

# STAFF HEALTH PROTECTION IS AN IMPORTANT INDICATOR OF THE ORGANIZATION OF ANTI-EPIDEMIC MEASURES

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The COVID-19 pandemic has made its own adjustments to the organization of inpatient care and anti-epidemic measures in medical institutions. During the diagnosis and treatment of patients with coronavirus infection, an important task is to ensure safety and epidemiological safety of medical personnel. This article describes the measures that ensure compliance with the anti-epidemic regime in an infectious hospital, prevention of diseases of employees.

During the pandemic, a 25-bed dispensary was opened on the basis of the regional TB dispensary, and an infectious diseases Department with 250 beds was subsequently deployed [1]. From March to August 2020, the Department treated 687 patients with coronavirus infection, including assistance to women in labor, patients with comorbidities, and 12 children were born. To work in the infectious diseases Department, 595 medical workers were involved, including 176 from other medical organizations in the region.

Organization of epidemiological safety of work, treatment of patients, biomaterials, cadavers, treatment, use of disinfectants, the procedure for wearing personal protective equipment were carried out in accordance with regulatory documents [2], resolutions of the chief state sanitary doctor of the Republic of Kazakhstan, developed and approved internal algorithms.

In accordance with the order of the Ministry of health of the Republic of Kazakhstan, employees involved in the implementation of anti-epidemic measures with COVID-19 (infectious, pharmacological, quarantine hospitals, ambulance crews, primary health care filter rooms, laboratory specialists) were paid allowances to the basic salary from 200 thousand to 850 thousand tenge (500-2000 US dollars).

The team of employees was formed at the rate of 1 doctor (pulmonologist, infectious diseases specialist or other specialist), 2 nurses, 2 junior staff per shift for 15 inpatient patients with coronavirus. The work is organized in 3 shifts, the duration of the shift in the "dirty zone" is 8 hours from 06:00h. to 14:00h., from 14:00h. to 22:00h., from 22:00h. to 06:00h., the working mode is no more than 36 hours a week. The duration of work in the Department is 14 days, in order to minimize contact during this period, medical personnel lived at the "Elikti" ski base, and vehicles were specially allocated for transportation.

On each floor, the principle of organizing the division of the infectious diseases Department into "clean" and "dirty" zones is observed [3]. Workplaces for staff are equipped with a computer, tablet, Wi-Fi, urban and mobile communications, and a smartphone for working only in the "dirty" zone of the city. In the clean zone, there is a TV communication hall, through which daily working meetings with the management and consultations with narrow specialists are held.

During the working shift, staff meals are organized in the hospital (Breakfast, afternoon tea, lunch, dinner), strict control is carried out over the caloric content and variety of food, and financial expenses are reimbursed from the local budget.

Before and at the end of the work shift, medical workers are filtered daily in the health office, and safety instructions are given with the results recorded in a special journal. Unified forms of acts of admission to the risk zone and control over the internal state of the Department have been established and approved. Personnel were provided with a change of protective suit every 3 hours. Before each entrance of medical workers to the "dirty zone", the epidemiologist examines the correct dressing of the protective suit, monitors the tightness of the



respirator, glasses, and the absence of open areas of the body. For each employee, 2 acts of pre-shift inspection are filled in according to the number of entrances to the Department with the signature of the medical worker.

After 14 days, the team completed work in the Department, and after a PCR examination, they were quarantined in the "Aurora Garden" recreation area for observation and psychological rehabilitation. During the rest period after the work shift and during the quarantine period, the daily double health monitoring continued. Thus, among the 595 employees who worked in the Department for 208 days, no cases of the disease were registered.

### **Conclusions**

The taken organizational measures, technical solutions, compliance with safety regulations, anti-epidemic regime made it possible to prevent cases of COVID-19 among employees who worked in the "red" zone.

### **References**

1. Resolution No. 30 of 01.04.2020 "On measures to ensure the security of the population of the Republic of Kazakhstan in accordance with the decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan "on the introduction of a state of emergency in the Republic of Kazakhstan".
2. Sanitary rules "Sanitary and epidemiological requirements for the organization and conduct of sanitary and anti-epidemic, sanitary and preventive measures to prevent infectious diseases", approved by the order of the acting Minister of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 126 dated 27.03.2018;
3. Sanitary rules "Sanitary and epidemiological requirements for health facilities" approved by the order of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 357 dated 31.05.2017.