



भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद  
स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग, स्वास्थ्य और परिवार  
कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

Indian Council of Medical Research  
Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health  
and Family Welfare, Government of India

## Details of National Task Force (NTF) and its research groups meetings on COVID-19 (Diagnostic Group, Epidemiology & Surveillance Working Group (ESWG), Operational Research (OR) Group & Clinical Research Group (CRG))

### YEAR 2020

Quarter I		Total: 10 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
1.	1 <sup>st</sup> NTF Meeting 17 <sup>th</sup> March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Current situation of COVID-19 in India</li><li>2. Involvement of private sector laboratories in COVID-19 testing and safeguards for involving private sector</li></ol>	
2.	2 <sup>nd</sup> NTF Meeting 20 <sup>th</sup> March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Expansion of testing strategy to include SARI patients and also one-time testing of asymptomatic contacts.</li><li>2. Shortlisting the promising drugs for treatment and prophylaxis of COVID-19.</li><li>3. Create a stockpile of promising drugs for COVID19 treatment</li></ol>	Chairperson laid emphasis on review of evidence on prophylactic and therapeutic options for COVID-19
3.	3 <sup>rd</sup> NTF Meeting 21 <sup>st</sup> March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Review of evidence on the therapeutic and prophylactic options available against COVID-19</li><li>2. Consensus statement of the National Task Force on prophylaxis against COVID-19</li></ol>	
4.	4 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 22 <sup>nd</sup> March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Discussion on the use of prophylactic HCQS for COVID-19</li></ol>	Chairperson key issues for discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Global overview for the surveillance strategy for COVID-19.</li><li>• Situation update of pandemic</li><li>• Strategy for participation in global trials like SOLIDARITY trial</li><li>• FAQs on COVID-19</li><li>• Serological tests to be used for SARS CoV-2 in surveillance</li></ul>
5.	5 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 23 <sup>rd</sup> March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Surveillance strategy for COVID-19</li></ol>	
6.	6 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 24 <sup>th</sup> March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Presentation of treatment strategies at home and in the hospital</li><li>2. Placing a policy document outlining the surveillance strategy</li><li>3. Relevant research questions</li></ol>	

Quarter I			Total: 10 meetings
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
7.	7 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 25 <sup>th</sup> March, 2020	1. 1. Enhanced Surveillance work plan 2. Discussion on the use of serological tests for COVID-19	The Chairperson requested development of protocol on lab validation of testing kits.
8.	8 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 26 <sup>th</sup> March, 2020	1. 1. Protocol for COVID-19 surveillance 2. Update on Treatment Protocol 3. Update on Continuum of Care for COVID-19	
9.	9 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> March, 2020	1. Proposal for household-targeted elimination of COVID-19 2. Clinical care of COVID-19	
10.	10 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 29 <sup>th</sup> March, 2020	1. Enhanced Surveillance Protocol and Implementation Plan	The Chairperson highlighted that NTF needs to review testing strategy for COVID-19, using both RT-PCR based approaches and antibody-based tests The Co-chairperson said that sero-survey for COVID-19 needs to be planned

Quarter II			Total: 54 meetings
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
11.	11 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 2 <sup>nd</sup> April, 2020	1. Expansion of testing strategy	The Co-chair suggested developing testing strategy in hotspot areas
12.	12 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 3 <sup>rd</sup> April, 2020	1. Operational definition of Community Transmission	Chairperson laid emphasis on review of evidence on prophylactic and therapeutic options for COVID-19
13.	13 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 5 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	1. BCG Vaccine in COVID-19	Chairperson raised if a clinical registry could be created for capturing the clinical history, management and outcomes data for COVID-19 patients from across the country
14.	CRG Meeting 11 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	Protocols presented on Convalescent Plasma and Therapeutic Plasma Exchange	
	ESWG Meeting 11 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	1. State of epidemic-discussion 2. Finalization of surveillance protocol 3. Criteria for relaxation of lockdown	
15.	CRG Meeting 13 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	Setting up of research priorities	
16.	OR Group Meeting 13 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	1. Introduction and identification of key areas	Creation of Dashboard of real-time data, documentation of pandemic prevention and control plan, development of model and strategies to prevent the spread of infection to the unaffected areas/districts Assessment and impact of various interventions like screening, testing,

Quarter II		Total: 54 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
			quarantine and strategies adopted in various areas for the same.
17.	14 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 14 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	1. Discussion on progress made in various research groups.	
18.	Diagnostic Group Meeting 15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	Identify priority areas of research in COVID-19 diagnostics	
19.	15 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 17 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	1. Review of 3 candidates for COVID-19: Ivermectin, Rubella vaccine, Remdesivir  2. Presentation on use of Methylprednisolone in COVID-19  3. Discussion to finalize the strategy for COVID19 testing criteria for pregnant women and neonates in India	
20.	CRG Meeting 17 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	Setting up of research priorities	
21.	OR Group Meeting 18 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	Priority setting	Key priority areas were identified based upon which the projects will be developed. Areas were: Stigma among general population related to COVID-19, mental health among healthcare workers involved in COVID-19 management
22.	ESWG Meeting 21 <sup>st</sup> April, 2020	Updates on COVID-19 Sero-surveillance Implementation	
23.	OR Group Meeting 22 <sup>nd</sup> April, 2020 (Sub group meeting)	Development of Proposals based upon key priorities	After identification of key areas, group leads were suggested to develop short term projects related to COVID-19
24.	OR Group Meeting 23 <sup>rd</sup> April, 2020 (Sub group meeting)	Discussion of proposals on COVID-19	Proposals on study of stigma in general population and mental health among healthcare workers were presented
25.	ESWG Meeting 24 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	1. Update on antibody testing kits and serosurveillance of COVID-19  2. Prioritization of COVID-19 research options  3. Mechanisms for implementation of priority research options	
26.	OR Group Meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	1 <sup>st</sup> Review meeting on developed proposals for OR NTF	Discussion on proposals from various sub-groups were conducted, following were the proposals: 1. Hospital based COVID registry project by NCDIR, Bengaluru 2. Determinants of stigma related to COVID-19: A mixed methods study

Quarter II		Total: 54 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
			<p>3. Mental health and social stigma among healthcare personnel involved in the management of COVID-19 patients in India</p> <p>4. Enablers and Challenges to lockdown, containment and Quarantine related to covid-19 in selected Indian cities</p>
27.	16 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 29 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guidance on recording COVID-19 related deaths</li> <li>Discharge criteria for COVID-19 patients</li> <li>Updates from the different research groups</li> </ol>	Chairperson remarked that National Clinical Registry on COVID-19 should be initiated at the earliest
28.	OR Group Meeting 29 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	2 <sup>nd</sup> Review meeting on developed proposals for OR NTF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A proposal presentation on 'Health system preparedness for COVID-19' was made and following recommendations were provided by the advisory committee</li> <li>Take up work focussing on the short-term impacts during the outbreak</li> <li>Focus on how the findings will be utilized for policy and program improvements</li> </ul>
29.	CRG Meeting 30 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	<p>Identified priority areas of national importance</p> <p>BCG trial</p> <p>Convalescent plasma trial</p> <p>Registry on COVID-19</p> <p>HCQ prophylaxis</p>	COVID-19 registry and Convalescent plasma trial recommended
30.	OR Group Meeting 30 <sup>th</sup> April, 2020	Review of developed proposals	Proposal on 'Health economics and modelling group' was discussed and recommendations were provided.
31.	ESWG Meeting 1 <sup>st</sup> May, 2020	Update on serosurveillance protocol	
32.	OR Group Meeting 17 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 1 <sup>st</sup> May, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of Nitazoxanide and Zinc in COVID-19</li> <li>Reflections on some overarching considerations to combat COVID-19</li> </ol>	Chairperson remarked use of HCQ prophylaxis in hotspots subject to maintaining pharmacovigilance and ensuring that safety issues
33.	OR Group Meeting 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2020 (Sub-group meeting)	Meeting of working group of OR NTF	Development of standard guidelines for autopsy/forensic pathology in COVID-19 deaths under operational research group

