### Contents

- Chief Executive Officer’s Message ................................................................................................................................. 2
- APAC MRA Update ............................................................................................................................................................ 3
- NABL Policy for Use of NABL Symbol ............................................................................................................................ 4
- NABL MELT Labs Program ............................................................................................................................................... 6
- Official Communications from NABL ................................................................................................................................ 16
- Information from Government / Regulators .................................................................................................................... 17
- Opportunities for NABL Accredited Laboratories ........................................................................................................... 19
- Fresh Accredited Laboratories ............................................................................................................................................ 23
- Accreditation Granted to Testing Laboratories .................................................................................................................. 23
- Accreditation Granted to Calibration Laboratories .......................................................................................................... 24
- Accreditation Granted to Medical Testing Laboratories .................................................................................................. 25
- Article: Guidelines / Advisories for Laboratories Post Lockdown ...................................................................................... 26
- NABL Response to COVID-19 .......................................................................................................................................... 32
Dear NABL Patrons,

I thank you all for the support and cooperation extended to NABL in this tough time. I also thank NABL team especially officers handling medical labs for their quick response to the applications received to extend scope for RT-PCR RNA virus testing.

Around 100 NABL accredited medical testing laboratories have been listed by ICMR for testing of SARS-COV-2 Virus. Listing of these NABL accredited laboratories helped exponentially increase the number of samples which are being tested and thereby supporting in diagnosis of COVID-19 patients.

NABL accredited laboratories have come forward and are providing their services in testing PPE, Medical Devices and other important equipment to ensure that only products which meet the specifications are being used.

Government has given exemption to essential services to operate during this lockdown. NABL accredited laboratories catering to such areas have been allowed to operate for supporting these services. This fact further underlines the important role that laboratories play in the wellbeing of the nation.

NABL assessors and officers are working hard to ensure that there are adequate numbers of laboratories to cater to the ongoing necessity for testing. We are updating the list of laboratories on our website regularly.

We would also invite laboratories which are capable of testing RNA Virus, PPE, Medical Devices and other important equipment to come forward for accreditation and contribute at this critical juncture.

To facilitate NABL accredited laboratories, we are making use of digitization and technology in every aspect of accreditation process to ensure all the requirements are being met. Also, important changes in policy are being brought forward on request of laboratories such as changes in NABL 133, simplifying the process for changes in CAB activities such as signatory change and equipment change, etc. and removal of 4-day internal auditor training requirements.

In this month, extension in validity of accreditation was given to 113 laboratories.

As we observe World Health Day (7th April 2020) and Medical laboratory professional week (18th to 25th April) the importance of accredited laboratories and accurate test results has been emphasized all over the world.

I appreciate all who have contributed in making this lockdown a success and working remotely in order to maintain the functioning of the economy.

N. Venkateswaran
NABL receives APAC MRA in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011: 2017

NABL Policy for Use of NABL Symbol

• Extension in implementation of NABL 133 (Issue 09) till 30.06.2020

The transition period for implementation of NABL 133 ‘Policy for use of NABL symbol and / or claim of accreditation by accredited conformity assessment bodies (CAB) & NABL accredited CAB combined ILAC MRA Mark’ Issue 09, Issue Date 13-Dec-2019 has been extended till 30.06.2020.

Compliance of the policy shall be verified from 01.07.2020 and CABs are required to submit self-declaration before the deadline. The declaration can be sent to testing@nabl.qcin.org for testing laboratories, calibration@nabl.qcin.org for calibration laboratories and medical@nabl.qcin.org for medical laboratories or the email ID mentioned in CAB dashboard on NABL web portal.

• The agreement to use NABL accredited CAB combined ILAC MRA Mark is to be submitted afresh for each accreditation cycle after renewal of accreditation to seek permission to use the mark. Also, in case of discontinuity in between the accreditation cycle for any adverse action, the agreement is no longer valid and CAB has to seek fresh permission to use the mark.

• NABL 133 Issue No: 9 Amendment No: 2 Amendment Date: 29.04.2020 has been amended with respect to the following:

  o Clarification for use of NABL symbol in test reports / calibration certificates
  o Clarification on applicability of NABL accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark and condition when permission will not be granted.
  o Clarification included about symbol not permitted
  o Modifications in line with ILAC R7 for NABL Accredited CAB combined ILAC MRA Mark.
  o Amendment in Terms and Conditions for use of NABL accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark in Appendix A

Extract of NABL 133 (Policy):

Policy

For use of NABL symbol

Use of NABL symbol is mandatory for the parameters / tests covered under NABL accredited scope on all the test report / certificate, medical test report / certificate, calibration certificate / report, PT report and RM document issued by NABL Accredited CAB. Narrative reference to accredited status in place of NABL symbol is not acceptable in test reports / calibration certificates / PT report / RM document.

NABL accreditation is location specific. The accreditation claim shall be related only to the specific CAB location that is covered under the NABL scope of accreditation, and not with any other non-accredited locations.
Separate report/certificate be issued for non-accredited parameters. Asterisk mark or any other symbol is not allowed/not permitted to use in the report/certificate containing accredited parameters. (The intent of the para is to avoid misuse of NABL symbol and not to mislead customers about accreditation status. So, NABL symbol was not allowed/not permitted in pages and/or part of a report/certificate where non-accredited parameters occur).

**For Claim of Accreditation**

Accredited CAB can claim accreditation in narrative reference also. Where the claim of accreditation is made in a narrative reference to accredited status in publicity material, it shall be accompanied by the ‘Accreditation Certificate number’.

For example, in case of testing laboratory, it shall be as

- NABL accredited testing laboratory vide certificate number TC-XXXX
- Accredited by NABL vide Certificate number TC-XXXX
- ISO/IEC 17025 Accredited testing laboratory by NABL vide Certificate number TC-XXXX

The claim of accredited status is not to be done on any report/certificate/document which contains non-accredited parameters.

**For use of NABL Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark**

NABL Accredited CAB {Testing Laboratory / Medical testing Laboratory / Calibration Laboratory / Proficiency Testing Provider (PTP)} wishing to use ‘NABL Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark’ shall obtain approval in writing from NABL and agree to the rules for the use of the Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark.

The NABL accredited CAB shall use the NABL Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark only after getting written permission from NABL. If any NABL accredited CAB wishes to use the NABL Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark, they shall need to fill in the Appendix ‘A’- Agreement for use of NABL Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark and submit it to NABL.

NABL shall only grant permission to use ‘NABL Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark’ to NABL accredited CABs established in economies where the ILAC MRA Mark is registered, or where an application for registration has been lodged and registration is pending.

NABL shall not permit the use of NABL Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA Mark to the CAB, if there is any on-going complaint against the that particular CAB.

Example of NABL Accredited CAB Combined ILAC MRA MARK
NABL has launched voluntary scheme namely “NABL Medical Entry Level Testing (MELT) Laboratory program” for sensitizing the medical testing laboratories performing basic testing to quality practices and access to quality health care for the majority of citizens especially those residing in villages, small towns.

This scheme is an independent quality assurance scheme, which is not covered under APAC & ILAC MRA

The existing scheme has been revised and now this scheme is based on satisfactory proficiency testing (PT) performance and valid for one cycle of three years.

Labs are required to submit their application through NABL website (www.nabl-india.org). The application will be reviewed by NABL and decision on recognition will be taken based on performance in proficiency testing (PT). During the recognition period (within three years), on-site assessment (surveillance) will be conducted.

Steps to Submit Online Application for NABL Recognition

1. Minimum Eligibility Criteria to submit Application
   - The applicant laboratory shall have satisfactorily participated in Proficiency Testing (PT) program conducted by accredited PT provider as per ISO/IEC 17043 before submission of application.
   - Test parameters covered in last six months in PT programs shall be considered for recognition. Six months shall be calculated from date of application submission.
   - PT result / report received date shall be considered for PT participation date.
   - Scope once recognized cannot be changed during recognition period. There is no provision for extension in scope in this scheme.
   - Laboratory shall be legally identifiable.

