

MEDICAL COLLEGE LEVEL

VIRUS RESEARCH AND DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY (VRDL)

DHR-ICMR Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratory Network (VRDLN) Centre.

It gives an immense pleasure to announce that Department of Health Research (DHR) and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Govt. of India, in collaboration with the Govt. of Karnataka has established a Grade-3 Medical College Level **Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (VRDL)** in the Dept. of Microbiology at our Institute (SIMS). Since, outbreaks of viral agents is very common in India, the VRDL scheme was established for timely identification of viral epidemics and to provide early diagnosis of viruses causing morbidity significantly at public health in this region. The Department of Health Research (DHR) planned to establish a 3-tier VRDLs (Grade **3** - Medical college level, Grade **2** - State Level and Grade 1- Regional Laboratories) throughout the country and it was approved by the Cabinet Committee on June 27, 2013 for implementation during the 12th Plan Period (2013-14 to 2016-17).

The Virus Research and Diagnostic Laboratory was approved and sanctioned to establish in our Institute by Govt. of India during October, 2019. The project monitoring committee decided to establish VRDL in the basement area of the Super Speciality building in our Hospital premises. Eventually, planned and executed the well-designed laboratory layout at the centre. The potential and well qualified scientific team was recruited to enforce the effective functioning of the laboratory. Now the laboratory is well equipped and became functioning from April, 2019. Currently, samples from patients suspected of viral infections in the hospital are being diagnosed by Serology and Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) method.

MANIFESTO

- For **timely identification** and to provide **early diagnosis of viruses** causing morbidity significantly at public health in this region (Dist.- Shivamogga, Davangere, Chitradurga and Udupi).
- To monitor and surveillance of these viral diseases and communicate with **National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE)** and other Public Health Authorities to initiate appropriate preventive measures.
- To coordinate with the **state level and regional VRDLs** for managing and identifying new virus outbreaks.
- To provide specified **training to health professionals** in this region.
- Undertaking research for **identification of emerging and newer genetically active / modified agents**.
- Developing capacity for **identification of novel, unknown viruses** and emerging / re-emerging viral strains; and developing diagnostic kits.

SERVICEABILITY

- The **tests will be done for free of cost**, if the sample is sent with completely filled case report form (CRF) or patient information proforma.
- Samples with incompletely filled case report form (CRF) or patient information proforma **will not be** considered for testing.
- Any other viruses (other than the listed), will be tested **on request if necessary** and depending on the **availability of the facility**.
- As recommended by the ICMR/DHR all tests will be performed **only for diagnosis, not for routine screening / prognosis**.
- Viruses (**Kyasanur Forest Disease virus, etc.**) classified **under BSL 3 and above will not be tested here**. However during epidemics, sample will be collected and referred to the Grade - I or Referral laboratories for testing.

