

PREVCOVID-BR NEWSLETTER!

IMPACTS OF PREVCOVID-BR

Fellows' Report about cooperation between the Hospital Infection Control Service, Continuing Education and PREVCOVID-BR

Article Luciane Simões Duarte

At **Conjunto Hospitalar do Mandaqui**, the PREVCOVID-BR fellows, **Sara de Alencar Ciaccio** and **Ariana Gomes Nascimento Oliveira**, have been working together with the Hospital Infection Control Service (HICS) and Continuing Education in the fight against COVID-19. The fellows began on September 16, 2020, and carried out the characterization of the Hospital and evaluation of the coping capacities of COVID-19. Based on these evaluations, the plan for improvements was elaborated together with the HICS, and according to nurse Maria Ângela da Silva *"This moment was like an awakening for the care of the collaborator"*.

One of the works carried out was the updating of the **Plan to Confront the Pandemic COVID-19 of the Mandaqui Hospital Complex**, because both the HIC and the fellows verified the need for its improvement, resulting in the version updated on December 18, 2020. This revision was made in accordance with scientific evidence and recent recommendations from local, national, and international bodies, such as: the São Paulo State Disease Control Coordination (CCD), the Brazilian Ministry of Health, the Brazilian National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The employees received training on updating the plan and it is available on the hospital's intranet, with access to all employees.

The PREVCOVID-BR fellows also participated in the updating of the Sheet for Monitoring Hand Hygiene and the Use of Adornments and in the reorganization of the printed material matrix, in collaboration with HICS. This tool helps HICS nurses to perform weekly

surveillance activities in the different units of the hospital to ensure adherence to recommended practices.

The fellows participated in the implementation of the temperature measurement and verification of respiratory signs and symptoms of companions and visitors. These activities were promoted in partnership with the HICS, the administrative board and the nursing board. These actions include two services, the reception and safety. Previously, the reception only authorized the entrance of the companion or visitor, according to the current legislation, and provided the badge for admission to the hospital. However, nowadays it started to question briefly about the presence of respiratory signs and symptoms and, in the affirmative cases, orienting individuals to look for the Emergency Room. Besides that, the security service that only checked the presence of the badge and allowed the companion and the visitor to enter the hospital, also started to measure the visitors' temperature and question about the presence of respiratory signs and symptoms, referring those with positive answer to the Emergency Room. Another fellows' actions were to present the PREVCOVID-BR during the employees' admission training for the nursing team. It is important to emphasize the participation of nurse the Maria das Graças do Monte of the Continuing Education in the mentioned activities.

Two trainings were structured by the scholarship holders: one for the nursing team, including the themes: hand washing, paramentation/desperation, COVID-19 signs and symptoms, use of N95 mask and face shield; and another for the administrative sector, approaching hand washing and the presence of respiratory signs and symptoms. These trainings did not involve all the collaborators, but the supervisors and some collaborators in charge of multiplying this knowledge with the other team members. The fellows used audiovisual resources, such as videos.

In addition to the partnerships already mentioned, the scholarship recipients have presented PREVCOVID-BR for other services in order to add more collaborators to the project, such as: volunteer group, hygiene and cleaning service, administrative sector and infrastructure sector.

Finally, the scholarship recipients are optimistic that PREVCOVID-BR will bring improvements to the Hospital, *"because more than one project, PREVCOVID-BR will leave a legacy for the work."*

SCIENTIFIC SUMMARY

Theme: Social Distance for Food, In Restrooms, Canteens, Lectures and Other Situations in The Health Services Environment

Article Giulia M. Mainardi; Adriana Félix; Giovanna Orlandi

Source: Rapid Response Podcast by The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology (SHEA). Published December 10, 2020

Moderator: Dr. Waleed Javaid, (physician).

Exhibitors: Dr. Michael Klompas (physician) and Dr. Tara Palmore (doctor).

In the United States, there are intra-hospital outbreaks of COVID-19, much of which are associated with transmission and infection by SARS-CoV-2 among health care professionals (PAS).s cases of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 have occurred mainly at times that the PAS are feeding or socializing in rest rooms, cafeterias and living spaces within the hospital.

It was observed that many SBPs have a mistaken perception that the risk for contamination occurs only at the moments of patient care. Therefore, it is expected that PAS are vigilant and committed to safety rules at these times. However, in some health services it has been observed that PAS feel protected and safe to take off their masks and decrease social distance when they are with colleagues at work in moments of relaxation or during meals at work, or even together in other activities outside the work environment.

In these situations, transmission can occur in countless ways, for example, PAS does not know that it is contaminated with the virus because it is asymptomatic or with mild symptoms (for example, a coryza, which it attributes to acute rhinitis or allergy).

So it may be that this PAS runs out of the surgical mask and keeps in physical contact with his colleagues during the "coffee time" or when he is sharing his personal items such as cell phone and headset in the break room.

It should be encouraged that in each hospital there are leaders with the objective of monitoring the SBPs in relation to the commitment to one's own health, that of co-workers and patients. These leaders have the role of assisting with educational and motivational actions for the recognition of subtle symptoms and potentials for COVID-19.

In the work rooms it is also recommended to reduce the density of people and create workstations and employ safe ways to perform the work that can be done in a virtual way, such as discussions of clinical cases or results of laboratory tests that can be performed by virtual means and do not need to be done in the traditional form of face-to-face meetings of teams.

Regarding lectures and classes, virtual meetings should be prioritized. In meetings with less than 10 people, ample spaces are recommended to maintain social distance and not allow the consumption of drinks and food.

It is suggested to manage the spaces, such as limiting the number of people and improving ventilation; in the food areas (cafeterias and dining areas) limit the number of chairs and tables and place reminders so that they are not moved.

Educational actions on safety practices need to be carried out continuously, as many PAS are facing work fatigue and stress and in turn may end up neglecting safety measures.

Link to access the podcast:<https://soundcloud.com/user-788310625/covid-19-social-distancing-for-eating-break-rooms-cafeterias-lectures-beyonduranca>

Educational material in comic book form. Access through the link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rf9iUecXX_cc6k3Lu00--3w_UdwGlGgu/view?usp=sharing