2. Requirement to submit the Application
   - Application has to be submitted from Laboratory premises – for geo tagging of laboratory premises and equipment.

3. Documents to be kept ready (scan copy) before submitting Application
   - Copy of Legal Identity of Laboratory
   - PT Participation report for the applied scope
   - Calibration Report / AMC of the equipment record required to test the parameters under the applied scope

4. Steps to submit the application
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place of Work</th>
<th>Steps</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Web based - Through internet in Laptop / desktop / Mobile | ✓ Fill the details for registration as asked in form (Laboratory details, Scope for recognition, PT Participation information). Login ID and Password will be generated.  
✓ Upload the desired documents (Legal Identity, PT Participation report, Calibration report / AMC record of equipment) |   |
| Android Based Mobile          | ✓ Download the NABL QAS BC App from the play store, download the App. Enter the login ID and Password (created during registration process). Please note App has to be installed through the phone number used for registration.  
✓ Click the pictures and enter the desired information in the App (Picture of Lab location, Pictures of equipment entered while uploading documents and other necessary information as asked) Save the information in the App. |   |
| Web based - Through internet in Laptop / desktop / Mobile | ✓ Go to your registered account.  
✓ Enter the mobile number which is used to work on the app.  
✓ All the information uploaded in App will automatically be updated in laboratory account.  
✓ See the preview of the application. Verify all the information.  
✓ Press the submit button  
✓ An auto reply will be sent to registered email and phone number. |   |

**Note:** after completing the above steps application for recognition will be submitted successfully.

### Fee Structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Fee / Charges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recognition Fee (for three year, payable before issue of certificate)</td>
<td>₹ 15000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveillance Charge (payable at on-site assessment)</td>
<td>On actual basis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** In addition to the above-mentioned fee, GST @18% is to be paid along with said charges / fee.
Scope of NABL MELT Laboratory program

Scope in the NABL MELT Laboratory program is fixed. Laboratory can apply for the following scope only under this scheme.

1. HIV-1 antibodies

2. Clinical Biochemistry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sodium</th>
<th>Chloride</th>
<th>Potassium</th>
<th>Magnesium</th>
<th>Glucose</th>
<th>Amylase</th>
<th>Lipase</th>
<th>Calcium</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D. Bilirubin</td>
<td>Glycated Hb (HbA1C)</td>
<td>Inorganic Phosphorus</td>
<td>Lactic Acid Dehydrogenase (LDH)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creatine Phosphokinase (CPK/CK)</td>
<td>Lipid Profile Cholesterol, Triglyceride</td>
<td>High Density Lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL)</td>
<td>Gamma Glutamyl Transferase (GGT)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Density Lipoprotein Cholesterol (LDL)</td>
<td>Renal Function Tests (Urea/ Blood Urea Nitrogen, Creatinine, Uric acid)</td>
<td>Liver Function Tests (Total Bilirubin, Alanine aminotransferase (ALT/SGPT), Aspartate Aminotransferase (AST/SGOT), Alkaline Phosphatase (ALP), Albumin, Total Protein)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Haematology

Haemogram/ CBC (Haemoglobin, Total Leucocyte Count (TLC), Differential Leucocyte Count (DLC – Lymphocyte, Monocyte, Basophils, Eosinophils, Neutrophils), Platelet count, Red Blood Cell Count (RBC) Count, Packed Cell Volume (PCV)/ Hematocrit (HCT), Mean Corpuscular Volume (MCV), Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin (MCH), Mean Corpuscular Haemoglobin Concentration (MCHC)

4. Clinical Pathology (Urine Routine Examination)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protein</th>
<th>Glucose</th>
<th>pH</th>
<th>Leukocytes</th>
<th>Specific Gravity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ketones</td>
<td>Bilirubin</td>
<td>Nitrite</td>
<td>Blood (Haemoglobin)</td>
<td>Uroblinogen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Infectious Serology / Immunology (Rapid tests)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rheumatoid (RA) Factor</th>
<th>C-Reactive Protein</th>
<th>Anti HCV/ HCV Ab</th>
<th>Typhoid (IgG/IgM)</th>
<th>WIDAL for Typhoid</th>
<th>Antistreptolysin O (ASO)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B Surface Antigen (HBsAg)</td>
<td></td>
<td>HIV Antigen + HIV Ab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Syphilis Serology (Rapid Plasma Reagin), VDRL, Treponema pallidum hemagglutination assay (TPHA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Information from Quality Desk

• Procedure for Change in CAB personnel for review, report and authorizing the results

During the accredited period, there can be addition/deletion of CAB personnel for review, report and authorizing the results For this the CAB is required to inform NABL and submit the following documents.

A. CAB to submit the request to NABL along with detailed bio-data/CV of the person and applicable existing fees.

B. CAB to provide recommendations of new persons from existing NABL accepted personnel who review, report and authorize results. If there are no existing NABL accepted personnel for the particular scope, then the CAB to submit a competence report (as per lab procedure) of the person's competence.

C. CAB to submit a declaration by the Head of organization that the person proposed meets the qualification and experience requirements for the scope as per the relevant International Standard (ISO/IEC 17025 or ISO 15189 or ISO/IEC 17043 or ISO 17034) and NABL criteria.

D. NABL will process the case in any of the following ways:
   1. Accept the documentary evidence and confirm to the lab. The person can be alternate to the existing accepted personnel.
   2. Accept the documents (confirm the lab for provisional acceptance). An Assessment (verification for competence of personnel) will be conducted on-site in the next routine assessment. If desktop is due, then it will be converted into onsite assessment.
   3. NABL may conduct an assessment to confirm competence of the personnel, if the change is CAB head or as deemed fit by NABL

In all cases, Approval from competent authority for acceptance of person is obtained.

Note:
   i. In case, the provisional accepted person leaves the CAB, the procedure is repeated for deletion and addition
   ii. In case of any specific certification (like in NDT, etc) or knowledge of additional regulatory requirement (like in EIC, etc) is needed, then the same will be emphasized for accepting the request of CAB.
This addition of authorized signatory will be completed withing 24 working hours.
Information from Quality Desk

- **Procedure for change in test / calibration method and / or equipment**

  During the accredited period, there can be changes (revision, amendment, modification, etc) / updation in test method and/or equipment of laboratory

  For this, the laboratory must inform NABL and submit the following documents.

  A. Laboratory to inform regarding the changes to NABL along with details as per format attached and applicable existing fees.

  B. Laboratory to submit evidence in the form of records or competence report (as per laboratory procedure) for the changes made. For example, it can be a validation record and/or calibration certificate, as relevant to the changes.

  C. Laboratory to submit a declaration (format attached) by the Head of Organization that the laboratory complies with the changes for the scope as per the relevant International Standard (ISO/IEC 17025 or ISO 15189) and corresponding NABL criteria.

  D. NABL will process the case in one of the following ways:

  1. Accept the documentary evidence and confirm to the laboratory for use of NABL symbol in test reports/calibration certificates in case of no change in

     i) Equipment (Purchase new or additional equipment and/or replaced existing equipment etc).

     ii) technique or technology

     iii) test/calibration method (for example, if it is dual standard, equivalent standard, similar standard, version change, etc.)

    **which doesn’t result in re-issue of scope of accreditation.** Verification shall be done in next on-site assessment and scope will be amended & re-issued.

  **Example 1:** Laboratory is required to follow the latest version of the test/calibration method and is allowed to use NABL symbol. But if its customer requires in older version, then laboratory to document that it has informed the customer about latest version and is still required to be done as per older version. The laboratory can then do it in older version and is allowed to use NABL symbol in test reports.

