



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 st NTF Meeting 17 th March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Current situation of COVID-19 in India2. Involvement of private sector laboratories in COVID-19 testing and safeguards for involving private sector	
2.	2 nd NTF Meeting 20 th March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Expansion of testing strategy to include SARI patients and also one-time testing of asymptomatic contacts.2. Shortlisting the promising drugs for treatment and prophylaxis of COVID-19.3. Create a stockpile of promising drugs for COVID19 treatment	Chairperson laid emphasis on review of evidence on prophylactic and therapeutic options for COVID-19
3.	3 rd NTF Meeting 21 st March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Review of evidence on the therapeutic and prophylactic options available against COVID-192. Consensus statement of the National Task Force on prophylaxis against COVID-19	
4.	4 th NTF Meeting 22 nd March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Discussion on the use of prophylactic HCQS for COVID-19	Chairperson key issues for discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Global overview for the surveillance strategy for COVID-19.• Situation update of pandemic• Strategy for participation in global trials like SOLIDARITY trial• FAQs on COVID-19• Serological tests to be used for SARS CoV-2 in surveillance
5.	5 th NTF Meeting 23 rd March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Surveillance strategy for COVID-19	
6.	6 th NTF Meeting 24 th March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Presentation of treatment strategies at home and in the hospital2. Placing a policy document outlining the surveillance strategy3. Relevant research questions	
7.	7 th NTF Meeting 25 th March, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Enhanced Surveillance work plan2. Discussion on the use of serological tests for COVID-19	The Chairperson requested development of protocol on lab validation of testing kits.
8.	8 th NTF Meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Protocol for COVID-19 surveillance	



	26 th March, 2020	2. Update on Treatment Protocol 3. Update on Continuum of Care for COVID-19	
9.	9 th NTF Meeting 27 th March, 2020	1. Proposal for household-targeted elimination of COVID-19 2. Clinical care of COVID-19	
10.	10 th NTF Meeting 29 th 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 th NTF Meeting 2 nd April, 2020	1. Expansion of testing strategy	The Co-chair suggested developing testing strategy in hotspot areas
12.	12 th NTF Meeting 3 rd 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 th NTF Meeting 5 th 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 th April, 2020	Protocols presented on Convalescent Plasma and Therapeutic Plasma Exchange	
	ESWG Meeting 11 th April, 2020	1. State of epidemic-discussion 2. Finalization of surveillance protocol 3. Criteria for relaxation of lockdown	
15.	CRG Meeting 13 th April, 2020	Setting up of research priorities	
16.	OR Group Meeting 13 th 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, quarantine and strategies adopted in various areas for the same.
17.	14 th NTF Meeting 14 th April, 2020	1. Discussion on progress made in various research groups.	
18.	Diagnostic Group Meeting 15 th April, 2020	Identify priority areas of research in COVID-19 diagnostics	
19.	15 th NTF Meeting 17 th 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 th April, 2020	Setting up of research priorities	
21.	OR Group Meeting 18 th 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 st April, 2020	Updates on COVID-19 Sero-surveillance Implementation	
23.	OR Group Meeting 22 nd 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 rd 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 th 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 th April, 2020	1 st 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 3. Mental health and social stigma among healthcare personnel involved in the management of COVID-19 patients in India 4. Enablers and Challenges to lockdown, containment and Quarantine related to covid-19 in selected Indian cities
27.	16 th NTF Meeting 29 th April, 2020	1. Guidance on recording COVID-19 related deaths 2. Discharge criteria for COVID-19 patients 3. Updates from the different research	Chairperson remarked that National Clinical Registry on COVID-19 should be initiated at the earliest



