

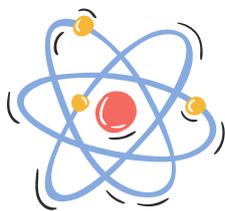


PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IN ALBANIA IN COVID-19 CONTEXT

Support for coping with COVID-19

A new contribution of USD 700,000 from three international donors is added to the 54 respirators already provided by the Ministry of Health and Social Protection. A joint partnership agreement was virtually signed on April 10, 2020 between the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, the Swiss Embassy, the Royal Norwegian Embassy for Albania, and the United Nations Development Program in Albania (UNDP). The agreement emphasizes the support to the health authorities in Albania to combat COVID-19 through the purchase of 30 respirators. This contribution complements the commitment of the Albanian government to increase its capacities and provide a sufficient number of life-saving machines for the treatment of COVID-19 patients in intensive care. The contribution of 330,000 USD of the Swiss Embassy has been made through Health for All Project.

More information: <https://bit.ly/2VeLYyg>



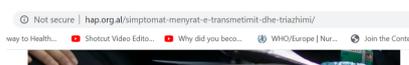
The map of COVID-19 in Fier region is being expanded

During this week there have been new cases of COVID-19 infection in the district of Fier, including primary care health personnel. Since the beginning of the pandemic, a total of 42 cases have been identified in this district, of which 23 have been recovered (as of April 16, 2020).

Telephone consultation of family physicians

Following the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, family physicians in both districts where HAP works, are conducting telephone consultations with confirmed/suspected cases of COVID-19 patients isolated at home, as well as with chronic patients and acute cases.

Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/nnV3RGG8uKI>



5 prill 2020
Ky material ka informacion per simptomat e COVID-19, menyrrat e transmetimit dhe triazhimi nga zena e profesionaleve shendetesore ne KSHP dhe ku referuar Institut te Shendetit Publik dhe Qendres per Kontrollin dhe Parandalimin e Smerundive (CCDC)



Training materials for PHC teams

In the framework of training materials for primary health care teams, HAP has recently published the materials in video format with narrative explanation.

Moreover, HAP is continuing the work for the preparation of other materials in response to the requests received from managers of the health centers of Fier and Diber districts.

Check it out here: <https://bit.ly/3akEBK2>

Shfaqeni materialin

Adaptation of PHC services: evidence from professionals

Patos was the first town in the Fier district where the first COVID-19 cases appeared. Following the measures taken by the local government and the work of the health center, there have been no new cases in Patos for several weeks. Dr. Albiona Lamaj, Family Physician and Manager of Patos HC tells us how the service was re-organized in this health center through telephone consultations and planning of consults*, avoiding the gathering of persons and observing the social distance for the inevitable consultations in the premises of the HC in order to prevent the corona virus infection:

"We drafted an internal regulation according to which doctors issued prescriptions for chronic patients 1-2 days before the date and distributed the prescription codes over the phone. In cases of families with only elderly, we cooperated with the municipality to enable the delivery of medicines at home.

Regarding acute cases, we tried to carry out several the consultations over the phone. In cases of patients

who should definitely come to the center, we prepared a room at the emergency premises and each doctor visits his patient in this room. After the patient leaves, the room is disinfected.

With regard to the children's consultation, the vaccines were not canceled even for a single day. We notified the mothers to come after 10.30 am and the children were accompanied only by one family member and they were vaccinated in turns. Let me underline that if we have previously considered impossible the planning of consultations, this experience has shown us that planning is feasible and it requires only good will. In this extraordinary situation where we are, we saw that the planning of consultations protects both, us and the patients, and it is very necessary, especially in relation to the consultation of children and chronically ill patients."



*HAP promoted earlier the importance of visit planning and encouraged primary health care teams to implement consultation planning that has a direct impact on the quality of medical consultation provided in the health center facilities. HAP shared with HC managers the experience of planning consults of the PHC in Bosnia, following a study visit by a group of family physicians and nurses in May 2018.

Health for All Project is a project of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation that is being implemented by Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



Swiss TPH

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute

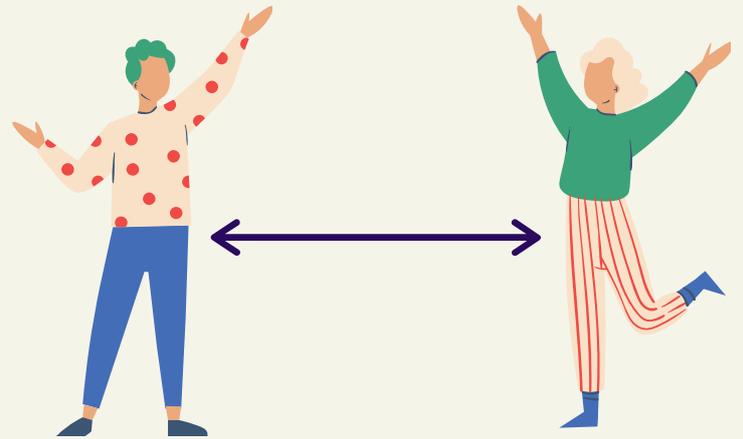


STOP THE SPREAD



WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY

Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.



MAINTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Maintain at least 2 meters distance between yourself and anyone who is coughing or sneezing.



AVOID TOUCHING EYES, NOSE AND MOUTH

Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth.



IF YOU HAVE A FEVER, COUGH AND DIFFICULTY BREATHING, SEEK MEDICAL CARE EARLY

Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance.