

## COVID-19 ANTIBODY TESTING (JOKHIO GOTH, PAKISTAN)

On 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021, a free one-day medical camp was set up in Jokhio Goth, a village on the outskirts of Karachi. Under the management of ASM Ambassador to Pakistan, Prof. Dr. Saeed Khan, a team of lab personnel set up a screening test for COVID-19 in the camp.

All villagers who visited the medical camp were tested to detect presence of Immunoglobulin M (IgM) and Immunoglobulin G (IgG) in blood. For qualitative assessment of antibodies, SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Rapid Test kits were used, and results of the test were reported within 15 minutes. Those who tested positive were further recommended for a PCR test. To further collect data regarding the people's awareness and knowledge about COVID-19, they were asked to fill out a questionnaire which included various variables such as their medical history, dietary habits, hygiene practices as well as their opinions on vaccine.

Although majority of the patients had heard of COVID-19, very few believed in it being real. The antibody testing provided an opportunity to gauge prevalence and immunity of this community which can help policy makers in designing better intervention plans. It also provides information about how the pandemic has spread in rural areas of Karachi.

For more information, please contact Dr. Saeed Khan: [saeedkhn@gmail.com](mailto:saeedkhn@gmail.com)