  **Example 2:** Only the version of the standard has changed e.g. APHA 22nd Edition has changed to APHA 23rd Edition but in the new edition, the method used by laboratory for a parameter e.g. for chloride APHA 4500 Cl Argentometric method remains unchanged. Lab is allowed to use NABL symbol in test reports after acceptance and confirmation by NABL.

  **Example 3:** Laboratory can procure a new equipment with exactly same technique, for tests in accredited scope. The laboratory can conduct testing / calibration using the new equipment and is allowed to use NABL symbol in test reports / calibration certificates after acceptance and confirmation by NABL.
**Example 4:** The laboratory is using Noise meter of Type-2 but for better accuracy replaces it by a Noise meter of Type-1. Lab is allowed to use NABL symbol in test reports after acceptance and confirmation by NABL.

**Example 5:** In testing of metals in soil or hazardous waste, digestion is done by wet method but changes to Microwave-digestion systems. Lab is allowed to use NABL symbol in test reports after acceptance and confirmation by NABL.

2. Accept the documentary evidence (or otherwise) with an expert comment (or conduct supplementary visit) and confirm to the laboratory for use of NABL symbol in test reports/calibration certificates in case of significant change in

   a) Equipment (increase in capability, etc.)
   b) technique or technology [addition of new molecule or change in Maximum Residue Level (MRL), etc]
   c) test and / or calibration method

**which will result in re-issue of scope of accreditation.** Assessment (verification for changes) will be conducted on-site in the next routine assessment. If desktop assessment is due, then it will be converted into onsite assessment.

**Example 1:** If there is addition of new molecule or changes in MRL, the lab can do the necessary validation and inform NABL for inclusion in the scope of accreditation. Lab is allowed to use NABL symbol in test reports after acceptance and confirmation by NABL.

**Example 2:** If a testing laboratory has accreditation for testing pesticide formulations, it may be capable of testing other pesticides also. The lab can do the necessary validation and inform NABL for inclusion in the scope of accreditation. Lab is allowed to use NABL symbol in test reports after acceptance and confirmation by NABL.

**Example 3:** If a calibration laboratory has accreditation for calibrating weights up to 5 kg, it can be capable of calibrating up to 50 kg. The Lab can inform NABL for inclusion of weights up to 50 kg in the scope of accreditation. Lab is allowed to use NABL symbol in test reports after acceptance and confirmation by NABL.

3. NABL may conduct an assessment to confirm competence for the changes in test/calibration method and/ or equipment, if the change is within a month of onsite audit or frequent change or as deemed fit by NABL.

In all cases, Approval of the competent authority for acceptance is to be obtained and laboratory can use NABL symbol from the date of acceptance by NABL. Evidence of acceptance to be maintained by laboratory to avoid action on misuse of NABL symbol, if any.
Information regarding changes

1. Test / Calibration Method

   a) Testing Laboratories – Test Method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Materials or Products tested</th>
<th>Component, parameter or characteristic tested/ Specific Test Performed/ Tests or type of tests performed</th>
<th>Test Method Specification against which tests are performed and/or the techniques/ equipment used</th>
<th>Range of Testing/ Limits of detection</th>
<th>Measurement Uncertainty (±) at Observed Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

   b) Medical Laboratories – Test Method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Materials or Products tested</th>
<th>Component, parameter or characteristic tested/ Specific Test Performed/ Tests or type of tests performed</th>
<th>Test Method Specification against which tests are performed and/or the techniques/ equipment used</th>
<th>Range of Testing/ Limits of detection</th>
<th>% CV / MU (±)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

   c) Calibration Laboratories – Calibration Method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Measurand or Reference Material/ Type of instrument or material to be calibrated or measured/ Quantity Measured / Instrument</th>
<th>Calibration or Measurement Method or Procedure</th>
<th>Measurement range and additional parameters where applicable (Range and Frequency)</th>
<th>Calibration and Measurement Capability (CMC) (±)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### Equipment

#### a) Testing or Medical Laboratories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of equipment</th>
<th>Model/ type/ year of make</th>
<th>Receipt date &amp; date placed in service</th>
<th>Range and accuracy</th>
<th>Date of last calibration</th>
<th>Calibration due on</th>
<th>Calibrated by</th>
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</table>

#### b) Calibration Laboratories

#### i. Standard Maintained

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Field &amp; Parameter</th>
<th>Standard maintained</th>
<th>Model/ type/ year of make</th>
<th>Receipt dt. &amp; dt. placed in service</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Measurement Uncertainty</th>
<th>Dt. of last calibration/ calibration due on</th>
<th>Calibrated by</th>
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</table>

#### ii. Calibration Facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Field &amp; Parameter</th>
<th>Major Equipment</th>
<th>Model/ type/ year of make</th>
<th>Receipt dt. &amp; dt. placed in service</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Overall Measurement Uncertainty</th>
<th>Date of last calibration/ calibration due on</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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</table>
**Declaration regarding changes in test/calibration method and/or equipment**

CAB Name: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

CAB ID: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Certificate Number and Validity of the Accreditation Certificate:
………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

1. Changes in test/calibration method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Existing method</th>
<th>Changes</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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</table>

2. Changes in equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Existing Equipment</th>
<th>Changes</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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3. Attachment: Records/competence report (as per lab procedure) for the changes made

(Example: Validation record and/or calibration certificate, as relevant to the changes)

I hereby declare that the above information provided is true and the laboratory complies with the changes for the scope as per relevant requirements of the Standard (ISO/IEC 17025 / ISO 15189) and NABL policies & criteria for the scope of accreditation.

I also understand and accept that in case, if the above information is found false or ambiguous, NABL has the right to take any adverse (suspend or deny or debar or otherwise) actions against the above changes and/or laboratory’s full scope (as per NABL 216) as deemed appropriate.

**Signature of Laboratory Head**

(Date, Name & Designation)
Information from Quality Desk

- NABL has released a document NABL 231 ‘Contract between NABL and accreditation committee members’ Issue No. 1, Issue Date 27-April-2020.

- Inclusion of two new categories of micro laboratories and mini laboratories in the classification of medical laboratories which benefit small laboratories and encourage more medical laboratories to come forward for accreditation.

- Accredited CABs can download the NABL symbol from the current / last activity dashboard after logging on to NABL web portal. Please refer NABL 133 for instructions on the use of NABL symbol.

- Mandatory requirement of 4 days training program has been discontinued. Competence of person responsible for management system will be verified during on-site assessment.
Official Communications from NABL

Due care should be taken by all NABL stakeholders to prevent misrepresentation of NABL officials and inadvertently sharing any sensitive information.

Please note that official website of NABL is (www.nabl-india.org)

Official Emails are with the following domain “xx@nabl.qcin.org”

Other webpages under the ambit of NABL are:

- NABL Web portal (nablwp.qci.org.in)
- NABL MELT Labs Program (http://nablMelt.qci.org.in)
- Sample Collection Facility (https://nablscf.qci.org.in/)
- NABL Payment gateway (https://smarthubgovernment.hdfcbank.com/SmartHubGovt/NABLMainPage.jsp)

Note: All the above web portals to be accessed through NABL website (www.nabl-india.org)

To share updates of NABL with improved visibility, NABL utilizes the following social media accounts.

- NABL Twitter Handle @NABL_QCI (https://twitter.com/nabl_qci)
- NABL LinkedIn Webpage (https://www.linkedin.com/company/nabl-india)

Please take due care if you are receiving emails other than the above domains and from emails impersonating NABL officials.
Information from Government / Regulators

INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH

Criteria for initiation of additional COVID-19 testing laboratories

Currently, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has approved the COVID-19 testing in more than 200 laboratories across the country. Based on the new requests from several districts of India for initiation of COVID-19 testing, ICMR has formulated the following guidelines for establishment of a new testing laboratory for COVID-19 testing in any district.

