

WALKING THE EXTRA MILE

Every time I go on COVID-19 duty I am extra vigilant. In my mind, I keep rehearsing the steps for donning PPE. I'm determined to avoid unwanted contact and risk infection, especially as my wife is pregnant. Once I enter the ward, my fears are set aside as I focus on my patients. Their masks cannot hide the anxiety on their faces. I talk through my mask and headgear, trying to reassure them. Usually, I can communicate with body language and a compassionate touch. But now, they can only see my eyes.



Dr. Mohan

Our patients are all alone as their family members have been sent away for home quarantine. We play the role of the family for them. We provide food, medicines and take care of their needs. It is very difficult to be isolated for so long, especially during Easter or Ramzan when the community prays together.

Sometimes it feels like we are looking at the virus with a magnifying glass but missing the real problems of our patients. They have lost their income during lockdown. How can they keep social or physical distance in their small houses and slums? There is so much stigma and discrimination against them and their families for having this infection. As doctors we have to understand these factors and how they affect the recovery of our patients.

I discuss each patient with my team of colleagues. When dealing with other illnesses, we are a team of experienced doctors. It is the same with COVID-19. Only 5-10% of cases will need ICU care, for others the symptoms will be mild. For the last six weeks, our team has been taking appropriate precautions.

We treat our patients with love and help allay their fears. We are privileged to walk the extra mile with them during these difficult COVID times.



Did you know?

CMC's first batch of women physicians joined for training in 1918, the year of the spanish flu pandemic.