

### **Special achievements of the Department:**

1. The State Reference Laboratory for HIV testing at LHMC was the first laboratory among the SRLs from Delhi to be accredited as per ISO15189:2012 norms by NABL. It has also been selected as one of the “Dried blood spot testing and “Laboratories under Sentinel Surveillance.
2. The Advanced mycology diagnostic and research facility was established in Department of Microbiology, LHMC in November 2020 with the aim of providing routine and advanced fungal diagnostics, do research in field of fungal infections and develop surveillance protocol for fungal diseases. The center organizes trainings/ CMEs in fungal diagnostics to create awareness among doctors and sensitize them about the importance of fungal infections.
3. Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (VRDL) was sanctioned by DHR-ICMR in March 2019. Since then a BSL 2 facility has been established and upgradation process is going on. The laboratory was among the first in Delhi to start COVID testing during the COVID 19 pandemic and has tested more than one lakh samples for SARS Cov 2 till end of October 2022. Recently RT-PCR testing for Zika virus has also been introduced in the VRDL laboratory.
4. Training programs to increase awareness on Biomedical Waste Management , Hospital Infection Control Practices and Antimicrobial stewardship are held routinely for all health care workers of the hospital.
5. The department is a part AMR Surveillance Programme under National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) & MoHFW under the “National Program on Antimicrobial resistance Containment” which was initiated during the 12th five-year plan (2012-2017).
6. The department regularly participates in External Quality Assessment Schemes (EQAS) and has consistently been performing well which helps to maintain the Quality Standards in the respective laboratories.
7. The Department is a part of HAI surveillance program started by AIIMS & CDC.
8. CBNNAT & Truenat testing has been going on for detection of Tuberculosis since April 2017 & March 2021 respectively as per RNTCP under the guidance of IRL, AIIMS.
9. The Department has also recently procured MALDI-TOF which has enabled rapid identification of bacteria & fungi thus reducing turnaround time resulting in early diagnosis and better patient outcomes.
10. The microbiology laboratory is extending its contributions at the community level by partnering with public health departments Like IDSP to aid in detection of disease outbreaks and to communicate cases of notifiable diseases like Cholera, Dengue etc, in order to minimize the impact of infectious diseases in the community.