

WE WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU

When ICU patients gain consciousness, we worry they may be scared seeing a sea of blue and white 'astronauts' walking around them. However, one patient set us at ease by saying we look like 'bommais' (dolls) waddling around her!

We face tremendous challenges dealing with anxiety and loneliness since our patients cannot be near their loved ones. We try our best to make them feel connected with their families through video and phone calls. Losing a loved one is distressing for the family, and also for health care workers. Recently one of our patients passed away. In her final hour, we made a video call with her family. They could see her face, though they could not be with her. This was something small we could do. Her family sent me this message after her last rites were completed:



Dr. Binila

“May her soul rest in peace. Thanks to you and all the doctors for keeping the hope and fighting to get her back till the last moment. After that, it’s God’s decision.”

The support and participation of the CMC community and administration has played a key role in helping us deliver care safely to our critically ill patients. Every patient in the Medical ICU is tested for COVID-19. No matter how educated one is, the stigma around COVID-19 affects all of us. Some of us face it here in the hospital, some at our homes.

There is fear among health care workers too but this cannot hold us back from our calling as medical professionals. We are using this difficult situation as a window of opportunity. Our team is proficient in handling very sick patients on the ECMO machine and we have ensured that our patients get the best care, not any less than they would have before or without Covid-19. It is heartening to see all our ICU team members working enthusiastically and without fear towards ensuring a safe environment for the patients. We cannot restrict ourselves because of the fear of exposure.

For our patients and their families – I want you to know that we will take care of you. We will not restrict any care to your loved one because of COVID-19. We will give them the love you would want to give them. We will ensure that you are able to communicate with us freely. In fact, most of the patients and their families know us by name, probably a closer relationship than what it was in the pre-COVID era.

The medical profession is our calling, our vocation.

We have faith that God who called us to be doctors will see us through this pandemic. We have to continue with our profession of saving lives.