Quarter II		Total: 54 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
			Development of Guidance document for Health system response for persons with disabilities during COVID-19 pandemic
34.	OR Group Meeting 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2020 (Sub-group meeting)	Meeting of working group of OR NTF	Development of materials for psychosocial counselling of patients and front-line health workers
35.	OR Group Meeting 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 (Sub-group meeting)	Meeting of working group of OR NTF	Discussion on guidelines documents which were recommended for development in meetings held on 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2020
36.	OR Group Meeting 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	6 <sup>th</sup> OR NTF meeting	Submission of final proposals with incorporation of recommendations made by the advisory committee in the review meetings for proposal discussions
37.	Diagnostic Group meeting 6 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	COVIRAP-2, by IIT Kharagpur	Technology transfer of the kit was already done, it was recommended to validate the product manufactured from first three batches
38.	CRG Meeting 7 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	Registry on COVID-19  Solidarity trial  Infectiousness of SARS CoV-2 in prolonged shedding of viral RNA in clinically stable patients	Modifications to the protocols suggested
39.	Joint ESWG-OR Meeting 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2020	1. What could be the methodology/ Available options for sample pooling for Sero-surveillance?  2. How we can set up population-based surveillance to see the dynamicity of Red, Orange and Green Zone.	Discussion on methodology for pooling of samples for sero-surveillance, options for setting up population-based surveillance to see the dynamicity of red, orange and green zone
40.	18th NTF Meeting 8 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	1. Review of COVID-19 Discharge Criteria Discussion on the use of serological tests for COVID-19  2. Updates from the Clinical Research Group  3. Evidence update on Nitazoxanide and Zinc	The Chair remarked about following issues which need deliberation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Insights into mortality due to COVID-19</li> <li>b. Evidence regarding newer therapeutic alternatives, to deal with issues such as DIC or coagulopathy, in COVID-19 patients</li> <li>c. Clinical autopsy-based evidence regarding the pathophysiology of COVID-19</li> </ul>

Quarter II		Total: 54 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
41.	ESWG Meeting 10 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	1. Surveillance options for COVID-19.	.
42.	Diagnostic Group meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	Develop an intelligent testing strategy	
43.	OR Group Meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020 (Sub-group meeting)	Meeting of working group of OR NTF	Review of developed guidance documents on psychosocial counselling of patients and front-line health workers
44.	CRG Meeting 13 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	Viral suppression factor in COVID19 (hzVSF-v13)	Protocol reviewed and suggestions given
45.	OR Group Meeting 13 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	Finalization and approval of proposals	Proposals were approved and all the projects were then proposed to be presented to the Ethics committee for ethical approval
46.	19 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 14 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	1. Mesenchymal Stem Cells in the management of COVID-19 2. Review of Tocilizumab and Evidence Update on Zinc for COVID-19 3. Pre-operative Covid-19 testing policy	The Chairperson remarked that a matrix containing all therapeutic options reviewed till date may be presented in next meeting
47.	20 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 17 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	1. Review of COVID-19 testing	
48.	ESWG Meeting 17 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	1. Progress of community based serosurveillance 2. Inputs on draft protocol for facility based surveillance 3. Update on research projects 4. Discussion on special group surveillance	
49.	OR Group Meeting 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 (Sub-group meeting)	Meeting of working group of OR NTF	Review and discussion on developed guidance documents on psychosocial counselling of patients and front-line health workers
50.	21 <sup>st</sup> NTF Meeting 21 <sup>st</sup> May, 2020	1. Review of the use of HCQ for the prophylaxis of COVID-19 a. Case-control study on HCQ in HCWs b. Adverse Drug Reaction Profile of HCQ c. Experience of using HCQ prophylaxis in HCW in 3 central govt hospitals	The Chair and Co-Chair highlighted the need for consideration to extend HCQ prophylaxis to cover frontline non-health workers

