

From: Bijay Acharya
Sent: Saturday, June 5, 2021 10:07 PM
To: Bhupes>
Subject: Re: project "Mass Testing Initiative"
Importance: High

Hi Bhupesh and Ganesh,

Thank you for the first round of grant support.

I am working with HFN [Health Foundation Nepal] team to implement this mass-testing pilot in Tamghas, Gulmi.

Responses to your questions

- We expect around 2000-3000 tests to be conducted but we are aiming higher during the second round.
- Majority of the patients 80% plus will be in home isolation. They will be monitored by CHWs [Community Health Workers], FCHVs [Female Community Health Volunteers] and will have access to HFN's telemedicine program.
- Select patients who need O2 supply up to 5l/min will be in community isolation (run by the hospital). The community leadership is not interested (nor agreeable) in running large community isolation in many sites beside what they are doing in a small scale (~20 beds). They cite lack of budget, food costs, security of the centers, and hesitation of schools administration (where the centers were first established during the first wave) to allow it to be used as mass isolation centers.

These issues are also being closely discussed with local leadership.

Since majority of the patients will be in home isolation – we need to support Community Health workers, FCHVs and local health center's staff in triaging/identifying and managing these patients. HFN will mobilize its volunteer team to provide telemedicine program. That was one of the main reasons we requested \$20K from ANMF.

We have placed orders for rapid tests from approved vendor in India and ready to go next week.

I am requesting ANMF board to reconsider supporting our proposal for the full 20K, if possible. The need for mass testing is obvious but still not prioritized by the government. We have a real opportunity to initiate this and scale it up in other provinces like Karnali, where larger foundations and organizations have shown interest to pursue province-wide testing. It would be great if we can combine the resources of ANMF/HFN in this larger endeavor by starting with 10k additional funding for the current project.

Thank you,

Bijay