

NEWSLETTER

June
July
August
2020

"SERVICE TO SUFFERERS
IS
SERVICE TO GOD"

Thanks to the
Honourable Prime Minister
Sheikh Hasina

for donating
10 crore taka
for supporting
the treatment
and rehabilitation
of the marginalised
people with disabilities

Service to Sufferers
is Service to God



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CRP is open now! We are taking all essential precautions to keep you safe. You can visit any centre physically or consult from home through messenger or whatsapp.

Visit the link below to learn more:

<https://www.crp-bangladesh.org/crp-news/crp-providing-online-consultancy-service>

CRP resumes its services on 31st May 2020 after COVID-19 lockdown

After 66 days of countrywide lock down due to COVID 19 pandemic, the Government of Bangladesh declared to resume all offices on 31st May 2020 following all the guidelines of health issues to avoid infections. In line with all organizations CRP head office at Savar and all its 12 sub-centres across the country also resumed its regular services for the mass people in need. Though CRP continued its services to the inpatients during lockdown, the outpatient's services were limited and virtual. This period was really challenging for CRP as the organization mostly runs with the money shared by outpatient's services.

In this difficult situation CRP has taken some essential measures to avoid infection. All people entering the premises are checked by infrared thermometer and also all vehicles have been disinfected at the entrance. To keep enough physical distance the grounds are marked with circles in reception area and also the sitting arrangement of the waiting zone of outdoor area has been rearranged accordingly. It is mandatory that all staff, patients and visitors wear mask, sanitize their hands as often as possible and maintain social distance everywhere. All staff are guided to avoid face to face conversation if e-mail, sms and phone calls can serve the purpose and the regular meetings will be held through online platform.

Any patient has to go through a primary assessment that includes a few questions to find possible COVID infection. If anyone has temperature more than 37°C s/he is advised to take proper treatment and return after full recovery. With kind donations from generous donors all the health professionals of CRP are now able to have their personal protective equipment (i.e. mask, gloves, goggles, face shields, gowns etc.) as they have to work in the closest contact of the patients. CRP tried to reach many patients to inform about its reopening by phone call and sms.



Checking body temperature



Physiotherapy



Speech and Language therapy



Social distancing



Occupational therapy



Paediatric



Prosthetics & Orthotics

Prime Minister donates 10 crore taka to CRP



A picture of the Prime Minister's visit to CRP in 1998

Honourable Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina has donated 10 crore taka to CRP on 7th June, 2020 to run its activities smoothly and continue its rehabilitation and other services to people in need. CRP will keep the money as Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) and its interest will be used to treat the underprivileged people with disabilities who come to receive treatment and rehabilitation from CRP. The Prime Minister has always been a great friend to CRP and had visited CRP several times in the past. In 1998, she inaugurated its headquarter in Savar and also declared honorary citizenship to CRP's founder Valerie A. Taylor. She also came to CRP with her family to celebrate the birthday of her grandchildren and daughters of Saima Wazed.

Accessible hand washing facilities for persons with disabilities at community

During COVID-19 pandemic hand washing has become one of the most important activities to prevent infections. In Bangladesh, people with physical disabilities specially the wheelchair users are often unable to access clean water and soap. As a result they are in high risk to get infected with Corona virus. The Occupational Therapy department of CRP has started to educate the people with disabilities of the affordable hand wash techniques at their community. Looking at some designs on the internet the OT's modified it according to the need and accessibility of the persons using wheelchair. They have used locally available materials like bamboo, wood stand, wood paddle, bucket, detergent solution (following icddr,b guideline) and two water containers to make one design and one water bottle adjusting a tap with it for another design. Both this designs will be affordable, easy to make and accessible for the persons with disabilities in their community.



A spinal cord injury patient trying out the accessible and affordable hand washing facilities



CRP's staff with disabilities producing affordable face masks

During this COVID 19 situation CRP has taken all necessary initiatives to avoid any health hazards. As part of the measures CRP's Supportive Seating Unit has been producing comfortable face mask for avoiding infections. As face masks are mandatory to wear, one time masks are cost consuming for the mass people. So demands of washable and affordable masks that can bar the droplet transmission are increasing day by day. Keeping this in mind the SSU unit has produced and delivered more than 1200 masks which are being sewed by the women with disabilities at CRP-Savar and Ganakbari till date. With honest feedback of the clients, the department has gradually improved the design.