Quarter II		Total: 54 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>d. Observational study on HCQ in HCWs in AIIMS:</li> <li>e. Information from the rational use of medicines project</li> </ul>	
51.	Diagnostic Group meeting 21 <sup>st</sup> May, 2020	Probe free real time RT-PCR kit for COVID-19 diagnosis by IIT Delhi	Recommended to transfer the technology and validation of the products manufactured from first three batches should be done.
52.	ESWG Meeting 22 <sup>nd</sup> May, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Progress of community based serosurvey</li> <li>2. Finalization of draft protocol for facility based surveillance</li> <li>3. Update on Risk factor study</li> </ul>	
53.	22 <sup>nd</sup> NTF Meeting 25 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review of the clinical management of COVID-19               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Clinical Management Experiences: Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Chandigarh</li> <li>b. Discussions on clinical management and experience from other settings</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Draft protocol for clinical management of COVID-19</li> </ul>	
54.	CRG Meeting 25 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Presentation on Health care workers quarantine</li> <li>2. Use of Hyperbaric oxygen therapy in SARS CoV2 infection-For discussion &amp; Review evidence</li> <li>3. Presentation of proposal on Pegylated Interferon alfa-2b in SARS CoV2</li> <li>4. Proposal on "To evaluate efficacy of BCG in reducing the incidence and severity of Covid 19 in the high risk population-a Phase III open label randomized controlled trial"</li> </ul>	
55.	OR Group Meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 (Sub-group meeting)	Meeting of working group of OR NTF	Review and discussion on developed guidance documents on psychosocial counselling of patients and front-line health workers
56.	OR Group Meeting 2 <sup>nd</sup> June, 2020	Meeting of OR group with ICMR-CECHR for ethical approval	Presentations for the COVID related projects were made by all groups for ethical clearance of the projects
57.	23 <sup>rd</sup> NTF Meeting 7 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	1. Review of the clinical management protocol for COVID-19	Creating a stockpile of key medicines

Quarter II		Total: 54 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
			Price control mechanisms for high cost medicines (Remdesivir, Tocilizumab)  Guidelines for home care of mild patients
58.	Diagnostic Group meeting 10 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
59.	CRG Meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	Decision on the Immunemed company proposal  Discussion on revised proposal titled “To evaluate efficacy of BCG in reducing the incidence and severity of Covid 19 in the high risk population-a Phase III open label randomized controlled trial” Dr.Sanjeev Sinha, AIIMS , New Delhi  Update on Convalescent plasma therapy study – Dr.Aparna Mukharjee, ICMR  Update on Clinical registry for Covid 19	Protocols reviewed and suggestions given
60.	OR Group Meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	Discussion upon status of generic proposals to assess immediate priorities under COVID guidelines	Upon recommendation of the committee, following proposals were accepted: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mental health and social stigma among healthcare personnel involved in the management of COVID-19 patients in India</li> <li>2. Determinants of stigma related to COVID-19: A mixed-methods study</li> <li>3. An exploratory study on the operational issues faced in collection, transportation &amp; laboratory testing related to COVID-19 in remote areas of EAG states of North East India, Chhattisgarh &amp; Jharkhand</li> <li>4. A study to understand the challenges faced by frontline health managers at the district level during the COVID-19 pandemic: A multicentric approach</li> <li>5. Assessment of impact on COVID-19 on the maternal</li> </ol>



Quarter II		Total: 54 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
			and child health services: A multicentric approach 6. Reinstating and sustaining the maternal and child health services during and after the COVID crisis
61.	Diagnostic Group meeting 17 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
62.	ESWG Meeting 19 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	1. Identify ideas for epidemiological research and prioritize them  2. Discuss mechanisms for taking these priorities forward to develop into a full proposal and initiate the studies. Implementation plan for the research projects	
63.	Diagnostic Group meeting 24 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
64.	24 <sup>nd</sup> NTF Meeting 26 <sup>th</sup> June, 2020	1. Review of the evidence: Favipiravir 2. Methylprednisolone vs Dexamethasone in the management of COVID-19	

Quarter III		Total: 27 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
65.	ESWG Meeting 1 <sup>st</sup> July, 2020	1. Epi Research ideas - Prioritization and next steps (minutes of the last meeting attached) 2. Comments from members on COVID cohort study 3. Facility based surveillance - Revision and next step	
66.	Diagnostic Group meeting 6 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
67.	Diagnostic Group meeting 8 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	Gargle lavage (AIIMS Study)	
68.	ESWG Meeting 10 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	1. Sharing of results of Serosurvey-1 of Covid-19 with the working group and status of its dissemination/publication 2. Planning and related issues of follow up sero-survey 3. Policy and possible strategies for data sharing. 4. Research studies: procedure for approval, funding and related issues	
69.	Diagnostic Group meeting	To discuss the ways for improvement of validated COVID-19 RAT kits	

