

Government of Nepal Ministry of Health and Population



Health Sector Response to Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

Thursday | 20 Chaitra 2076 (2nd April 2020)

Major Activities:

- A video conference was held with the participation of Health Ministers of 11 countries under World Health Organization - South East Asia Regional Office (WHO-SEARO). On behalf of Government of Nepal, Honorable Minister of Health and Population Mr Bhanubhakta Dhakal participated in the conference. The conference focused on sharing of countries' experiences on COVID-19 control and response activities and mutual support and collaboration between the member states.







- The COVID-19 testing criteria has been revised. To date, lab testing for COVID-19 was only done for individuals who had a travel history or had contacts with people who tested positive for COVID-19 and showed symptoms of the disease. Keeping the aforementioned criteria intact, the criteria has been expanded as the COVID-19 test will be done for all suspected people above 60 years of age showing symptoms of COVID-19.
- All passengers travelling together in the same flights with positive cases of COVID-19 and other people who have come in contact with the positive cases will be tested for COVID-19.
- Arrangement has been made to collect details of doctors and other health professionals hindering the treatment of COVID-19 and other health service delivery and to take necessary actions against them following investigations.
- Considering the grave situation of COVID-19 globally and maintaining uninterrupted health services nationwide, a decision has been made not to allow leave provision or deputation of any health workers.

Logistics Management: Department of Health Services (DoHS) has continued the distribution of necessary items such as disinfectant sprayer pump, PPE (N95 masks, gowns, googles, gloves, googles) and thermometer as per the demand and need.

Expansion of Laboratory Service: In addition to National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL), Teku, provision of COVID 19 lab test services has been made in the following institutions of seven provinces.

Province	Hospital	Operational status of labs for COVID-19 test services			
Province 1	Bisheshwar Prasad Koirala Institute of Health Science (BPKIHS)	Lab test started from 16 th Chaitra, 2076 (29 th March, 2020)			
Province 2	Janakpur Provincial Hospital	In the process of equipment installation			
Bagmati Province	Vector Borne Disease Research and Training Center, Hetauda	Equipment installed and ready to start lab test			
Gandaki Province	Pokhara Academy of Health Science	Started from 18 th Chaitra, 2076 (31 st March, 2020)			
Province 5	Lumbini Provincial Hospital	In the process of equipment installation			
Karnali Province	Surkhet Provincial Hospital	Equipment installed and preparation for starting lab test			
Sudurpaschim Province	Seti Provincial Hospital, Dhangadi	In the process of equipment installation			

Information and Communication: Today, a total of 2759 people contacted to COVID-19 call centers (1115 and 1133) for COVID-19 related information.

Number of patients at hospitals treating COVID-19 cases						
Hospitals	Patients in isolation	Patients in ICU				
Sukraraj Tropical and Infectious Disease Hospital	6	0				
Patan Hospital	3	0				
Armed Police Force Hospital (COVID-19 Unified Command Hospital)	7	0				
Total	16	0				
As of 20th Chaitra 2076 (2 nd April 2020), 14:00hrs						

ILI/SARI cases reported from EWARS sentinel sites					
Date	ILI/SARI cases				
28 March	89				
29 March	60				
30 March	47				
31 March	55				
01 April	63				
	As of 20th Chaitra 2076 (2 nd April 2020), 16:00hrs				

Laboratory Test: Through the laboratory test done till date, six individuals have tested positive for COVID-19. All six cases are imported cases. Today one new case was reported. The first infected person has recovered and gone back to resume his normal life.

Laboratory Investigation Status							
Laboratory	Total specimen	n tested	Positive				
	Total as of today	New	Total as of today	New			
National Public Health Lab	1170	37	6	1			
Bisheshwor Prasad Koirala Institute of Health Sciences	12	0	0	0			
Provincial Public Health Laboratory, Pokhara	3	3	0	0			
Total	1185	40	6	1			
	As of 20th Chaitra 2076 (2 nd April 2020), 16:00hrs						

^{*}Out of 24 samples collected, results of 12 samples are received and results of remaining 12 are yet to be out.

Standards and Guidelines:

- 1) <u>Guideline on the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in the context of COVID-19 (based on the WHO criteria by Nepal Medical Council and Nepal Government's experts</u>
- 2) COVID-19 SOP, Case Investigation and Tracing form
- 3) Protocol for ILI clinics (COVID-19 screening fever clinics)

Province	No. of quarantine beds	No. of patient in quarantine	No. of isolation beds	No. of patients in isolation	Status of swab tests till 19th Chaitra 2076				Total swab	
					Negative	Positive	Report awaiting	Total	collected (19 Chaitra 2076)	No. of PPE in stock
Province 1	3922	775	385	7	42	0	20	62	8	1261
Province 2	2249	611	358	15	8	0	17	25	13	492
Bagmati Province	3348	374	673	13	91	0	29	120	10	1689
Gandaki Province	4120	1357	251	6	20	1	22	43	25	1598
Province 5	4722	2635	500	37	71	0	10	81	10	589
Karnali Province	3109	892	470	0	19	0	3	22	20	900
Sudurpaschim Province	3169	1861	234	11	39	1	12	52	31	381
Total	24639	8505	2871	89	290	2	113	405	117	6910

Note: This report does not include information from hospitals in Kathmandu valley.

Source: NEOC, Ministry of Home Affairs and Provincial Health Directorate, 19th Chaitra 2076 (1 April 2020)

General public are requested to follow personal safety measures and stay at home during the lockdown period as advised by the Government of Nepal.