		groups	
28.	OR Group Meeting 29 th April, 2020	2 nd Review meeting on developed proposals for OR NTF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A proposal presentation on 'Health system preparedness for COVID-19' was made and following recommendations were provided by the advisory committee • Take up work focussing on the short-term impacts during the outbreak • Focus on how the findings will be utilized for policy and program improvements
29.	CRG Meeting 30 th April, 2020	Identified priority areas of national importance BCG trial Convalescent plasma trial Registry on COVID-19 HCQ prophylaxis	COVID-19 registry and Convalescent plasma trial recommended
30.	OR Group Meeting 30 th April, 2020	Review of developed proposals	Proposal on 'Health economics and modelling group' was discussed and recommendations were provided.
31.	ESWG Meeting 1 st May, 2020	Update on serosurveillance protocol	
32.	OR Group Meeting 17 th NTF Meeting 1 st May, 2020	1. Review of Nitazoxanide and Zinc in COVID-19 2. Reflections on some overarching considerations to combat COVID-19	Chairperson remarked use of HCQ prophylaxis in hotspots subject to maintaining pharmacovigilance and ensuring that safety issues
33.	OR Group Meeting 1 st 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 Development of Guidance document for Health system response for persons with disabilities during COVID-19 pandemic
34.	OR Group Meeting 2 nd 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 th 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 st and 2 nd May 2020
36.	OR Group Meeting 5 th May 2020	6 th 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 th 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 th 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 th 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 th 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: a. Insights into mortality due to COVID-19 b. Evidence regarding newer therapeutic alternatives, to deal with issues such as DIC or coagulopathy, in COVID-19 patients c. Clinical autopsy-based evidence regarding the pathophysiology of COVID-19
41.	ESWG Meeting 10 th May, 2020	1. Surveillance options for COVID-19.	
42.	Diagnostic Group meeting 12 th May, 2020	Develop an intelligent testing strategy	
43.	OR Group Meeting 12 th 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 th May, 2020	Viral suppression factor in COVID19 (hzVSF-v13)	Protocol reviewed and suggestions given
45.	OR Group Meeting 13 th 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 th NTF Meeting 14 th 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 th NTF Meeting 17 th May, 2020	1. Review of COVID-19 testing	
48.	ESWG Meeting 17 th 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 th 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 st NTF Meeting 21 st 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 d. Observational study on HCQ in HCWs in AIIMS: e. Information from the rational use of medicines project	The Chair and Co-Chair highlighted the need for consideration to extend HCQ prophylaxis to cover frontline non-health workers
51.	Diagnostic Group meeting 21 st 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 nd May, 2020	1. Progress of community based serosurvey 2. Finalization of draft protocol for facility based surveillance 3. Update on Risk factor study	
53.	22 nd NTF Meeting 25 th May, 2020	1. Review of the clinical management of COVID-19 a. Clinical Management Experiences: Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Chandigarh b. Discussions on clinical management and experience from other settings 2. Draft protocol for clinical	



		management of COVID-19	
54.	CRG Meeting 25 th May, 2020	1. Presentation on Health care workers quarantine 2. Use of Hyperbaric oxygen therapy in SARS CoV2 infection-For discussion & Review evidence 3. Presentation of proposal on Pegylated Interferon alfa-2b in SARS CoV2 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"	
55.	OR Group Meeting 27 th 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 nd 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 rd NTF Meeting 7 th June, 2020	1. Review of the clinical management protocol for COVID-19	Creating a stockpile of key medicines Price control mechanisms for high cost medicines (Remdesivir, Tocilizumab) Guidelines for home care of mild patients
58.	Diagnostic Group meeting 10 th June, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
59.	CRG Meeting 12 th 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" Update on Convalescent plasma therapy study Update on Clinical registry for Covid 19	Protocols reviewed and suggestions given
60.	OR Group Meeting 12 th 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"> 1. Mental health and social stigma among healthcare personnel involved in the management of COVID-19 patients in India 2. Determinants of stigma related to COVID-19: A mixed-methods study



			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. An exploratory study on the operational issues faced in collection, transportation & laboratory testing related to COVID-19 in remote areas of EAG states of North East India, Chhattisgarh & Jharkhand 4. A study to understand the challenges faced by frontline health managers at the district level during the COVID-19 pandemic: A multicentric approach 5. Assessment of impact on COVID-19 on the maternal 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 th June, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
62.	ESWG Meeting 19 th June, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 th June, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
64.	24 nd NTF Meeting 26 th June, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 st July, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	