In areas with no operational COVID-19 testing facility, a new facility will be considered subject to fulfillment of the following criteria (applicable from 5th April, 2020):

i. The number of suspected cases in that particular district should be more than 100 per day.

ii. The nearest testing laboratory for COVID-19 is more than:
   a. Plain areas- 250 kms (4-5 hrs @ 60 Km/hr)
   b. Hilly areas- 150 kms (5 hrs @ 30Km/hr)

iii. In case there are testing laboratories within the above-mentioned distance, each of the existing testing laboratories should be testing at least 100 samples per day.

iv. If the nearest testing laboratory is within the above-mentioned distance, and not testing 100 samples per day, and does not agree to test the samples from the affected district, then the existing laboratory will be closed down, and permission will be given to the new laboratory.

v. The district should have a government laboratory with the following:
   • Availability of BSL-2 level laboratory including a molecular biology setup for virological diagnosis.
   • Availability of a functioning and calibrated Biosafety cabinet type 2A/2B in the laboratory.
   • Availability of cold centrifuge/microfuge for RNA extraction.
   • Availability of a functioning and calibrated real-time PCR machine.
   • Availability of staff with good understanding of laboratory biosafety and biosecurity, trained for handling respiratory samples for viral diagnosis, RNA extraction and realtime PCR.
   • Available staff with experience of work in virology and handling clinical specimens, especially respiratory samples.
   • A robust Institutional policy on biomedical waste management of human origin.
   • Well defined arrangement for segregation and discarding of biomedical waste.

   (Proofs of the above-mentioned requirements need to be submitted to ICMR while applying for a new testing laboratory, which will include documents and photographs of the laboratory)

vi. If the district has no government laboratory, but has a private laboratory which can apply for COVID-19 testing, the laboratory should have NABL accreditation, and the scope of accreditation must include real-time PCR for respiratory viruses.

(All the required documentations which needs to be provided by the private laboratory to ICMR is available in the official website of ICMR)
Information from Government / Regulators

The Standards & Labeling Program for Deep Freezer has been launched on a voluntary basis and the energy consumption standards will be voluntary up to 31st December 2021 after which it will be a mandatory program. The program covers hardtop and glass top chest type Deep Freezer of all capacities complying with requirements of IS 302-2-24 for safety and IS 7872 for energy performance.

NABL Accredited laboratories in the discipline of Electrical testing under Domestic Electrical Appliances group may like to explore this area of testing.

**SCHEDULE – 25 DEEP FREEZERS**

1. **Scope:**

1.1 This schedule specifies the safety and performance requirements for participating in the energy labelling program for deep freezers based on vapor compression working principle. It covers deep freezers of top access type, basically the chest freezers having a storage volume up to and including 1000 liters, with both hard top and glass top (sliding, hinged and curved) and their rated voltage not exceeding 250 V ac 50 Hz for single phase and 415 V ac 50 Hz for three phase ac, as specified under the scope of IS 7872 with all amendments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Star rating</th>
<th>Annual Energy Consumption (Eo) in kWh/year at 38 °C</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Star</td>
<td>4.23<em>V + 126.65 ≤ AEC &lt; 5.07</em>V + 151.98</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Star</td>
<td>3.52<em>V + 105.54 ≤ AEC &lt; 4.23</em>V + 126.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Star</td>
<td>2.82<em>V + 84.43 ≤ AEC &lt; 3.52</em>V + 105.54</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Star</td>
<td>2.25<em>V + 67.55 ≤ AEC &lt; 2.82</em>V + 84.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Star</td>
<td>AEC &lt; 2.25*V + 67.55</td>
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</table>

Table 7.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Star rating</th>
<th>Annual Energy Consumption (Eo) in kWh/year at 38 °C</th>
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<td>7.68<em>V + 511.17 ≤ AEC &lt; 9.21</em>V + 613.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Star</td>
<td>6.40<em>V + 425.97 ≤ AEC &lt; 7.68</em>V + 511.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Star</td>
<td>5.12<em>V + 340.78 ≤ AEC &lt; 6.40</em>V + 425.97</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Star</td>
<td>4.09<em>V + 272.62 ≤ AEC &lt; 5.12</em>V + 340.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Star</td>
<td>AEC &lt; 4.09*V + 272.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quality Control Order on Domestic Gas Stove

Technical Regulations are being brought out in a phased manner by various ministries to improve the quality of products being placed in the domestic market. Essential requirements in testing of Chemicals, textiles, electronic products, medical devices etc. will be mandated.

Quality Control Order (QCO) on Domestic gas stove for use with liquefied petroleum gases in accordance with IS 4246.

Laboratories having accreditation for similar product and tests may explore this opportunity to serve the industry by enhancing their current scope of accreditation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goods or articles</th>
<th>Indian Standard</th>
<th>Title of Indian Standard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Note: For the purposes of this Table, the latest version of Indian Standards including the amendments issued thereof, as notified by the Bureau of Indian Standards from time to time, shall apply from date as notified by the Bureau.

[No. 15(15)/2017-CI]
MANMEET K. NANDA, Jt. Secy.
Opportunities for NABL Accredited Laboratories

Business Opportunity for Reference Material Producers (RMP) who are capable of producing RT-PCR kits for detection of SARS-COV-2 Virus.

Reference material Producers (RMP) capable of producing RNA Virus reference material may look into this opportunity.
Opportunities for NABL Accredited Laboratories

Business Opportunity for Laboratories which are capable of testing N-95 and N-99 Respiratory masks as per Indian Standards, International Standards and NIOSH requirement.

Laboratories having accreditation for similar product and tests may explore this opportunity to serve the industry by enhancing their current scope of accreditation.
Opportunities for NABL Accredited Laboratories

Business Opportunity for Laboratories which are capable of testing Performance and safety requirements of Ventilators as per Indian Standards and International Standards.

Important testing parameters of ventilators are:

- **Ventilatory Requirements**
  - Delivered oxygen concentration
  - Resistance to spontaneous breathing
  - Inadvertent PEEP
  - Inadvertent continuing expiratory pressure
  - Resuscitator dead space and dead space of airway accessories.

- **Ventilation Performance**
  - Delivered volume ($V_{del}$)
  - Consistency of delivered volume
  - Pressure limitation under normal use
  - Pressure limitations under single fault condition
  - Pressure limitation activation alarm signal
  - Inspiratory flow
  - Operation of manual trigger on a manually-cycled resuscitator
  - Demand valve
  - Patient triggered resuscitator

International standards in regard to ventilators are made available free of cost by ISO on their website.

Indian Standards in regard to ventilators are made available free of cost by BIS on their website.

Laboratories having accreditation for similar product and tests may explore this opportunity to serve the industry by enhancing their current scope of accreditation.
# Fresh Accredited Laboratories

## Accreditation Granted to Testing Laboratories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Name of the Laboratory</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Certificate No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Siri Geo Solutions Pvt. Ltd,</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>TC-8896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Indian Analytical Testing Laboratory, Bengaluru</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>TC-8897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Contract Research Services- Geneombio Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Pune</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>TC-8898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Venus Testing &amp; Research Laboratory, Raigarh</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>TC-8899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>HPCL, Coimbatore Lab, Coimbatore</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>TC-8900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>District Water Testing Laboratory, RWS Division, Jaipur</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>TC-8901</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>HPM Chemicals &amp; Fertilizers Ltd. Test Lab, Bhiwadi</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>TC-8902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Quality Assurance Laboratory Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited Mangalore, Mangalore</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>TC-8903</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>El-Lab, Elmeasure India Pvt Ltd, Bengaluru</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>TC-8904</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Standard Greases and Specialities Private Limited, Boisar Laboratory, Boisar</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mitsui Chemicals India Pvt. Ltd. (Solar PV Lab), Ahmedabad</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>TC-8906</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Avantech Engineering Consortium Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi</td>
<td>NDT</td>
<td>TC-8907</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>CGPIT, Tarsadia Material Testing Laboratory, Surat</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>TC-8908</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Leegend Labs &amp; Research Centre Pvt. Ltd., Agra</td>
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<td>TC-8909</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Sub-Divisional Water Testing Laboratory, RWSS Division, Rourkela</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>TC-8910</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Hexagon Nutrition (International) Pvt, Ltd, Tuticorin</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>TC-8911</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Madhav Labs, Jamnagar</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>TC-8912</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>FMI Testing Laboratory, Miraj</td>
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<td>TC-8913</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Bureau Veritas India Pvt, Ltd., Kolkata</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>ASR Metallurgy Pvt. Ltd., Jamshedpur</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Logic Geotech and Construction, Navi Mumbai</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>IEC Test Labs LLP, New Delhi</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>TUV Rheinland (India) Pvt. Ltd., Pune</td>
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<td>TC-8918</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Medida Laboratories and Engineering Consultant Pvt. Ltd., Patna</td>
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<td>TC-8919</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>QC Lab, Mageba Bridge Product Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>TC-8920</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Atul Ltd Quality Control Laboratory - Crop Protection Business, Valsad</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>TC-8921</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Silver Oak Environment Laboratory</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>TC-8922</td>
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</table>

