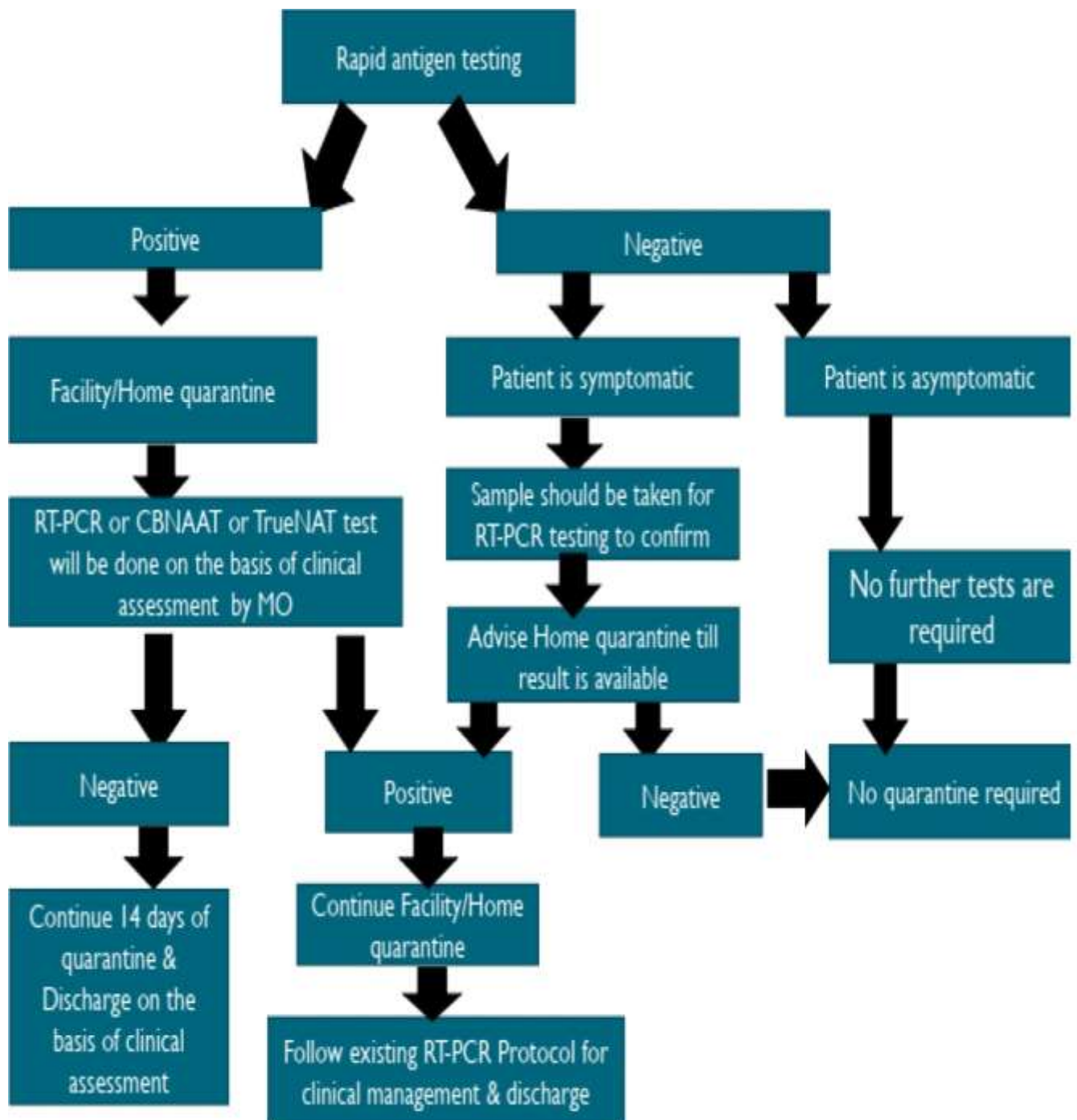
#### **Interpretation of results, and further action**

- ❖ The first reading should be taken at 15 minutes after inoculation of the sample in the cassette.
- ❖ For all the samples, the control line should be visible after 15 minutes. If the control line is not visible, then the test should be considered as invalid.
- ❖ For positive samples (**Red/Pink line-faint**), the test line should be visible along with the control line.
- ❖ In case of negative results at 15 minutes, keep the cassette till 30 minutes for final reading.
- ❖ For symptomatic people who are negative by rapid antigen testing, nasal swab/throat swab should be collected in VTM for real-time PCR testing at the nearby lab. The VTM should be sent under cold conditions to an ICMR approved testing laboratory.

## For Returnees



**For Containment Zones/ Random Samples Done at Markets, etc.**



Sd/-

(Sampath Kumar, IAS)

Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya  
Health & Family Welfare Department.