Press Release

Date: 09/03/2020

Suspected COVID-19 patient in West Bengal found negative

A male patient aged 32 years of District Murshidabad, West Bengal having travel history (arrived from Saudi Arabia on 07.03.2020 with overnight travel since 06.03.2020) was admitted to Murshidabad Medical College and Hospital on 08.03.2020 with complaint of cough, breathlessness but no fever.

During his journey, since 06.03.2020, the patient was sick with mild cough, running nose and not feeling well. He was a known diabetic (type1) for last two years. On admission, the patient’s Glasgow Coma Scale was very poor. He had high blood sugar level and was diagnosed as case of Diabetic keto acidosis and Respiratory tract infection. Samples (throat and nasopharyngeal swabs, whole blood, serum) were collected on 08.03.2020 afternoon and NICED staff was informed by mail around 3.00 pm for testing the samples. Samples were tested at ICMR-NICED on 09/03/2020. The patient expired on the same day at 5.00pm, as informed by the nodal person at the PH & CD Branch of West Bengal. The samples were received at NICED-VRDL on 09.03.2020 at 03:00 am early morning and immediately processing of the samples was started by standard methods (by Real time PCR). The result came negative for SARS-CoV2 test(causeative agent for COVID -19) and also for influenza panel test. The result was informed to the concerned state health officials.

About ICMR: ICMR is the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world. ICMR’s research agenda align with the National health priorities. These efforts are undertaken with a view to reduce the total burden of disease and to promote health and well-being of the population. ICMR promotes biomedical research in the country through intramural as well as extramural research. Visit us at http://icmr.gov.in

For more details:

Subject Specific
Dr Shanta Dutta,
Director
ICMR-National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases, Kolkata
Email: shanta.niced@icmr.gov.in
Phone: +91-33-2363 3373, 23701176

Media Coordinator
Dr Lokesh Sharma
Scientist E
Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi
Email: sharma.lk@icmr.gov.in