



## **BEST PRACTICE -2**

### **1. Title of Practice:**

**Inter Professional Collaborative Practice (IPCP) during disaster.**

### **2. Objectives of Practice:**

The D Y Patil Education Society Deemed University prides itself on a heightened sense of Social Responsibility as also on the Interdisciplinary nature of its programs and research. Objectives of this practice

1. Ensure optimal health services during the Covid 19 pandemic by utilization of all resources available to the University
2. Ensure ongoing teaching-learning for the students through the online platforms available, to match the theory syllabus to be covered.
3. Generate a model for interdisciplinary, interprofessional collaborative practice that could be used in future.

### **3. The Context:**

Hospital Healthcare is a complex process with increasing collaboration by clinical professionals with professionals from other fields. These collaborations involve fields as varied as basic sciences, technical sciences and IT professionals amongst others. However, the traditional system of medicine operates in silos with even clinical professionals of different disciplines working independently.

Previous experience with a natural disaster in the local region viz the Krishna River Floods in 2018, showed us that during the relief efforts, unknowingly and unplanned, members from different professions worked together to provide respite to the victims.

Hence when it became apparent that the SARS CoV2 pandemic (COVID 19) was a natural disaster of epic proportions, it was determined to ensure optimal health services within the constrained circumstances using a deliberate interprofessional and interdisciplinary approach.



#### 4. **The Practice**

A meeting was held between the Dean of the D Y Patil Medical College and Dr D Y Patil Medical College Hospital and Research Institute, IQAC Director, and Medical Superintendent to discuss the framework and planned activities.

The steps subsequently followed were

1. **Identification of the various segments** where operations would be functional
2. **Constraints** of lockdown, duty hours, exposure levels created due to pandemic were noted
3. **Logistic needs** were identified for establishment of segregated areas such as Flu OPD, quarantine wards, Swab Collection site, Molecular Biology Lab, etc.
4. **Professional skills needed** were identified as:
  - a. Infrastructure creation – separating entrances, using existing spaces with care for quarantine and social distancing, Flu OPD establishment, ensuring protection of patients' in working OBGY department
  - b. Laboratory Management Skills – establishment and NABL Accreditation of the Molecular Biology Lab were to be done.
  - c. Technical innovation – making sample collection and transportation safe for the healthcare workers
  - d. IT skills- handling data upload and data entry in the portal for information to be transferred to ICMR, Government ministries.
  - e. Training – for faculty training to enable their usage of online teaching platforms; staff to upload data in portal
  - f. Networking Skills – to ensure procurement of gloves, masks, PPE kits, etc.
  - g. Additional manpower in view of possible Sick Leave among staff, to replace some staff that had left work in fear and to fulfill additional staff requirements due to shorter duty hours and increased specialized technical work.
  - h. Design of new boards, posters, information sheets and signages for patients, doctors, nurses etc.
  - i. Media support to pass on information to all employees, and to the community as per the changing situation



- j. Diet and Nutrition provision for patients – the Caterer of the canteen had closed and left for his village.
  - k. It was recognized that with time, additional assistance may be identified and solicited.
5. **Available resources were listed to include** – Preclinical Departments, Paraclinical Departments, Nursing College, Physiotherapy College, IT Department of University, Media Department, College of Hospitality studies, Department of Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine, Department of Community Medicine from within the University. Outside the University, collaboration was done with the College of Engineering and the Polytechnic College, Kasaba Bawada.
6. **Simultaneously, the collaborative establishment of**
- a. Quarantine Wards – manned by faculty from all clinical departments as well as preclinical and paraclinical departments
  - b. Molecular Biology Lab for COVID testing – jointly established, accredited, and then operated by Medical Microbiology, Medical Biotechnology, Stem Cell & Regenerative Medicine, Pathology departments and the IT Department.
  - c. Flu OPD – Run by Department of Community Medicine and Nursing College, ably supported by staff from College of Engineering and Polytechnic
7. Duty rosters, staff training, and shift allocation were all **shared by members** of the different professions, departments, units and institutions.
8. **Review meetings** included members of different units and departments, something that was not the norm in pre-pandemic times.
5. **Evidence of Success**
1. Participation of different professions, institutions, units and disciplines
  2. NABL Accreditation of the Molecular Biology Laboratory was achieved in record time and the Lab was ready to test for SARS COV2 virus through RTPCR by May 2020.
  3. Smooth running of hospital over 18 months as a dedicated COVID Hospital
  4. Cooperation and support of different departments and professions was seen with patient care not suffering. There were no disciplinary matters, complaints or grievances raised due to the change of working patterns and personnel.



5. Collaboration with the district administration to share both diagnostic and therapeutic workload, during both first and second wave. This was possible due to efficient functioning of the hospital and excellent patient care
6. Donations from Rotary Sunrise resulted due to the work being done
7. Ability to continue the work in the Department of Obstetrics for the expectant mothers – the only Obstetric department to be operational in the district during the lockdowns.

#### 6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

No	Problem Encountered	Resources Required
1	Different training needs of members of various professions	Repeated training; Peer support; Trainings that covered basics and advanced information were given.
2	Changing government directives had to be communicated to all	WhatsApp group was created for communication with all members
3	Travel challenges for duty and emergency calls, during lockdown	Provision of transport to all staff needing it, irrespective of profession or institution.
4	Initial lack of familiarity with persons on duty caused hesitancy in talking	Joint trainings, group reviews and joint duties sorted the challenge
5	Non-medical persons were more scared of getting infected compared to HCW	Hospital provided free N95 Masks, PPE, Sanitizers. Duty rosters were altered to suit stress of work. Social distancing, Sample collection kiosks, and regular sanitizing of the premises and indoors were provided.
5.	Trained personnel becoming COVID 19 positive affected the morale	Regular meetings, encouragement and motivation, psychological support through services of counsellor were needed.



**D. Y. PATIL**  
**EDUCATION SOCIETY**  
**KOLHAPUR**

(INSTITUTION DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

(Deemed to be University Declared u/s 3 of the UGC Act 1956 vide Notification No. F.9-26/2004- U.3 dt. 01-09- 2005 of the GOI)

NAAC 'A' Grade

**Notes:**

1. Willing cooperation of participating staff was pivotal
2. Attitude to abilities and knowledge of skills of other professionals was found to increase as time went by, increasing the respect they had for each other.
3. Appreciation and motivation of staff facilitated (especially) the initial period of adjustment and learning.