

Preparedness of Base Hospital Udugama to face COVID 19 outbreak within short period of time and in a cost effective way, a practical perspective.

INTRODUCTION

At the initial stage, while implementing mandatory COVID-19 containment measures, there were many fear driven conflicts among health workforce, various responses towards COVID-19 control measures, severe scarcity of resources and lack of pre-preparedness except to dealing with the viral outbreak.

Base Hospital Udugama is one of the type-B base hospitals in Galle, Southern province, Sri Lanka. Hospital is located in Nagoda divisional secretariat area in Galle district. It serves the catering population with 126 bed strength and bed occupancy rate is around 80%.

OBJECTIVE

Aim of this project was to prepare the Hospital in multiple aspects against COVID-19 in order to prevent and manage the possible consequences of the pandemic within short period of time and in a cost effective way since March, 2020



METHODOLOGY

This is a retrospective evaluation of the COVID-19 preventive project established at the Base Hospital Udugama.

RESULTS

Established a COVID-19 coordinating unit with the dedicated team of staff members and developed strategies institutionally and maintained continuous monitoring & evaluation until normalization. Prepared the hospital environment and the staff appropriately to face the possible critical situations of COVID-19, strengthen the essential supplies capacity of the staff that enabling for handling of suspected patients, taking PCR samples and transportation of suspected patients. Also maintained uninterrupted patient care service while considering staff wellbeing activities.



CONCLUSION

Management of the COVID-19 situation was challenging to the institute. It was well managed efficiently and effectively with the dedicated health staff, strong leadership and intersectional coordination.