	6 th July, 2020		
67.	Diagnostic Group meeting 8 th July, 2020	Gargle lavage (AIIMS Study)	
68.	ESWG Meeting 10 th July, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 13 th July, 2020	To discuss the ways for improvement of validated COVID-19 RAT kits	
70.	25 th NTF Meeting 14 th 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 th July, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
72.	ESWG Meeting 16 th July, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Serosurvey 2 Proposal -discussion and way forward 2. Data sharing protocol -discussion 3. Community Care Proposal-discussion. 	
73.	CRG Meeting 23 rd July, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 th July, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
75.	26 th NTF Meeting 26 th July, 2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 rd 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 th 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 criteria (Sensitivity = 95% and above and Specificity = 99% and above). It was therefore recommended to do certain changes.
78.	ESWG Meeting 5 th 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 th NTF Meeting 9 th 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 th Aug, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
81.	CRG Meeting 13 th 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 st 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 th NTF Meeting 26 th Aug, 2020	1. Review on Tocilizumab for COVID-19 2. Preoperative testing for COVID-19.	
84.	Diagnostic Group meeting 31 st Aug, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
85.	29 th NTF Meeting 1 st Sept, 2020	1. Review on Ayurveda and Yoga interventions for COVID-19	
86.	30 th NTF Meeting 3 rd 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 (weblink)
87.	CRG Meeting 11 th 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 th Sept, 2020	1.Status of National Serosurvey Round 2 2.Status of approved and proposed research projects by members of ESGW 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 th Sept, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
90.	Diagnostic Group meeting 21 st Sept, 2020	Demonstration of Abbott ID Now (Molecular POCT)	
91.	ESWG Meeting 29 th 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 th 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 st NTF Meeting 11 th Oct, 2020	1. Review of evidence of Convalescent Plasma (CP) in COVID-19 management 2. Review of evidence of Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) in COVID-19 management	Chairperson and Co-Chairperson suggested against use of CP and removal of HCQ for treatment of moderate COVID-19 disease
94.	Diagnostic Group meeting 12 th Oct, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
95.	32 nd NTF Meeting 22 nd 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 th Nov, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
97.	Diagnostic Group meeting 12 th Nov, 2020	Revision of the Sample Referral Form (SRF)	
98.	ESWG Meeting 13 th 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 rd NTF Meeting 16 th 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 th 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 th Nov, 2020	1. Review the need to revise sensitivity cut-offs of existing Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) for detection of SARS-CoV-2.	



		<p>2. Feasibility of using saliva and gargle samples as an alternative to oropharyngeal and nasopharyngeal swabs.</p> <p>3. Permit the use of USFDA approved saliva based RTPCR test kits.</p> <p>4. Review the results of evaluation of the dry swab technique developed by CSIR-CCMB and recommend its use appropriately.</p>	
102.	ESWG Meeting 27 th Nov, 2020	Discussion on 3rd Round of National Sero-survey of COVID-19	
103.	Diagnostic Group meeting 28 th Nov, 2020	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
104.	ESWG Meeting 4 th 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 th Dec, 2020	<p>1.Update on status of 3rd Round of National Serosurvey of COVID-19</p> <p>2.Discussion on Vaccination Strategy against COVID-19</p>	
106.	34 th NTF Meeting 26 th Dec, 2020	<p>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.</p> <p>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.)</p>	
107.	ESWG Meeting 28 th Dec, 2020	<p>1. Update on status of 3rd Round of National Serosurvey of COVID-19</p> <p>2. Presentation on project entitled “Determinants of COVID-19 disease severity in India: a case control study</p>	
108.	35 th NTF Meeting 30 th Dec, 2020	<p>1. Presentation by NCDC of the new India SARS CoV-2 Genomic Consortium and updates on samples tested</p> <p>2. Updates on Genomic surveillance by DHR/ICMR VRDLs</p> <p>3. General discussion and recommendations</p>	



YEAR 2021

Quarter I		Total: 10 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
109.	ESWG Meeting 11 th 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 th Jan, 2021	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
111.	ESWG Meeting 27 th 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 rd 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 th 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 th 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 ESGW	
115.	Diagnostic Group meeting 15 th March, 2021	To identify key research priorities post COVID-19 vaccination	
116.	Diagnostic Group meeting 22 nd March, 2021	SoP of Inf.-SAR-CoV-2 combo RT-PCR kit	
117.	Diagnostic Group meeting 23 rd March, 2021	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
118.	CRG Meeting 25 th 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 th NTF Meeting 15 th 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 th NTF Meeting 21 st 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 (weblink)
121.	Diagnostic Group meeting 27 th 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 th NTF Meeting 30 th 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	Chairperson & Co-Chairperson suggested infographic to be in sync with home isolation guidelines issued by MoHFW. The infographic developed and shared with MoHFW on 3 rd May, 2021 (weblink)
123.	ESWG Meeting 1 st May, 2021	Technical review by ESGW 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 th May, 2021	To review voice based biomarker technology & CoviRAP RT-LAMP (IIT Kharagpur)	
125.	39 th NTF Meeting 8 th May, 2021	1. Review of evidence on drugs-mono-clonal antibodies (Itolizumab, Balanivimab, Etesevimab) and Baricitinib in COVID-19 management.	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 th May, 2021 (weblink)
126.	40 th NTF Meeting 12 th May, 2021	Update on Baricitinib in COVID-19 management	
127.	41 st NTF Meeting 14 th May, 2021	1. Discussion on Convalescent Plasma Therapy in COVID-19 management 2. Review of evidence on drugs (mono-clonal 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 th may, 2021 (weblink)
128.	42 nd NTF Meeting 23 rd 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 th 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	Protocols and update reviewed and suggestions given



