ICMR-NIV Pune

GBS Testing priorities algorithm for clinical specimens

It is expected that tests are done as per the priority indicated in a sequential manner.

Once conclusive positivity is found/ruled out, there is no need to consider the test list.

Priority	Pathogen- Specimen & Test	Reason for priority
1st	**Campylobacter Jejuni, Cholera & other bacteria** – Stool for RT-PCR	Literature indicates Campylobacter is associated with a larger number of GBS cases in an outbreak setting. If patients have history of diarrhea in recent past/ in the background of diarrhea outbreak in the community.
2nd	**Enteroviruses** / **enteric viruses** Stool for RT-PCR	Enteroviruses also be associated with GBS. Some patients with history of diarrhea in recent past may be considered.
3rd	**Respiratory viruses** Throat swab in VTM for RT-PCR	Respiratory viral infections are the second most common group of viruses associated with GBS. Respiratory pathogens are likely with the antecedent illnesses with ***ARI/URI/URTI/LRI/LRTI/SARI.*** This can be restricted to those with antecedent respiratory illness.
4th	**Zika virus** Blood/ Urine/CSF for RT-PCR for Zika	Zika is associated with GBS. There may be sporadic cases in various areas in Maharashtra and the country.
5th	**Dengue** - Serum RT-PCR /IgM **Chikungunya** -Serum RT-PCR /IgM	Dengue and Chikungunya may be associated in few cases.
6th	**Cytomegalovirus and Epstein-barr virus** Serum/CSF for RT-PCR and IgM	These are viruses that can cause sporadic cases of GBS.
7th	**Hepatitis E and A viruses** Stool for RT-PCR Serum for IgM	Hepatitis A and E are associated with GBS. In the absence of jaundice cases/outbreak, it will be least possible and can be deferred for testing.
Other viral agents – It is requested to have discussion with the lab coordinator for guidance.		