



NOTTO

राष्ट्रीय अंग एवं ऊतक प्रत्यारोपण संगठन
National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation

स्वास्थ्य सेवा महानिदेशालय, स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India

अंगदान-जीवनदान

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Date: 11.11.2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: - Revised national transplant specific guidelines for COVID-19 testing for carrying out organ donation and transplantation, effective from the date of issue of this letter

Based on the recommendations of the experts of the Apex technical committee of NOTTO for Organ Transplantation and subsequent comments received, following guidelines are issued, with the approval of the competent authority, for implementation all over the country.

Guidelines:

1. Keeping in view the magnitude of COVID-19, which has come down quite significantly and number is decreasing including the total number of cases being reported from whole of India is very few only;
2. Recognizing that the organ donation rate in India continues to be very low and there are many instances of discarding the organs of asymptomatic donors based on the COVID-19 positive report leading to loss of number of donated organs and tissues which could have saved many lives and improved the quality of lives of many others;
3. Recognizing that COVID-19 affects lungs primarily and even in asymptomatic patients can cause damage in lung transplant cases;
4. Observing that COVID-19 vaccine status of donor or recipient has not impacted the transplant outcome and at present is also not being implemented under the Government Programme;
5. Also, observing that waiting for the COVID-19 testing report may sometimes delay the deceased donor organ allocation for transplantation.

Following is recommended, for implementing all over the country:

1. Uniform testing for COVID-19 will not be mandatory for asymptomatic donor as well as recipient for organ transplantation cases (both living and deceased donor transplant) except for lung transplantation, where it would be mandatory to do COVID RTPCR test for both donor and recipient.
2. For symptomatic cases of donor or recipient or both, the call for COVID-19 testing may be taken by the treating doctor/clinician based on their assessment of such cases.

The guidelines may be reviewed depending on situation of COVID-19, from time to time as per the requirement.

The guidelines being revised are only in respect of requirement of COVID-19 testing in case of both living & deceased donors and recipients of organ transplantation.

Anil Kumar

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मरणोपरांत अंगदान-सबसे बड़ा पुण्य है।



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However other guidelines related to COVID-19 are applicable as per recommendations of PH division of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, issued from time to time.

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To,

1. ACS/ Principal Secretary/Secretary (H&FW), All States/UTs
2. State Appropriate Authority under Transplantation of Human Organs & Tissue Act (THOTA) 1994, All States/UTs
3. Director/ Incharge, All ROTTOs/ SOTTOs

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