		high-risk population (BRIC): a phase III, Multicentric, Quadruple blind Randomized controlled trial 2. New proposals: OTAC Study ICMR-DNDi ANTICOV Study	
130.	43 rd NTF Meeting 29 th 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 st May, 2021	1. Presentation and discussion on 4th National Serosurvey on COVID-19. 2. Update on status of vaccine effectiveness study by NIE team	
132.	44 th NTF Meeting 2 nd 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 rd June, 2021 with addendum dated 7 th June, 2021 (weblink)
133.	Diagnostic Group meeting 2 nd June, 2021	Review Meeting: Revalidation request of COVID-19 diagnostic commodities	
134.	CRG Meeting 11 th 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

Quarter III Total: 11 meetings			
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
135.	Diagnostic Group meeting 5 th July, 2021	To discuss novel technologies for screening SARS-CoV-2 infection	
136.	45 th NTF Meeting 8 th July, 2021	1. Presentation on Raloxifene in COVID-19 Management 2. COVID-19 pandemic outlook	



137.	CRG Meeting 14 th July, 2021	1. Progress of the BCG Vaccine trial in COVID-19 2. India-UK RECOVERY Clinical Trial (Randomised Evaluation of COVID-19 thERapY)	Protocol and update reviewed and suggestions given
138.	ESWG Meeting 16 th July, 2021	Sharing of the results of the 4 th round of National Serosurvey for SARS CoV-2 infection followed by discussion.	
139.	Diagnostic Group meeting 19 th July, 2021	Control measures to prevent COVID-19 transmission in frozen food through packages	
140.	46 th NTF Meeting 24 th July, 2021	1. Presentation and discussion on 4 th round of national sero-survey findings 2. Brief discussion on state level sero-surveys. 3. Presentation on COVID-19 and IDSP (genomic surveillance)	Co-chairperson remarked that sero-positivity of local area should be taken into consideration for COVID-19 vaccination
141.	Diagnostic Group meeting 11 th Aug, 2021	To discuss the validation policy for COVID-19 Ag based Home / Self test kits and RT PCR kits Primer/Probe alignment for SARS-CoV-2 VOCs	
142.	47 th NTF Meeting 14 th Aug, 2021	1. Role of Nutrition supplements in COVID-19 2. Results of sequence alignment of primers and probes of RT-PCR Kits to assess effectiveness in deleting VOCs of SARS CoV-2 3. Presentation and discussion on evidence of Nitric oxide in COVID-19 presentation 4. Review of COVID-19 Associated Mucormycosis advisory 5. Review of National treatment Protocol of COVID-19 in adults	Revised advisory on treatment & management of COVID-19 associated Mucormycosis (CAM) and important considerations
143.	48 th NTF Meeting 28 th Aug, 2021	Appraisal of new evidence on HCQ & Ivermectin in COVID-19 management	A document Considerations for exclusion of Ivermectin and Hydroxychloroquine from the “the clinical guidance for management of adult COVID-19 patients” was developed and shared on website at the following link: https://www.icmr.gov.in/pdf/covid/techdoc/Considerations for Exclusion of I VM and HCQ.pdf The revised treatment protocol was shared on ICMR website at the following link: https://www.icmr.gov.in/pdf/covid/techdoc/COVID Management Algorithm 2 3092021.pdf
144.	Diagnostic Group Meeting 31 st Aug, 2021	To discuss OSKIT Self test kit of OSCAR Medicare Pvt. Ltd. And NABL accreditation for private labs using Point-of-care NAAT for SARS-CoV-2 diagnosis	
145.	Diagnostic Group Meeting 27 th Sept, 2021	To discuss novel technologies for screening SARS-CoV-2 infection	