*B-Biological; C-Chemical; E-Electrical; L-Electronics; M-Mechanical; NDT -Non-Destructive Testing*
Accreditation Granted to Calibration Laboratories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Name of the laboratory</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Certificate No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Eureka Industrial Equipments Pvt. Ltd. – Calibration Laboratory, Pune</td>
<td>FF</td>
<td>CC-3121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Saikiran Enterprises, Mumbai</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>CC-3122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Surya Instruments &amp; Calibration, Bharuch</td>
<td>M, T</td>
<td>CC-3123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Testing Machine service and calibration centre</td>
<td>ET, M, T</td>
<td>CC-3125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Arsh Entreprise, Ahmedabad</td>
<td>ET, M, T</td>
<td>CC-3126</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*ET-Electro-Technical; FF- Fluid Flow; M-Mechanical; T-Thermal;*
Accreditation Granted to Medical Testing Laboratories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>Name of the Laboratory</th>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Certificate No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Matrix Diagnostics, Hyderabad</td>
<td>Clinical Biochemistry, Clinical Pathology, Haematology</td>
<td>MC-3349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vinayaka department of Medical Laboratory, Sulthan Bathery</td>
<td>Clinical Biochemistry</td>
<td>MC-3350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Department of Laboratory Services, Sree Renga Hospital, Chengalpattu</td>
<td>Clinical Biochemistry, Clinical Pathology, Haematology, Microbiology &amp; Infectious disease serology</td>
<td>MC-3351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Adarsh Pathology Laboratory, Ahmedabad</td>
<td>Clinical Biochemistry, Haematology</td>
<td>MC-3352</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Labcorp Diagnostics Private Limited, New Delhi</td>
<td>Clinical Biochemistry, Clinical Pathology, Haematology</td>
<td>MC-3353</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>KRSNAA Diagnostics Private Limited, Jodhpur</td>
<td>Clinical Biochemistry</td>
<td>MC-3354</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Department of Microbiology, Dayanand Medical College &amp; Hospital, Ludhiana</td>
<td>Microbiology &amp; Infectious disease serology</td>
<td>MC-3355</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Yes Labs, Hyderabad</td>
<td>Clinical Biochemistry</td>
<td>MC-3356</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Sri Aurobindo Medical College and P.G. Institute, Indore</td>
<td>Molecular testing</td>
<td>MC-3357</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Prednalytics Health Private Limited, Bengaluru</td>
<td>Clinical Biochemistry, Clinical Pathology, Haematology</td>
<td>MC-3358</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>R D Gardi Medical college (A unit of charitable trust hospital and research centre), Ujjain</td>
<td>Molecular testing</td>
<td>MC-3359</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Microbiological Laboratory, Bengaluru</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Genepath Diagnostics India Private limited, Pune</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Aster Clinical Lab LLP, Bengaluru</td>
<td>Molecular testing</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Diagnostic Molecular Laboratory, Department of Microbiology, Dr. Vasantrao Pawar Medical College &amp; Research Centre, Nashik</td>
<td>Microbiology &amp; Infectious Disease Serology</td>
<td>MC-3363</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Meenakshi Labs (A unit of Sunmed Healthcare Private limited), Madurai</td>
<td>Molecular testing</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Centre for Agro-Bio Innovation and Incubation foundation</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<td>19</td>
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Article: Guidelines / Advisories for Laboratories Post Lockdown

Preparedness and quick response are key to successfully counter any threat or risk. As the nation gears up to restart businesses & economic activities in this period of lockdown with limited resources and constraints. Also, in view of strategies to operationalize more activities after lockdown.

However, there will be a greater risk of yourself or others getting exposed / infected to COVID-19 likely to remain for a longer time than expected. Thus, our routine activities and socio-behavioral habits are to be amended, rather improved to keep the corona virus at bay and break the chain of COVID-19 transmission.

National Accreditation Board of Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), a constituent board of Quality Council of India (QCI), has an extended family of approx. 6000 accredited and applicant laboratories in testing, calibration, medical, proficiency testing providers (PTP) and reference material producers (RMPs).

As accredited laboratories, employing thousands of laboratory personnel, are planning to start their activities, it is imperative for every laboratory to make a preparedness & response plans and develop SOPs in the aspects of resuming work activities amidst risk of corona virus spread and risk of infection amongst laboratory staff. In such cases, it may require a longer time of quarantine or shut down.

The following guidelines / advisory may help laboratories in planning their activities and operate considering the safety of laboratory staff, customers and other stakeholders.

COVID-19

SARS-COV-2 is the virus which causes COVID-19 disease. The SARS-COV-2 virus is transmitted from infected person to healthy persons through virus laden airborne droplets released during cough, sneezing and potential interaction with infected persons through fomites. Formites are objects or materials which are likely to carry infection such as cloths, door knobs, tabletops, buttons, handrails, working surfaces and touchscreens.

Two proven methodologies to prevent the transmission of virus is

- Control of the fomite mediated transmission
- Social Distancing

Objective Guidelines / Advisories

Broad objectives are aimed to enable accredited CAB’s to lay down standard work practices to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 disease and provide a safe workplace to the accredited laboratory staff and customers.
a) To ensure that the accredited CAB is ready to start testing and calibration services in the laboratory after the lockdown ends.
b) To ensure that actions to build confidence among the laboratory staff on social distancing, wearing mask, sanitization, disinfection, cleanliness and hygiene of their work benches and working areas in general are implemented.
c) Sanitization and disinfection along with cleanliness and hygiene of working areas are maintained.
d) Number of laboratory staff are as prescribed by MHA such that social distance is always maintained in the laboratories with the available infrastructure and facilities.
e) Health and safety of personnel working in laboratories and working from home is taken care.
f) To ensure that the accredited CAB has developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to handle a situation if a laboratory staff/ personnel is found infected / suspected or found to come in contact with a COVID-19 positive person.

1. **Resuming of Laboratory Activities**

Before resuming the laboratory operations. Accredited CABs should ensure that complete sanitization of their laboratory is completed.

**Control of fomite mediated transmission**

To prevent the spread of virus, fomite mediated transmission has to be controlled and for this the fomites need to be disinfected. In the laboratory work place, the work benches and laboratory premises need to be disinfected in a professional manner either by suitably trained professional or through services of a professional agency before resumption of laboratory activities.

2. **Disinfect the laboratory building, equipment, instruments, accessories, work carrying out gadgets, sample containers and the vehicles before resuming the work**

Arrangements have to be made to sanitize all the high touch areas in the laboratory. This needs to be conducted at defined frequency throughout the day on high touch areas such as door knobs, equipment, instruments, computers, keyboards, lifts, taps and other points.

