

PUNJAB

COVA PUNJAB -

Introduced to track and monitor Covid-19, the application is implemented by the Department of Governance Reforms and Public Grievances. It allows district administration, police officials and medical health workers to keep track of patients through various features, like geo-tracking and breach management. The application has allowed effective management of data of positive cases, including **demographics, contact tracing, vital health parameters, discharge details, etc.** It's users are also allowed features such as free medical consultations with qualified medical personnel, labour registration, bluetooth tracking and tracing, etc.

DELINEATION OF CONTAINMENT ZONES -

Punjab adopted the practice of delineating containment zones, one street/two adjoining streets or entire village/mohalla/residential society depending on the distribution of COVID cases in the area. Line-listing was carried out for vulnerable population groups in containment zones. Individuals identified through the process were offered an institutional quarantine facility (hotel, lodge etc.) outside the containment zone till that area gets delisted. People in quarantine facilities were supervised by a medical officer twice a day. Door-to-door surveys were conducted by ASHA workers/community volunteers in containment zones for identifying people with COVID like symptoms or comorbidities and ensuring timely **testing**. The process was enabled by the “Ghar Ghar Nigrani” mobile-based application. Data generated through surveys was utilized for risk-mapping and for facilitating targeted interventions.

CLINICAL MANAGEMENT MANUAL -

Punjab released a Clinical Management Manual for COVID-19 as a single reference point for health providers in the state. The manual includes audio-visual aids, color coded assessment tools, experience-based referral criteria and best practices in clinical management for various categories of symptomatic COVID patients. Self-assessment questionnaires and home-based tests were incorporated for evaluating the progress of asymptomatic individuals in home isolation. An updated list of District-wise experts who can help the District Medical Teams, especially for minimizing fatality rates, was also included in the manual with a platform of psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers to help address any mental health issues faced by patients.

SURVEILLANCE -

The state government partnered with IIT-Madras to deploy technology for identifying super-spreader events and tracking patients. Mobile tower location

data was used for tracing the movements of COVID positive individuals over a 15-day period to identify others they might have come in contact with. Tower location data was obtained from telecom companies and provided by IIT-Madras to the government. Privacy was ensured by using only a number ID without revealing the names of phone users. The data collated with information obtained from the COVA application was also used to monitor the movements of people who enter Punjab from other parts of the country. All inbound people traveling by road, rail or air had to be registered on the COVA application prior to commencing their journey. Upon arrival, medical screening was conducted, including using rapid antigen test kits.