

Top 5 apps enabling Health mapping & symptom tracking to fight Covid-19

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As India crosses 70K corona cases, the government is actively pursuing contact tracing to help control infections.

At the heart of the effort in the country of 130 crore people is a smartphone app that evaluates users' infection risk based on location services such as Bluetooth and GPS. New research suggests that using a health mapping app to track people's movements and identify and isolate anyone who has come into contact with an infected person could be critical in avoiding lockdown.

Aiisma - Aiisma is an India born data marketplace, rewards users for consensually and anonymously trading their data via the Aiisma App. Equipped with geo-location sharing and health-mapping features, the app allows users to key in their health data regularly which can then be mapped to identify anomalies, and when one is identified both the user and relevant authorities can be notified to take preventive actions. The app leverages advanced algorithms to continuously compare user geo-location with identified positive carrier geo-location to isolate cases of Covid19 contacts and again alert both the user as well as the relevant authorities. In addition, there are features like alerts in case a user enters a high positive case density geography etc. All of this with user identity being shared only with relevant authorities when necessary and keeping it anonymous at all other times. Combined with Aiisma's rewards for consensual data sharing it is a unique and win-win proposition for the users.

Arogya Setu- Aarogya Setu is a mobile application developed by the Government of India to connect essential health services with the people of India in our combined fight against COVID-19. The App is aimed at augmenting the initiatives of the Government of India, particularly the Department of Health, in proactively reaching out to and informing the users of the app regarding risks, best practices and relevant advisories pertaining to the containment of COVID-19. The app, which is a coronavirus tracker of sorts works on the basis of contact tracing and can help a user identify possible coronavirus 'hotspot' around his or her area. It can help people stay safe and adopt necessary precaution in some areas where there are cases and accordingly, help stop or prevent community transmission to an extent.

Cova Punjab- COVA Punjab (Corona Virus Alert) App has been developed by the Government of Punjab to provide citizens with preventive care information and other government advisories. **The app will help by providing a real time dashboard for Punjab, India and global stats, to check for symptoms of Corona and have a quick self-screening, Corona Awareness, Traveling instructions, Prevention Products and information about Corona Hospitals in Punjab** . You will receive updates from government, advisories and instructions from time to time via PUSH notification on the App.

Corona Kavach - The Corona Kavach app is meant to track Coronavirus and somehow control its spread. **It also maps the health of the user by asking for the information.** You are required to answer a couple of questions (if you are facing difficulty in breathing, body temperature, sore throat, and more) and it will mark you as *All Good*, *See a Doctor*, *Quarantine*, and *Infected*. Following this, whenever you go out, you are required to enable the app and it will (by tracking your location) alert you if you are in the proximity of another person either infected by Coronavirus or at high risk. This way, you can remain safe from catching the virus.

Quarantine Watch- Built by the Revenue Department of the Government of Karnataka, Quarantine Watch helps state authorities keep a track of people under watch by asking them to 'self-report' while in quarantine. The government is urging users to upload a selfie every hour while they are in the 14-day isolation period. If the GPS coordinates change, they will be sent to a government-run mass quarantine centre. **Users have to register themselves on the app by entering personal details like name, phone number, residential address, district, symptoms, and travel history. Quarantine Watch also provides health helpline numbers.** The app has crossed 10,000 downloads on Google Play Store.