3. **CAB to define unit capacity limit for people to uphold social distancing and hygiene norms**

CABs are advised to organize their work in such a way so as to have minimum or a smaller number of laboratory staff required for the work. Laboratory to ensure social distancing is always maintained inside the laboratory as well as in areas of laboratory premises under its control.

CABs may check the possibility for staggered timings or rotational arrangements to ensure the presence of only less or minimum number of staff in laboratory.

Gathering of people in closed areas without minimum distance to be avoided such as canteen and meeting rooms.
Additional Criteria
In addition to the above CAB may prepare their own criteria to ensure that minimum of above criteria is met. However additional criteria such as the following may be considered:

i) Laboratory staff commuting long distances, inter-district and inter-state may be restricted from physically attending laboratory activities to curtail the higher possibility of COVID-19 infection.

ii) Identification of expert for certain activities that may require his/her presence in the laboratory and check with MHA guidelines for possibility

iii) Personnel above 55 years of age and personnel with co-morbidities and parents of children below the age of 5 years to be give option to work from home.

Maintain the cleanliness and hygiene of work areas throughout

1. Cleanliness and hygiene of the work areas / work benches to be done thoroughly either through own personnel or by contract professionals.
2. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer or wash hands with soap and water. Ensure that the alcohol-based hand sanitizer is stored carefully.
3. Provision of sanitizer at main gate, reception, parking areas, entrance of different units / divisions, corridor, stair case, lift lobby, lift and all rooms, work benches, wash rooms and meeting rooms inside the building.
4. Designated personnel to monitor the social distancing norms and sanitization – Laboratory management may designate a senior official preferable one person in each division / floor of the laboratory to monitor the above norms.
5. Thermal Screening – All personnel entering in the laboratory premises should be thermal screened for febrile temperatures.
6. Laboratory should educate and encourage all personnel to sanitize their room / working area / bench along with the equipment / instrument under his control and accessories like telephone, computer etc.
7. Laboratory should educate and encourage good hygiene practices of such as covering your mouth and nose with bent elbow or tissue when coughing and sneezing and proper disposing of used tissue and washing hand with soap and sanitizing at regular intervals.
8. Sanitizing of the vehicle- Vehicle sanitization has to be done every time before and after each trip by the respective users. While sanitizing the vehicle in addition to the vehicle internals, the outside part of the vehicle which is frequently touched also should be sanitized.
9. Creation of perishable garbage – It should be ensured by everyone in laboratory that the perishable garbage created to be bare minimum by every personnel. Preferable, laboratory personnel to carry their own bag to carry perishable waste back to their homes.
10. All cleaning staff to be given required PPEs.
11. Laboratory personnel should be educated to refrain from touching their eyes, mouth and nose frequently after using alcohol-based sanitizers as it can cause irritation. Care should be taken so that the person should not engage in laboratory activity that involves fire or use of oven, furnace or any other heating equipment.
4. **Specific guidelines for timing, operation and layout of movement during entry and exit**

**AROGYA SETU APP**

CAB to ensure that all the CAB personnel install and use Arogya Setu app in the mobile they carry.

Every unit / division / room of laboratory will have sanitizers & disinfectants and CAB will ensure their use before and after entry / exit.

CABs to demarcate the entry and exit routes for the personnel / sample / instruments/ equipment/ gadgets/ accessories etc or time slots for entry / exit movements so as to avoid the cross countering of personnel and to maintain the social distancing at all time.

5. **Procedure to clean the premises and safety of cleaning staff**

CAB to ensure availability of sufficient number of masks, gloves, sanitizers, soap and soap solutions and PPE suits.

CAB to provide required safety equipment like PPE, mask and gloves to all cleaning staff and demarcate area / bins for their disposal. The disposed garbage should be kept in quarantine for 72 hours before pick up for disposal.

Laboratory to prepare a checklist to be followed while disinfecting the laboratory building / work areas:

a. Prior to cleaning, cleaning staff should wear appropriate PPE and wash hands frequently
b. In case of contact surface being visibly dirty, it should first be cleaned with soap and water prior to using disinfectant. Due care to be taken in case of electronics.
c. Cleaning and disinfection efforts should be targeted to frequently touched / contaminated surfaces
d. All indoor areas, corridors, lifts should be disinfected
e. Hand sanitizing stations should be installed at the entry
f. Paper tissue should be placed along with hand sanitizer so that its plunger can be cleaned before use.
g. Wherever hand sanitizer is provided, covered dustbin (preferably with lid which can be operated with foot) should be provided by throwing used tissue paper in the bins.
h. Adequate PPEs as per specifications should be provided to the cleaning staff.
i. Face covers, Masks, Goggles, Full body covers, Gloves, shoes etc should be provided and cleaning staff should be trained adequately for their judicious use and disposal.
j. Staggered timing shall be defined for these personnel to minimize the exposure.

6. **Specific guidelines for different kinds of stakeholders involved and can develop a risk matrix for them based on chances of exposure**

a. Physical interaction / presence / meeting with any stakeholders should be curtailed and kept at minimum with maintaining of social distancing norms at all times.
b. Details/ requirements of customers / clients regarding the testing/calibration of samples/DUCs should be first collected through tele mode and without calling for any physical presence of client. CABs should ensure the processing of all communication &
documentation to and from customers in soft mode and maintain records by making necessary changes in LIMS as required.

c. CABs may decide for a suitable system for collecting the samples from their clients/customers ensuring that no or minimum physical contact/presence is required.

d. Pass box arrangement may be initiated by the CABs for taking the sample into the laboratory.

e. Laboratory should ensure to sanitize and disinfect the sample thoroughly without compromising the integrity and nature of the sample.

f. Wherever possible, a quarantine period may be given to the samples before start processing the samples for testing/calibration.

g. All instruments/equipment/gadgets shall be disinfected/sanitized before use with respect to testing & calibration.

h. Site testing/site calibration may be avoided to ensure that its laboratory staff to coming in contact with outsiders, public places and outside places beyond the control of laboratory.

7. Mock drills for managing event of a case outbreak and stocking the inventory for such operational disasters.

a. Accredited CAB should have a SOP to handle a situation if a laboratory staff/personnel is found infected/suspected or found to come in contact with a COVID-19 positive case.

b. CABs should have the availability of COVID-19 helpline number of MHA, State Govt, District, DM/SDM, Police Station, CMO and nearest COVID hospital.

c. CAB shall ensure to communicate every employee that:

   i. All the staff of laboratories should voluntarily inform the management about their wellbeing and keep away from work and laboratory if anyone has any of symptoms such as fever, cough, breathing trouble, sneezing and such person should not be allowed to enter into the laboratory premises.

   ii. Actions should be taken to ensure that infected personnel neither enter into laboratory premises nor attend the work in laboratories at any time.

   iii. Everyone entering the laboratory should compulsorily be screened at the entrance using thermal scanner

   iv. All staff should wear face mask. CAB shall not allow anybody to enter into its premises without face mask.

d. Any activity of CAB which may affect the health and safety of lab personnel should not be undertaken, e.g. Site testing/site calibrations, which need travel by public transport and brings the persons in contact with many outsiders, whose health condition is not known should be curtailed during this stage.

e. To the extent possible, all the rooms should be ensured to be well ventilated. For this the doors and windows of the room, corridor and certain common places should be kept open. AC should be kept off if the environmental conditions permit.

f. CABs may conceive the imaginary situation of finding one of their staff suspected or diagnosed with COVID-19 and may conduct a mock drill to handle such situation. In all such drills, norms of social distancing, wearing face masks and sanitization to be followed strictly.
8. **Process to use equipment / tools and other public objects inside the unit**
   a. CAB’s shall develop SOP to frequently sanitize and disinfect the equipment, instruments, gadgets, tools and work accessories.
   b. CABs shall ensure availability of sanitizers, disinfectants, tissue papers and gloves at designated places in sufficient number to facilitate the regular disinfection process.
   c. CABs may designate their personnel for monitoring the compliance of their SOPs.