Quarter IV		Total: 7 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
146.	ESWG meeting 11 th Oct, 2021	Environmental surveillance of SARS CoV-2 infection	Few research questions on utility of environmental surveillance was discussed
147.	49 th NTF Meeting 17 th Oct, 2021	1. Pandemic situation and way forward 2. Scientific update on molnupiravir	
148.	Diagnostic Group Meeting 12 th Nov, 2021	Development of Online Data Portal for NGS data sharing	
149.	Diagnostic Group Meeting 17 th Nov, 2021	Availability and Gaps of Next Generation Sequencing Machines in Government Facilities in India	
150.	Diagnostic Group Meeting 29 th Nov, 2021	Novel technologies for screening SARS-CoV-2 infection and other related issues.	
151.	50 th NTF Meeting 5 th Dec, 2021	1. Update on status of Molnupiravir 2. Presentation of evidence for paxlovid 3. Open discussion on the evolution of the pandemic	The National treatment protocol for COVID-19 was reviewed in wake of Omicron variant
152.	51 st NTF Meeting 31 st Dec, 2021	1. Review of current guidelines in the light of existing evidence-Clinical guidance for management of Adult COVID-19 patients and Home Isolation & Care for COVID-19	Guidelines for Home Isolation & Care were revised and shared on ICMR website at the following link: https://www.icmr.gov.in/chomecare.html . The revised guidelines on Clinical guidance for management of Adult COVID-19 patients were shared with MoHFW for their valuable comments

2022

Quarter I		Total: 5 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
153.	52 nd NTF Meeting 10 th Jan, 2022	1. Review of evidence of molnupiravir 2. Specific clinical concerns during the current surge of cases driven by omicron variant of SARS CoV-2 3. Discussion on current state of COVID-19 pandemic and way forward	
154.	53 rd NTF Meeting 14 th Jan, 2022	1. Review of pediatric guidelines for management of COVID-19 2. Addition of tuberculosis as co-morbid condition in national treatment guideline of COVID-19 for adults. 3. Discussion on current state of COVID-19 pandemic and way forward	The revised guidelines on Clinical guidance for management of Adult COVID-19 patients are available on ICMR website at following link: https://www.icmr.gov.in/pdf/covid/tech doc/COVID_Clinical_Management_14012022.pdf
155.	CRG Meeting 3 rd Feb, 2022	Update on ongoing study 1) To evaluate efficacy of BCG in reducing the incidence and severity of COVID-19 in the high-risk population (BRIC): a Phase III multicentric, quadruple Blinded RCT 2) Study to Evaluate the Effectiveness of BCG vaccine in Reducing Morbidity and Mortality in	



		<p>Elderly individuals in COVID-19 Hotspots in India</p> <p>New proposal 1) To evaluate the efficacy of Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) as an Immune Booster with COVID-19 vaccine - COVAXIN in Reducing the Incidence and severity of COVID-19: An open-label randomized controlled trial</p> <p>Amendment to protocol of approved proposal 1) Addition of new trial arm to adaptive clinical trial - India-UK RECOVERY (Randomised Evaluation of COVid-19 thERapY) 2) Addition of new trial arm to adaptive clinical trial - AntiCoV ICMR-DNDi</p>	
156.	ESWG meeting 17 th Feb, 2022	1. To discuss the need and strategy for conducting fifth round of sero-survey on COVID-19	
157.	54 th NTF Meeting 28 th Feb, 2022	1. Strategy for genomic surveillance in the current phase of the pandemic 2. Review of 2 DG(based on explanations shared by the research team)	

Quarter II		Total: 2 meetings	
S. No.	Date	Agenda	Remarks/ Concerns raised by Chairperson/Co-chairperson
158.	Diagnostic Group Meeting 18 th April, 2022	To discuss and review the Validation protocol of multiplex combo rRTPCR assay for simultaneous detection and differentiation of various respiratory viruses (SARS-CoV-2, influenza, and respiratory syncytial viruses).	
159.	55 th NTF Meeting 28 th Apr, 2022	1. Open discussion regarding the COVID-19 pandemic-current and future trends 2. Review of evidence for paxlovid	