Quarter III		Total: 27 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
	13 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020		
70.	25 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 14 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	1. Review of the evidence: Ivermectin & Tocilizumab for management of COVID-19	The Co-chair suggested developing testing strategy in hotspot areas
71.	Diagnostic Group meeting 15 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
72.	ESWG Meeting 16 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	1. Serosurvey 2 Proposal -discussion and way forward 2. Data sharing protocol -discussion 3. Community Care Proposal-discussion.	
73.	CRG Meeting 23 <sup>rd</sup> July, 2020	1. Presentation on Adrenergic blockers for Covid-19 2. Presentation on "A Potential Candidate for the Pharmacotherapy of COVID-19" 3. Opinion/comments on -Export of Favipiravir, Olokizumab and Levilimab to India – proposal submitted by Ministry of Health, Russia 4. Review on Leronlimab	Protocols reviewed and suggestions given
74.	Diagnostic Group meeting 24 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
75.	26 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 26 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020	1. Review of the evidence: Itolizumab for management of COVID-19 2. National Clinical Registry for COVID-19 3. Decision on conducting second round of National sero-surveillance on COVID-19	1. Revisiting Ivermectin in light of recommendation by Joint Monitoring Group on COVID-19 2. Immunodeficiency in post covid-19 state among patients 3. Pre-operative testing for COVID-19.
76.	Diagnostic Group meeting 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug, 2020	Biochips with SARS-COV-2RNA specific field effect devices, by IIT Hyderabad	Product was sent to NIV, Pune for validation. The preliminary testing of biochip ( n=25) using extracted RNA as input showed 52% ( 13/25 correctly detected) correlation with the real time PCR results. It was recommended to improve the biochip and product may be reconsidered for validation
77.	Diagnostic Group meeting 5 <sup>th</sup> Aug, 2020	COVIRAP-1, by IIT Kharagpur	Version-I of COVIRAP was first validated by ICMR-NICED Kolkata wherein it showed a sensitivity of 93.9% and Specificity of 97.6% which did not met the acceptance

Quarter III		Total: 27 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
			criteria (Sensitivity = 95% and above and Specificity = 99% and above). It was therefore recommended to do certain changes.
78.	ESWG Meeting 5 <sup>th</sup> Aug, 2020	1.National Sero-surveillance Round 2 2.Priority Research Ideas 3.Periodic assessment of ICMR Database 4.Facility based sero-surveillance	“Tracking COVID-19 in West Bengal to support targeted response”- Presentation by DHS West Bengal
79..	27 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 9 <sup>th</sup> Aug, 2020	1. Review of Ivermectin for COVID-19 Therapy 2. Consideration of Preoperative testing for COVID-	Chairperson suggested updates on Tocilizumab and long term immunity status post COVID-19
80.	Diagnostic Group meeting 11 <sup>th</sup> Aug, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
81.	CRG Meeting 13 <sup>th</sup> Aug, 2020	1. Opinion/comments on - Protocols for management of people with diabetes in COVID facilities 2. Presentation on proposal titled “Expression profiling of inflammatory gene ACE2 and hsCRP among SARs CoV2 patients and clinical outcome” 3. Presentation on proposal titled “Assessment of protective efficacy of chloroquine/HCQ among urban residents of Gujarat”. Pilot trial of Ambroxol in patients recovering from COVID 19with dyspnea fatigue and muscle loss and weakness lead in to a definitive trial and then trials in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis Clinical trial of Ambroxol 60 mg tidal in patients recovering from COVID 19with dyspnea fatigue and muscle loss and weakness	Protocols reviewed and suggestions given
82.	ESWG Meeting 21 <sup>st</sup> Aug, 2020	1.Assessment of exposure to COVID-19 in Mumbai Metropolitan City by unlinked anonymous sero-prevalence survey (NCDC) 2.Discussion about COVID-19 indicators and dashboard	
83.	28 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 26 <sup>th</sup> Aug, 2020	1. Review on Tocilizumab for COVID-19 2. Preoperative testing for COVID-19.	
84.	Diagnostic Group meeting 31 <sup>st</sup> Aug, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
85.	29 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept, 2020	1. Review on Ayurveda and Yoga interventions for COVID-19	

