

Intensive Care Unit at Jan Swasthya Sahyog

The intensive care unit started functioning from February 2016. Initially a team consisting of a doctor and 4 nurses underwent training for ICU care at MGIMS Sewagram. This team was trained in basics of intensive care and started the ICU activity under supervision of the senior doctors at JSS. Over last 5 months, we have been able to admit and treat over 100 patients with a broad range of conditions as below -

- Myocardial Infarction thrombolysis
- Ventricular Tachycardia - cardioversion
- Bronchiectasis - respiratory failure
- Septic shock
- Guillain-Barre Syndrome
- Oleander poisoning
- Respiratory failure due to Pneumonia and post measles bronchopneumonia,
- ARDS
- Diabetic-Ketoacidosis
- Hemorrhagic shock requiring massive blood transfusion
- Intestinal obstruction with gangrene and sepsis
- Perforation peritonitis with sepsis and early ARDS
- Febrile neutropenia
- Sepsis DIC
- Post-operative care for neonatal surgeries – TEF, Exomphalos major
- Aspiration pneumonia
- Snake and scorpion bites

In the ICU we are able to provide care for the sickest patients, who used to be scattered all over the hospital. The ICU has helped with better intensive care for most neglected rural patients, at an affordable cost. But for this ICU, some of these patients would need to have been referred and may have suffered catastrophic expenses or even died in seeking care outside in the private sector. Along with patient care, the ICU has also helped training of resident doctors and nursing staff.

There were ofcourse challenges in this initial period due to inadequate number of trained staff to take care of the work. We started off with 4 beds initially and it was then extended to 6 beds. The ICU currently has centralized oxygen supply, ventilator, patient monitors and facilities for end-tidal CO₂ measurement. To improve the care, the ICU needs support for doing bedside ultrasounds, and getting arterial blood gas results. We also need help in further training by experts, as also start an internal audit.

We are thankful to the Friends of JSS in UK for their wholehearted and generous support in providing financial aid for salaries of doctors and key nursing staff. We have placed an order for a newborn comprehensive infant warmer and this equipment is likely to be installed soon. We

look forward to training support from the FOJSS UK team to help improve the quality of services provided.

Some photographs of the ICU:



