DOI: 10.4103/0971-5916.286255



## Authors' response

We thank the author for reading our article and making good observations. Yes, the testing for COVID-19 suspected cases and contacts was performed once. Only for evacuees, testing was performed twice at days 0 and 14 of quarantine. Further, of the 1,263 individuals for whom any travel history was available, history of foreign travel was documented for 1,081 individuals (244 with a travel history to Wuhan, 481 with a travel history to areas of China other than Wuhan, 198 with a history of travel to other South-East Asian countries and 158 with no pertinent overseas travel history), and the remaining 182 individuals had travel history within India.

A total of 67 samples from 64 contacts of the first three positive cases from Kerala were tested. This included two samples from three contacts, and a single sample from the remaining 61 contacts.

Nivedita Gupta<sup>1</sup>, Varsha Potdar<sup>4</sup>, Ira Praharaj<sup>1</sup>, Sidhartha Giri<sup>1</sup>, Gajanan Sapkal<sup>5</sup>, Pragya Yadav<sup>5</sup>, Manohar Lal Choudhary<sup>4</sup>, Lalit Dar<sup>2</sup>, A.P. Sugunan<sup>8</sup>, Harmanmeet Kaur<sup>3</sup>, Ashok Munivenkatappa<sup>9</sup>, Jayanthi Shastri<sup>6</sup>, Krishnasamy Kaveri<sup>11</sup>, Shanta Dutta<sup>12</sup>, Bharti Malhotra<sup>13</sup>, Amita Jain<sup>14</sup>, Kammilli Nagamani<sup>15</sup>, G.B. Shantala<sup>10</sup>,

Sharmila Raut<sup>7</sup>, M.M. Vegad<sup>16</sup>, Ajanta Sharma<sup>17</sup>, Aashish Choudhary<sup>2</sup>, Megha Brijwal<sup>2</sup>, Anukumar Balakrishnan<sup>8</sup>, Jayaswamy Manjunatha9, Manish Pathak6, Sivasubramanian Srinivasan<sup>11</sup>, Hasina Banu<sup>12</sup>, Himanshu Sharma<sup>13</sup>, Parul Jain<sup>14</sup>, Pakalpati Sunita<sup>15</sup>, R. Ambica<sup>10</sup>. Babita Fageria<sup>7</sup>, Disha Patel<sup>16</sup>, Gitika Rajbongshi<sup>17</sup>, Neetu Vijay<sup>3</sup>, Jitendra Narayan<sup>3</sup>, Neeraj Aggarwal<sup>1</sup>, Anu Nagar<sup>3</sup>, Raman R. Gangakhedkar<sup>1</sup> & Priya Abraham\* <sup>1</sup>Division of Epidemiology & Communicable Diseases, Indian Council of Medical Research, <sup>2</sup>Department of Microbiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi 110 029, <sup>3</sup>Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi 110 001, <sup>4</sup>Influenza Group, <sup>5</sup>Maximum Containment Laboratory, †ICMR-National Institute of Virology, Pune 411 021, 6Department of Microbiology, Kasturba Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Mumbai 400 034, <sup>7</sup>Department of Microbiology, Indira Gandhi Government Medical College & Hospital, Nagpur 440 018, Maharashtra, <sup>8</sup>ICMR-National Institute of Virology Kerala Unit, Alappuzha 688 005, Kerala, 9ICMR-National Institute of Virology Bangalore Field Unit, Bengaluru 560 011, <sup>10</sup>Bangalore Medical College & Research Institute, Bengaluru 560 002, Karnataka, <sup>11</sup>Department of Virology, King Institute of Preventive Medicine & Research, Chennai 600 032, Tamil Nadu, <sup>12</sup>ICMR-National Institute of Cholera & Enteric Diseases, Kolkata 700 010, West Bengal, <sup>13</sup>Department of Microbiology, Sawai Man Singh Medical College, Jaipur 302 004, Rajasthan, <sup>14</sup>Department of Microbiology, King George's Medical University, Lucknow 226 003, Uttar Pradesh, <sup>15</sup>Department of Microbiology, Gandhi Medical College & Hospital, Secunderabad 500 003, Telangana, <sup>16</sup>Department of Microbiology, Byramjee Jeejeebhoy Medical College, Ahmedabad 380 016, Gujarat & <sup>17</sup>Department of Microbiology, Gauhati Medical College & Hospital, Guwahati 781 032, Assam, India \*For correspondence: priya.abraham@icmr.gov.in director.niv@icmr.gov.in