Quarter III		Total: 27 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
86.	30 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept, 2020	1. Review of Revised COVID-19 testing strategy 2. Discussion on Tocilizumab for COVID-19 management	Co-Chairperson suggested removal of Tocilizumab from clinical management protocol Testing guidelines revised
87.	CRG Meeting 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 2020	2 revised proposals were reviewed New proposals: 1. To identify COVID-19 perturbed genes and immune repertoire networks in diabetes and obesity associated severe infections. 2. Lipid Ibuprofen versus standard of care for acute hypoxemic respiratory failure due to COVID-19: A multicentric, randomized controlled trial. 3. Post Viral Fatigue Syndrome in COVID-19 and its association with immunological profile. 4. The Course after Covid-19 5. Diabetes and hypertension associated complications and mortality among patients with COVID-19 in India- A hospital based observational study	Protocols reviewed and suggestions given
88.	ESWG Meeting 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 2020	1. Status of National Serosurvey Round 2 2. Status of approved and proposed research projects by members of ESWG 3. Discussion about COVID-19 indicators and analysis plan of Laboratory data on ICMR dashboard	Selection of robust indicators and analysis plan for periodic analysis of ICMR COVID-19 laboratory database
89.	Diagnostic Group meeting 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
90.	Diagnostic Group meeting 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept, 2020	Demonstration of Abbott ID Now (Molecular POCT )	
91.	ESWG Meeting 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 2020	1. Discussion on National Serosurvey Round 2 2. Discussion about COVID-19 indicators and analysis plan of Laboratory data on ICMR dashboard	

Quarter IV		Total: 17 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
92.	ESWG Meeting 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 2020	1. Discussion on additional analysis of National Serosurvey Round 2 2. Discussion about future rounds of Serosurvey for prevalence of COVID-19 in the country.	Preparation of guidance document for states to conduct sero-surveys for COVID-19.
93.	31 <sup>st</sup> NTF Meeting 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 2020	1. Review of evidence of Convalescent Plasma (CP) in COVID-19 management	Chairperson and Co-Chairperson suggested against use of CP and removal of HCQ for treatment of moderate COVID-19 disease

Quarter IV		Total: 17 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
		2. Review of evidence of Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) in COVID-19 management	
94.	Diagnostic Group meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
95.	32 <sup>nd</sup> NTF Meeting 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct, 2020	1. Review of evidence of Ivermectin in COVID-19 management  2. Discussion on COVID-19 pandemic situation in the country	The Co-Chair remarked to adopt pre-emptive approach for combating subsequent peaks of COVID-19 as they are inevitable.
96.	Diagnostic Group meeting 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
97.	Diagnostic Group meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2020	Revision of the Sample Referral Form (SRF)	
98.	ESWG Meeting 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2020	1. Protocol presentations (3 proposals to be presented) and related discussion.  2. Status of ongoing research projects (Determinants of COVID-19 disease severity in India: A case-control study; Analysis of data from ICMR laboratory data portal & Development of guidance document on sero-surveillance).	
99.	33 <sup>rd</sup> NTF Meeting 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2020	Discussion on 'Evidence Based Advisory on Use of Convalescent Plasma Therapy in COVID-19 Patients.'	Chairperson & Co-Chairperson suggested initiation of study addressing the limitations of PLACID trial. Advisory on appropriate use of CPT released (weblink)
100.	CRG Meeting 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2020	1. Revised proposals were reviewed  2. 1 new proposal: Acute Cardiac Emergencies: Trends In Admissions And Management Strategies, Post COVID-19	Protocols reviewed and suggestions given
101.	Diagnostic Group meeting 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2020	1. Review the need to revise sensitivity cut-offs of existing Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) for detection of SARS-CoV-2.  2. Feasibility of using saliva and gargle samples as an alternative to oropharyngeal and nasopharyngeal swabs.  3. Permit the use of USFDA approved saliva based RTPCR test kits.	