9. **Travelling Norms for Stakeholders**
   a. To the extent possible, travelling should not be allowed. Samples should be received / transferred through pass box and processed after disinfection/ quarantine.
   b. Meeting with external stakeholders should be avoided and tele mode/ tele conference/ software-based interaction should be encouraged for all purposes including communication with accreditation body.
   c. CABs shall develop their feedback / complaint forms in electronic forms and collect the same in soft form only.

10. **Awareness & training to employees of CABs**
   a. CAB should develop a SOP to resort to maximum possible digitization and conversion of their documents into electronic forms, so as to avoid handling of hard copies and stationeries.
   b. DAKs / Couriers received can be kept in quarantine before picking up for opening.
   c. CABs shall sensitize the employees about the symptoms, actions and advisories issued by various authoritative bodies with respect to COVID-19 and also ensure the understanding of their employees for the above and lab’s internal communication for preventive measures in this regard.
   d. To the extent possible, e-communication and electronic modes for spreading awareness among the laboratory staff shall be preferred.
   e. All laboratory personnel should acknowledge the awareness messages and as such preventive measures with respect to COVID-19 being implemented by laboratory. Records should be maintained for this.

To conclude, laboratories accredited by NABL have an important role to play in strengthening the effort of our government, administration and corona warriors to break the COVID-19 transmission.

This is possible only when everyone follows the prescribed administrative norms strictly and efficiently. This is not a time to relax and any carelessness in ensuring social distancing, sanitization, disinfection and good respiratory habits may negate all the good efforts.

**References:**

www.who.int

www.mohfw.gov.in/resources

www.mygov.in/covid-19/
NABL Response to COVID-19

NABL has published the list of laboratories which help in combating COVID-19. The below laboratory list is being updated regularly, kindly download the latest list on NABL website (www.nabl-india.org)

1. List of Medical Laboratories for testing of RT PCR RNA

2. Click the below links for list of NABL accredited testing and calibration laboratories performing activities related to addressing COVID-19
   a. List of Labs for testing of PPE for medical use
   b. List of Labs for testing of Sanitizer - Efficacy
   c. List of Labs for testing of Gloves - Sterility
   d. List of Labs for testing of Mask – Bioburden, Sterility
   e. List of Labs for testing of Textile – Water repellency / resistance
   f. List of Labs for testing of medical devices
   g. List of Labs for testing of endotoxin in surgical / medical items
   h. List of Labs for testing of pyrogen in medical devices
   i. List of Labs for calibration of medical equipment
      (Patient Monitor, Ventilator, Infusion Pump, Syringe Pump, Defibrillator, Suction Pump, BP Apparatus, ECG Machine, Nebulizer, Radiator Warmer & Infant Incubator, Pulse Oxymeter, Boyles Apparatus, Blood Gas Analyzer, Semi Auto Analyzer, Hematology Analyzer, OT Table, Flow Meter, BiPAP, Autoclave)
   j. List of Labs for testing of ‘Thermographs for human febrile temperature screening’

3. Precautionary measures from NABL in response to COVID-19 Pandemic

4. Standards made available free of cost to combat COVID-19
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>NAME OF THE LABORATORY</th>
<th>CONTACT PERSON</th>
<th>EMAIL ID</th>
<th>MOBILE NO.</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>ITL Labs Pvt. Ltd</td>
<td>Sanjay Mehra</td>
<td><a href="mailto:itl94@hotmail.com">itl94@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>9811055913</td>
<td>B-283-284, Mangolpuri Industrial Area, Phase - 1</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Avon Food Lab Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>Sunil Kumar Kochar</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sunil.kochar@avonfoodlab.com">sunil.kochar@avonfoodlab.com</a></td>
<td>9810004270</td>
<td>C-35/23 Lawrence Road Industrial Area</td>
<td>New Delhi</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Delhi Test House</td>
<td>M C Goel</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@delhitesthouse.com">info@delhitesthouse.com</a></td>
<td>9810442016</td>
<td>A-62/3, G T Karnal Road Industrial Area, Opposite Hans Cinema, Azadpur.</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Liveon Biolabs Private Limited</td>
<td>Jagannath/Joythi G</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Jyothis@liveonbiolabs.com">Jyothis@liveonbiolabs.com</a></td>
<td>9480849735</td>
<td>Plot No. 46 &amp; 47, II Phase, Water Tank Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Antharasanahalli</td>
<td>Tumkur</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Prewel Labs</td>
<td>Ambarish M Ghal</td>
<td>ambarish@incepbiocom</td>
<td>8884402227</td>
<td>24, 22nd Main, Marenahalli, JP Nagar 2nd Phase</td>
<td>Bengaluru</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sipra Labs Limited</td>
<td>V Satyanarayana</td>
<td><a href="mailto:director@sipralabs.com">director@sipralabs.com</a></td>
<td>9848022555</td>
<td>7-2-1813/5/A, Sanathnagar Industrial Estate</td>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td>Telangana</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Vimta Labs Ltd</td>
<td>Shripad Joshi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shripad.joshi@vimta.com">shripad.joshi@vimta.com</a></td>
<td>9100122625</td>
<td>Life Sciences Facility, Plot No. 5, M.N.Park, Genome Valley, Shamirpet</td>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Megsan Labs Private Limited</td>
<td>M Jyothirmai</td>
<td><a href="mailto:m.jyothirmai@megsanlabs.com">m.jyothirmai@megsanlabs.com</a></td>
<td>9959726002</td>
<td># 3-31/33, Plot No.:33/Part, Sy No.S - 123,124,125,142, Kompally, Quthbullapur</td>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Adept Pharma And Bioscience Excellence Private Limited</td>
<td>G. Raghunadh Babu</td>
<td><a href="mailto:raghanadh@adepthambio.com">raghanadh@adepthambio.com</a></td>
<td>9866954666</td>
<td>Plot No. 30 &amp; 31, Survey No.196-198, 1st Floor, Moosapet</td>
<td>Medchal</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Geo-Chem Laboratories (R) Pvt. Ltd</td>
<td>Ganesh Lad</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pharma.ca@geochem.net.in">pharma.ca@geochem.net.in</a></td>
<td>9773179161</td>
<td>Pragati Building, Kanjur Marg (East)</td>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Manisha Analytical Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>Chitra Gawas</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tech@manishalab.com">tech@manishalab.com</a></td>
<td>9867357769</td>
<td>135-A Government Industrial Estate, Charkop</td>
<td>Mumbai</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Chemo Test Laboratory</td>
<td>Darshani Kataria</td>
<td><a href="mailto:borna.basu@chemotestlaboratory.com">borna.basu@chemotestlaboratory.com</a></td>
<td>9619996332</td>
<td>Pusalkar House, JB Road, Sewri (W)</td>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Edward Food Research &amp; Analysis Centre Limited</td>
<td>Kishanpal Singh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kishanpal@efrac.org">kishanpal@efrac.org</a></td>
<td>8697728802</td>
<td>Subhas Nagar, PO: Nilgunj Bazar, Barasat</td>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td>West Bengal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Central Drugs Laboratory</td>
<td>C Hariharan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cdlkol@gmail.com">cdlkol@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>9433591719</td>
<td>3, KYD Street</td>
<td>Kolkata</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Jagdamba Laboratories</td>
<td>Vimal Kumar Sharma</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jagdamba_lab@yahoo.com">jagdamba_lab@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>9829124199</td>
<td>119, Solitaire Industrial Park, Phase 1, Dahmi Kallan, Bagru</td>
<td>Jaipur</td>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
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NABL NEWSLETTER
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Ozone Pharmaceuticals Limited (Analytical Lab)</td>
<td>Ramvir Singh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:qa@ozonegp.com">qa@ozonegp.com</a></td>
<td>9999704002</td>
<td>F.F., OA Building, VillageBhondsi</td>
<td>Gurgaon</td>
<td>Haryana</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Mankind Pharma Ltd-Ctl (Mankind Research Centre)</td>
<td>Lalit Kumar Tyagi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lalit.kumar1@mankindpharma.com">lalit.kumar1@mankindpharma.com</a></td>
<td>9868359621</td>
<td>191 E- Sector 4ii-Int, Manesar</td>
<td>Gurgaon</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Fare Labs Private Limited</td>
<td>Meenakshi Tripathi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:farelabs@farelabs.com">farelabs@farelabs.com</a></td>
<td>9313532519</td>
<td>L-17/3, DLF Phase-II, IFFCO Chowk, M.G. Road</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Interstellar Testing Centre Pvt Ltd</td>
<td>Manjari Gargesh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:manjari@itclabs.com">manjari@itclabs.com</a></td>
<td>6283411523</td>
<td>Plot No. 86, Industrial Area, Phase-1</td>
<td>Panchkula</td>
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<td>Shukra Laboratories</td>
<td>Rajesh Sharma</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@shukralaboratories.com">info@shukralaboratories.com</a></td>
<td>9979868199</td>
<td>3rd Floor, Camps Corner-I</td>
<td>Ahmedabad</td>
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<td>Accuprec Research Labs Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>Rina H. Gokani</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rina.gokani@accuprec.com">rina.gokani@accuprec.com</a></td>
<td>9429571239</td>
<td>Opp. Zydus Pharmez, Changodar - Bavla Highway</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (Indian Pharmacopoeia Laboratory)</td>
<td>Robin Kumar</td>
<td><a href="mailto:robinkumar21@gmail.com">robinkumar21@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>9654073979</td>
<td>Sector -23, Rajnagar</td>
<td>Ghaziabad</td>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Regional Drugs Testing Laboratory</td>
<td>Parthajyoti Gogoi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pjgogoi@gmail.com">pjgogoi@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>9954021269</td>
<td>Six Mile, Panjabari</td>
<td>Guwahati</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Devansh Testing And Research Laboratory Pvt Ltd</td>
<td>Kanika Sharma</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dtrlptvltd@gmail.com">dtrlptvltd@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>9760234447</td>
<td>94, Shiv Ganga Industrial Estate, Lakashe, Bhagwanpur</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Akums Drugs &amp; Pharmaceuticals Ltd.(Plant-3) Quality Control Laboratory</td>
<td>Dinesh Kumar</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dinesh.kanpur75@gmail.com">dinesh.kanpur75@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>9536905515</td>
<td>Plot No 2.3.4.5</td>
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<td>Drugs Testing Laboratory</td>
<td>Dileep G</td>
<td><a href="mailto:qmdtltpvm@gmail.com">qmdtltpvm@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>9961256714</td>
<td>Red Cross Road</td>
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<td>Quality Control Laboratory,Theon Pharmaceuticals Ltd.</td>
<td>Neeraj Srivastava</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nsrivastava@theonpharma.com">nsrivastava@theonpharma.com</a></td>
<td>9218622804</td>
<td>Village Saini Majra</td>
<td>Nalagarh</td>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Trustin Analytical Solutions Private Limited</td>
<td>Mahendra M</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mahendran@trustingroup.in">mahendran@trustingroup.in</a></td>
<td>9444303174</td>
<td>RK Complex, First Floor, 303/B, Parvathyprm</td>
<td>Chennai</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
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<td>Bali Test House Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>Mr. ABHISHEK BALI</td>
<td><a href="mailto:balitesthouse@gmail.com">balitesthouse@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>0161-6540109, 9216510109</td>
<td>Street No.12, Jeevan Nagar, Focal Point, Phase- V,</td>
<td>Ludhiana</td>
<td>Punjab</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>I.S.F Analytical Laboratory</td>
<td>Abhay Pandey</td>
<td><a href="mailto:abhay.isfal@gmail.com">abhay.isfal@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>9882062711</td>
<td>A Unit of I.S.F. College of Pharmacy, Ferozepur GT Road, N.H. 95</td>
<td>Moga</td>
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<td>S.No.</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Regional Drugs Testing Laboratory, Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation, (Directorate General of Health Services)</td>
<td>Ram Avtar Singh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rdtlchd@cdSCO.nic.in">rdtlchd@cdSCO.nic.in</a></td>
<td>9501012038</td>
<td>Ministry of Health &amp; Family Welfare, Govt. of India, Sector-39 C</td>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
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### NABL ACCREDITED LAB FOR TESTING OF PYROGEN IN MEDICAL DEVICES

