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Indian Council of Medical Research  
Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health  
and Family Welfare, Government of India

**Date: 19/05/2020**

## **Revised Guidelines for TrueNat testing for COVID-19**

The TrueNat system is now a comprehensive assay for screening and confirmation of COVID-19 cases.

- 1) The sample is collected in viral lysis buffer and hence biosafety and biosecurity requirements for use of TrueNat machines are minimal.
- 2) Assay: The assay comprises of following two steps.
  - A) **Step 1:** This is E gene screening assay. All samples of suspect COVID-19 should be first tested by this assay. All negatives are to be considered as **true negatives**. All positive samples should be subjected to confirmation by step 2 assay.
  - B) **Step 2:** RdRp gene confirmatory assay. All samples that test positive by this assay must be considered as **true positive**.
- 3) No further RT-PCR based confirmation is required for samples that are positive after step 2 of the assay above.
- 4) All positive and negative results must be reported to ICMR portal in real time manner.