07:5 Owe baie |

of persistent local transmission or

contact with patients with similar

travel history or those with confirmed

COVID-19 infection. However cases

may be asymptomatic or even without

fever. A confirmed case is a suspect

case with a positive molecular test.

Specific diagnosis is by specific

molecular tests on respiratory samples

(throat swab/ nasopharyngeal swab/

sputum/ endotracheal aspirates and

bronchoalveolar lavage). Virus may

also be detected in the stool and in

severe cases, the blood. It must be

remembered that the multiplex PCR

panels currently available do not

include the COVID-19. Commercial tests

are also not available at present. Ina

suspect case in India, the appropriate

sample has to be sent to designated

reference labs in India or the National

Institute of Virology in Pune. As the

epidemic progresses, commercial tests