

St. John's Medical College

(A Unit of CBCI Society for Medical Education) Johnnagar, Sarjapur Road, BENGALURU - 560034, INDIA

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COVID CARE AT ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL - AN APPEAL

St. John's Medical College Hospital has been at the forefront of the battle against COVID-19. Now more than a year after its onset, after seeing a brief lull, we are again faced with a surge. We are continuing to battle the disease with the same energy and commitment with which we started more than 12 months ago. The surge in the number of cases , particularly the very sick has called for extra-ordinary responses on multiple fronts and no words will suffice to record the dedication demonstrated by our health care professionals. Our staff have continued to work long hours under great emotional and physical stress, despite seeing many of their colleagues fall prey to the virus.

We started a COVID Care Centre in August 2020, thanks largely to the donations from the Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives and Titan Company Limited. This Centre houses a 24-bed Intensive Care Unit, a 24-bed High Dependency and a 48-bed Isolation Unit. Our Laboratory Services were upgraded thanks to the generosity of Sasken Foundation. At the peak in 2020 we were treating around 700 patients with COVID admitted in the hospital at a given time and the ICUs were full. All this was possible thanks to the support of many individuals , NGO's, foundations and corporates.

Because of the need we have had to ramp up our COVID beds to over a thousand of which 75% are patients referred by the State, and 80 ICU beds (40 are reserved for the State). During this wave we are seeing more patients with severe disease and requiring ICU/Ventilatory support increasing the stress on our human resources and on our oxygen supply. Over the last couple of weeks we are having close to a thousand COVID-19 patients in the hospital, the majority of whom are on high flow oxygen systems, non-invasive ventilators and in ICUs.

In addition to establishing new wards and upgrading existing ones, running these services also incurs a huge cost unique to COVID Care which includes personal protective equipment, consumables like tubing for HFNC, masks for NIV, N 95 masks, sanitizers, oxygen amongst many others. We also need means to encourage ourHCW working in COVID areas.

We also realize that hand in hand we have to look at means to control the disease or decrease its severity. The only means we have is vaccination. We were the only private medical college to be chosen as a national launch site for the COVID-19 vaccination programme in January 2021 and are now approved to begin vaccination under the government's scheme for paid vaccination. However, there are groups like HCWs, delivery personnel, transport personnel and the marginalized who need support, whom we hope to vaccinate free or at a subsidy. Many have helped us in this humanitarian cause. We invite you to be part of our effort.

Given on the next page is a list of some of our immediate needs. We at St. John's Medical College Hospital will be grateful, if you could support us by any means.

You can contact Dr. Bobby Joseph, Vice Dean (Community Outreach) for any further clarifications on 9900163821 or b.joseph@stjohns.in. You can also donate using the link provided at our website <u>www.stjohns.in</u>. We are registered for CSR Donations and all donations are eligible for tax benefits under Sections 80G and 12A of Income Tax Act.

Dr. George D'Souza MD Dean

11th May 2021



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Item	Cost per unit
Portable Color Doppler with 3 probes (Fujifilm Sonosite Edge II)	Rs.18,48,000
Mahindra Bolero Vehicle	Rs.12,00,000
Abbot ID NOW Covid-19 (Rs.3300/day x 80)	Rs.2,64,000
Covishield Vaccinations for underprivileged (Rs.750/dose x 100)	Rs.75,000
Medical Support for a patient/day in HDU Ward	Rs.2,000
Medical Support a patient in ICU / day	Rs.15,000
Food for 1000 patients and frontline workers/day	Rs.2,20,000
Oxygen/day (9,000cuM)	Rs.1,80,000
Full PPEs/day (1200 pieces)	Rs.6,00,000
Hand Sanitizers/day (200L)	Rs.40,000

Click here for online donations

Please send a covering letter to accounts.cbci@stjohns.in with a copy to b.joseph@stjohns.in mentioning donor's name, PAN details, postal/email address and amount donated – this will help us issue 80G Exemption Receipts .