Quarter IV		Total: 17 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
		4. Review the results of evaluation of the dry swab technique developed by CSIR-CCMB and recommend its use appropriately.	
102.	ESWG Meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2020	Discussion on 3rd Round of National Sero-survey of COVID-19	
103.	Diagnostic Group meeting 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
104.	ESWG Meeting 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 2020	Discussion on 3rd Round of National Serosurvey of COVID-19 protocol	Development of re-infection guidelines and prioritization of groups for COVID-19 vaccination
105.	ESWG Meeting 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 2020	1.Update on status of 3rd Round of National Serosurvey of COVID-19  2.Discussion on Vaccination Strategy against COVID-19	
106.	34 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 26 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 2020	1. Recommended changes (if any) in the treatment protocols, diagnostic methods and surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 in the backdrop of the UK variant strain.  2.Any specific recommendations to tailor the public health response in view of mutations in SARS-CoV-2 emerging in other parts of the world (South Africa, Australia etc.)	
107.	ESWG Meeting 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 2020	1. Update on status of 3rd Round of National Serosurvey of COVID-19  2. Presentation on project entitled "Determinants of COVID-19 disease severity in India: a case control study	
108.	35 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 30 <sup>th</sup> Dec, 2020	1. Presentation by NCDC of the new India SARS CoV-2 Genomic Consortium and updates on samples tested  2. Updates on Genomic surveillance by DHR/ICMR VRDLs  3. General discussion and recommendations	

**YEAR 2021**

Quarter I		Total: 10 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
109.	ESWG Meeting 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 2021	1. Update on the status of 3rd round of sero-survey of Covid-19 2. Update on project entitled "Determinants of COVID-19 disease severity in India: a case control study" 3. Discussion on COVID-19 vaccine research and way forward 4. Demonstration of COVID-19 vaccine management software	
110.	Diagnostic Group meeting 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 2021	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
111.	ESWG Meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan, 2021	1. Results of 3rd round of sero-survey of Covid-19 2. Update on project entitled "Determinants of COVID-19 disease severity in India: a case control study"	
112.	CRG Meeting 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb, 2021	1. 3 revised proposals reviewed 2. New proposals: Access to health care among individuals with diabetes during COVID pandemic in a rural setting in Karnataka Utilization and adherence to clinical treatment guidelines in cancer care and changes in care practice during the COVID-19 pandemic 3. Updates/Interim report: National Clinical Registry for COVID-19	Protocols and update reviewed and suggestions given
113.	Diagnostic Group meeting 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 2021	1. Deployment of CRISPR-Cas 9 test at airports 2. Deployment of COVID-19 Ag FIA Rapid Antigen Test for SARS-CoV-2	Not recommended
114.	ESWG Meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb, 2021	1. Final analysis of 3rd round of sero-survey of COVID-19 2. Update on project entitled "Determinants of COVID-19 disease severity in India: a case control study"- analysis and final report 3. Discussion on two proposals submitted for review by ESWG	
115.	Diagnostic Group meeting 15 <sup>th</sup> March, 2021	To identify key research priorities post COVID-19 vaccination	
116.	Diagnostic Group meeting 22 <sup>nd</sup> March, 2021	SoP of Inf.-SAR-CoV-2 combo RT-PCR kit	
117.	Diagnostic Group meeting 23 <sup>rd</sup> March, 2021	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
118.	CRG Meeting 25 <sup>th</sup> March, 2021	Update on progress of the BCG Vaccine trial in COVID-19 by NIRT	Update reviewed and suggestions given