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<th>S. No</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Accuprec Research Labs Pvt. ltd.</td>
<td>Rina H. Gokani</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rina.gokani@accuprec.com">rina.gokani@accuprec.com</a></td>
<td>9429571239</td>
<td>Opp. Zydus Pharmez, Changodar - Bavla Highway</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Palamur Biosciences Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>V D Giridhar Rao</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vd.giridharrao@palamurbio.com">vd.giridharrao@palamurbio.com</a></td>
<td>9492352676</td>
<td>SH-20, Kārvina, Madigattla Village, Bhoothpur Mandal</td>
<td>Mahbubnagar</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>GLR Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>K R Navaneethakrishnan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@glrlabs.com">info@glrlabs.com</a></td>
<td>9841212596</td>
<td>444 Gokulam Street, Mathur</td>
<td>Chennai</td>
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### NABL Accredited Labs for testing of ‘Thermographs for human febrile temperature screening’ (IEC 80601-2-59)

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<th>CONTACT PERSON</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Accessible Parts including and Applied parts, Acoustic Energy Cl, Actuating parts of controls (knob pull and limitation of movement), Cleaning and disinfection of Medical equipment and medical Systems, Constructional requirements for fire enclosures of Medical equipment, Cord Anchorage, Cord Guard, Creepage Distances, and Air Clearances, Defibrillation Protection, Determination of accessible parts, Dielectric strength, Energy Reduction Test, Excessive temperatures in ME equipment, Hand Transmitted Vibration, Humidity Preconditioning treatment, Impedance and current-carrying capability, Ingress of water or particulate matter into ME equipment &amp; ME Systems, Instability –Overbalance, Instability from unwanted lateral movement (Including Sliding), Interruption of Power Supply, Leakage currents and Patient auxiliary Currents, Measurement of Thickness of solid Insulation, Mechanical Hazards associated with Moving parts, Mechanical Strength, Mechanical strength and resistance to heat, Medical equipment Identification, Marking and Documents, Overflow in Medical equipment, Power input, Residual voltage in attachment plug, Single fault condition, Spillage on Medical Equipment and Medical System, Strength of Patient or Operator support for Suspension systems, Systems with Mechanical protective Devices, Trapping Zone, Working voltage measurement</td>
<td>TUV Rheinland (India) Pvt. Ltd.</td>
<td>Safety and Environmental Testing Laboratory, First floor &amp; Basement, No. 27/B, 2nd Cross Road, Electronics City, Bangalore</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>9620288803 <a href="mailto:guruprasad.br@ind.tuv.com">guruprasad.br@ind.tuv.com</a></td>
<td>Guruprasad B R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Di electric Strength, Durability of marking, Instability over balance, Mechanical Strength and Resistance to Heat (Ball Pressure Test), Power Input, Protection against excessive temperatures &amp; other hazards, Push Test, Strength of patient or operator support or suspension system, Tensile safety factor</td>
<td>Swen Konformity</td>
<td>Gokul RH 1, S. NO 22, Vishal Nagar, Pimple Nilakh, Pune</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>9960195235 <a href="mailto:swenkonformity@gmail.com">swenkonformity@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Bhagyalakshmi Sagar</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
We have introduced a new email id ‘care@nabl.qcin.org’ to take feedback and suggestions from all our stakeholders for improvement in the system.

We invite the views of laboratories on aspects of accreditation, which can be published in our newsletter and will be beneficial to the entire laboratory community.

You may send your suggestions to ‘newsletter@nabl.qcin.org’