LIST OF VIRUS BEING INVESTIGATED AT VRDL

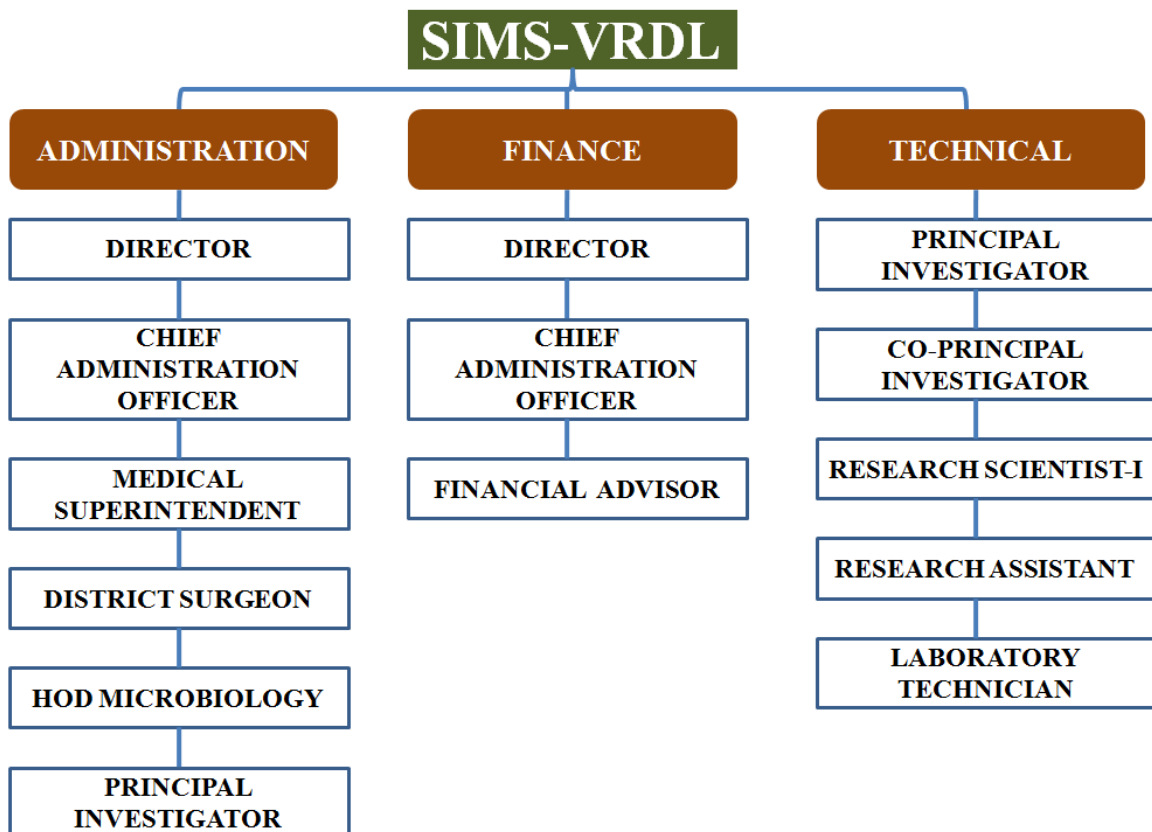
Sl. No.	Name of the virus	Type of test	Available in our laboratory	Specimen required
1	Dengue	NS1-Ag & IgM ELISA	✓	Serum
2	Chikungunya	IgM ELISA	✓	Serum
3	JE	IgM ELISA	✓	CSF
4	Zika			
5	HAV			
6	HBV			
7	HEV			
8	HCV			
9	HSV			
10	Measles	IgM ELISA	*	Serum
11	Rubella	IgM ELISA	*	Serum
12	Mumps	IgM ELISA	*	Serum / CSF
13	Rotavirus			
14	Influenza A	Real Time RT-PCR	✓	Throat swab / nasal swab in VTM
15	Influenza B		✓	
16	Parainfluenza			
17	RSV			
18	Enterovirus			
19	Epstein-Barr			
20	Adenovirus			
21	Parvovirus			
22	Rhinovirus			
23	Metapneumovirus			
24	Bocavirus			
25	Varicella Zoster virus			
26	West Nile			
27	Norovirus			
28	Astrovirus			
29	Cytomegalovirus			
30	Scrub typhus			
31	Leptospirosis	IgM ELISA	✓	
32	KFD	Real Time RT-PCR	*	Serum