Quarter II		Total: 16 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
119.	36 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 15 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	1. Findings of National Clinical Registry on COVID-19: what has changed? 2. Mutations observed in Maharashtra from Dec, 2020 to March, 2021	Co-Chairperson suggested district level restrictive measures based upon epidemiologic information (possible local level lockdown)
120.	37 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 21 <sup>st</sup> April, 2021	1. Review of evidence on Ivermectin, HCQ and Favipiravir in COVID-19 management 2. Discussion on Clinical management protocol for COVID-19	The Co-Chairperson suggested to modify clinical management protocol in collaboration with AIIMS/ICMR/DGHS
121.	Diagnostic Group meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	Biochips with SARS-COV-2RNA specific field effect devices by IIT Hyderabad	Received email that validation is under process at CCMB Hyderabad
122.	38 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 30 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	1. home based care in COVID-19 2. Review of evidence on drugs-colchicine, indomethacin and pegylated interferon alpha 2b, in COVID-19 management	<a href="#">Chairperson &amp; Co-Chairperson suggested infographic to be in sync with home isolation guidelines issued by MoHFW. The infographic developed and shared with MoHFW on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2021</a>
123.	ESWG Meeting 1 <sup>st</sup> May, 2021	Technical review by ESWG on the project entitled "Effectiveness of Covaxin and Covishield vaccines against severe COVID-19 in India, 2021: Multi-centric hospital-based test-negative case control study"	
124.	Diagnostic Group meeting 6 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021	To review voice based biomarker technology & CoviRAP RT-LAMP (IIT Kharagpur)	
125.	39 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 8 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021	1. Review of evidence on drugs-monoclonal antibodies (Itolizumab, Balanivimab, Etesevimab) and Baricitinib in COVID-19 management.	<a href="#">Co-chairperson raised concern about increase in number of cases of mucormycosis among COVID-19 patients being reported from Gujarat, Rajasthan, Delhi etc. Advisory on screening, diagnosis and treatment of Mucormycosis developed by ICMR and released on 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2021</a>
126.	40 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021	Update on Baricitinib in COVID-19 management	
127.	41 <sup>st</sup> NTF Meeting 14 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021	1. Discussion on Convalescent Plasma Therapy in COVID-19 management 2. Review of evidence on drugs (monoclonal antibodies, Molnupiravir in COVID-19 Management	Removal of CPT from protocol for management of COVID-19 in adults. Revised protocol shared with MoHFW and uploaded on 17 <sup>th</sup> may, 2021
128.	42 <sup>nd</sup> NTF Meeting 23 <sup>rd</sup> May, 2021	1. Presentation on 2 Deoxy D-Glucose followed by discussion 2. Presentation on future outlook of COVID-19 pandemic and discussion.	Co-Chairperson advised that 7 day moving average rate >10% should guide district level restrictive measures. And the lifting of restrictive measures should be slowed in the light of current slow pace of vaccination.
129.	CRG Meeting 27 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021	1. Updates/Interim report: To evaluate efficacy of Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) in Reducing the Incidence and severity of COVID-19 in the high-risk population (BRIC): a phase III,	Protocols and update reviewed and suggestions given



Quarter II		Total: 16 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
		Multicentric, Quadruple blind Randomized controlled trial  2. New proposals:  OTAC Study  ICMR-DNDi ANTICOV Study	
130.	43 <sup>rd</sup> NTF Meeting 29 <sup>th</sup> May, 2021	1. Presentation followed by discussion on protocol for management of COVID-19 in pediatric age group  2. Discussion on reopening of schools and conduct of board exams	Chairperson advised synchronization of pediatric protocol with adult protocol in terms of classifying severity of disease.
131.	ESWG Meeting 31 <sup>st</sup> May, 2021	1. Presentation and discussion on 4 <sup>th</sup> National Serosurvey on COVID-19.  2. Update on status of vaccine effectiveness study by NIE team	
132.	44 <sup>th</sup> NTF Meeting 2 <sup>nd</sup> June, 2021	Mucormycosis-overview and its management (including newer drugs)	Advisory on treatment & management of COVID-19 associated Mucormycosis (CAM and important considerations) released on 3 <sup>rd</sup> June, 2021 with addendum dated 7 <sup>th</sup> June, 2021
133.	Diagnostic Group meeting 2 <sup>nd</sup> June, 2021	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
134.	CRG Meeting 11 <sup>th</sup> June, 2021	1. Solidarity Trial Plus “An international randomised trial of additional treatments for COVID-19 in hospitalised patients who are receiving the local standard of care 2. New evidence on MAB cocktail Casirivimab and Imdevimab.  3. 2 revised proposals were reviewed	Protocols, evidence and update reviewed and suggestions given