

Management of staffing for external operations

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Introduction

In times of disease outbreak, healthcare workers are often called upon to take up roles beyond their regular job of scope. In interest of time, it is important to maintain an active list of staff volunteers that who able to be commit within a short notice. In the recent COVID-19 pandemic, Mobile Medical Team (MMT) was formed to support extensive external operations (dormitories and SIFs) under the charge of SGH.

Methodology

Acquired list of staff volunteer with details from **COVID Command Centre.** Filter against selection criteria.

Selection Criteria:

1) N95 fitted and mask size

2) PPE competency

3) Language spoken / written

4) Dietary preference

Staff must attend pre-activation briefing between 2 days to 1 week before their actual deployment date. This is important as it consists of:

1) Workflow for the patient journey (in medical post)

2) Roster of work schedule

3) Role requirements

4) Education on infection control and preventive measures

5) PPE competency (Donning / Doffing)

6) Daily must-do (Temperature recording, Safe Entry)

7) Tour of MMT deployment site

Manpower team (MMT Command Post) and Doctor-in-charge (External Ops) derived team dynamics required for each medical post:

1) Dormitory

2) Swab and Isolation Facility (SIF)

MMT Command Post assigned selected staff for the medical post based on the requirements derived

- Reporting location
- Bus deployment
- Clean and dirty area
- Shower facilities as it is mandatory process after daily deployment
- Scrubs and towels are provided daily by the SGH Linen department

Activate staff using customized SMS template consisting of:

1) Briefing venue and time

2) Things to bring and take note for deployment (e.g. working hours, changing of scrubs, well covered shoes, showering)

Results



Conclusion

Effective management of external ops staffing, the team must:

- Maintaining an active list of staff volunteers with most updated records and personal details (PPE records, contact numbers etc..)
- 2. Ensure seamless coordination between various departments to support the operations, safety and welfare of staff
- 3. Able to activate volunteers with short notice and support from their department (exigency of service)