✓ will be tested, * will send to referral laboratory

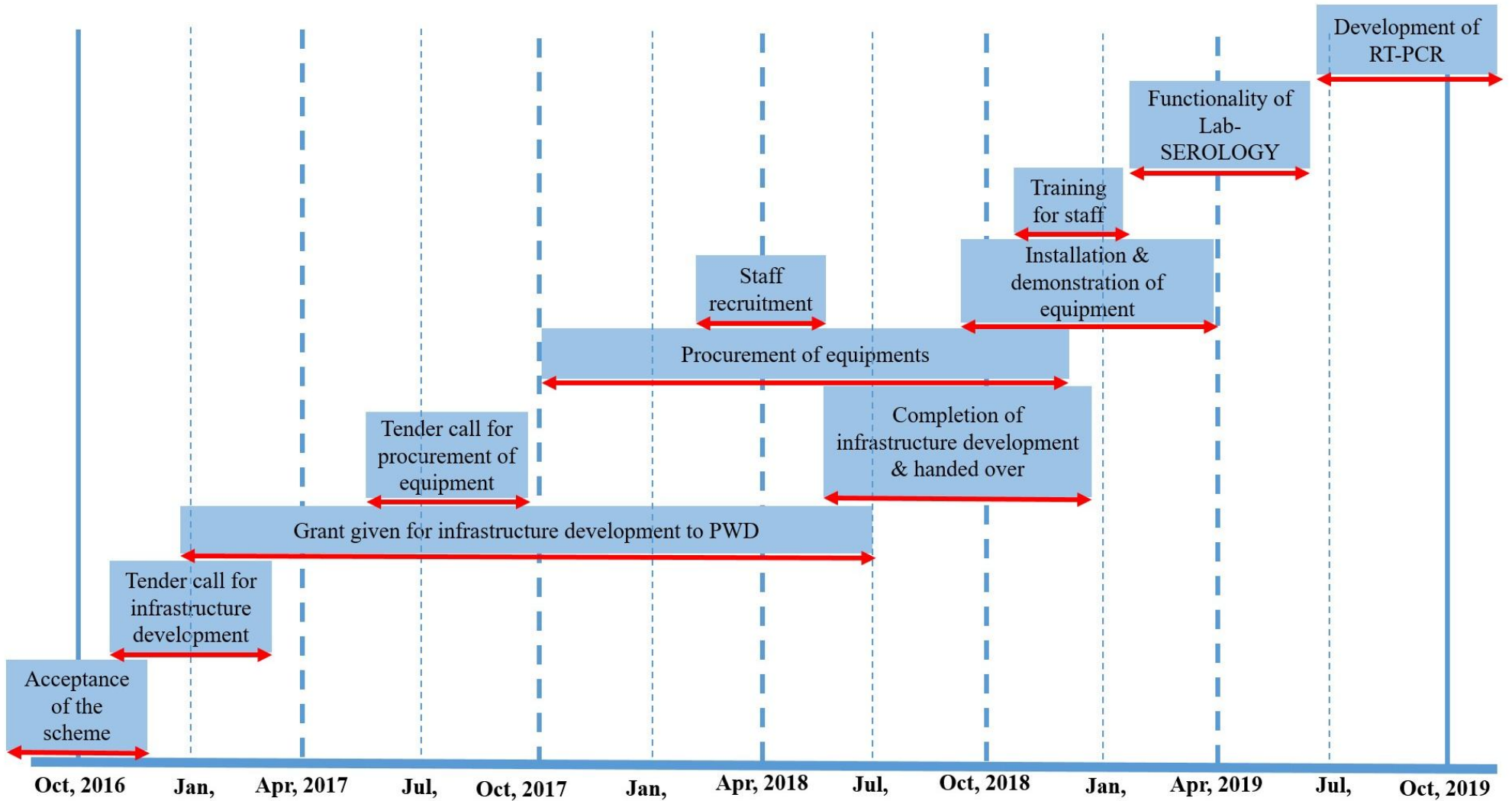
Facilities Available at VRDL-SIMS, Shivamogga.



Organogram of VRDL - SIMS, Shivamogga.



TIMELINE of our VRDL.



For further details contact:

Dr. LEPAKSHI B.G.

Dean cum Director

Shimoga Institute of Medical Sciences (SIMS),

Sagar Road, Shivamogga.

Phone: +91 08182 229933

Email: simsshivamogga@gmail.com

For further details contact:

Dr. SIDDESH. K. C.

Associate Professor & PI (VRDLSIMS),

Department of Microbiology,

Shimoga Institute of Medical Sciences (SIMS), Shivamogga.

Phone: +91 08182 269754; +91 94483 24483

Email: simsvrdlshivamogga@gmail.com / drsiddeshkc@gmail.com

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Department of Health Research (DHR) - Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi

Shimoga Institute of Medical Sciences (SIMS), Shivamogga

National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune

National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), Chennai