Shipi, Sewing Machine Operator of SSU making masks



CRP
is now in
Manikganj!!!

Outpatients service

Vocational training facilities for persons with disabilities

Shantonu Roy Sharani, Dashra, Manikganj
Cell no: 01730059636. Email: manikganj@crp-bangladesh.org

CRP has commenced another sub centre in Manikganj

CRP has commenced another sub-centre in Manikganj District to meet the increasing needs of patients coming from that area. The centre is situated at Shantonu Roy Sharani, Dashra. People can avail CRP's outpatients' services such as – medical consultancy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, paediatric services and others. The centre also offers vocational training facilities for the people with disabilities free of cost. The construction of the centre is funded by the Ministry of Social Welfare, People's Republic of Bangladesh and CRP.

The 200-Rep Trial

The 200-Rep Trial: 200 repetitions of isolated muscle contractions for partially paralysed Muscles was a pragmatic multi-centre, single-blind between-participant randomised controlled trial. It was conducted in Seven hospitals in Australia and Asia. CRP was a strong and reliable collaborator. A total of 120 participants were enrolled in the trial with CRP enrolling 43. The trial was constantly monitored and supervised by Prof. Lisa A. Harvey, Dr. Joanne V. Glinesky and Lydia W. Chen from University of Sydney, Australia. Assistant Professor Md. Shofiqul Islam was responsible for managing and leading the trial at the CRP site. The trial was submitted to Spinal Cord and is published in the August issue, 2020.

Publication:

Chen LW, Glinesky JV, Islam MS, Hossain M, Boswell-Ruys CL, Kataria C, Redhead J, Xiong Y, Gollan E, Costa PD, Denis S, Ben M, Chaudhary L, Wang J, Hasnat MAK, Yeomans J, Gandevia SC, Harvey LA. (2020) The effects of 10,000 voluntary contractions over 8 weeks on the strength of very weak muscles in people with spinal cord injury: A randomised controlled trial. Spinal Cord, Vol.58, pp.857-864. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41393-020-0439-1.pdf>



CRP team members of the 200-Rep Trial



Assessment of lessons and future direction on Differently Abled People (DAP) in Skills Training



Face to face interview for data collection

A research team from CRP has conducted a study on “Assessment of Lessons and future direction on Differently Abled People (DAP) in Skills Training” in cooperation with Swiss agency and European Union (EU). It was an assessment of the B-SkillFUL project of Swisscontact- Bangladesh, which aimed to-

- Assess the steps taken for enabling DAP accessibility in vocational training based on a framework.
- Assess and determine entry points for furthering the effort on boarding specialized and potential general training providers opted for adopting specialized training program.

To achieve these objectives, the research team conducted a survey study on 180 DAP trainees of Employment & Rehabilitation Centre for Physically Handicapped (ERCPH) and other Training Service Providers (TSPs). The research team was able to reach 51 DAP trainees (22 females and 29 males) out of 180 trainees for data collection. Based on the over phone and face to face interview, among 51 trainees 11 had no disability and 14 trainees were unemployed after completing their training from the ERCPH and other TSPs. Moreover, they recommended to maintain a proper classification for DAP trainees selection. Simultaneously, it is also important to sensitize the employers to create a DAP friendly workplace.

Researchers

Md. Shaikhul Hasan & His Team
RME Department, CRP.

Post COVID Rehabilitation Service at CRP Savar & Mirpur

CRP has started providing Post-COVID Rehabilitation Services to the COVID-19 survivor. The effects of COVID-19 are long lasting for the affected people. They suffer from various neurological, physical and mental sicknesses even after they are recovered from COVID. Very often they suffer from muscular and joint pains, difficulties in communicating, weak lung functions which affect the activities of daily living. COVID can also affect the blood flow in human body which can result in stroke or heart attack. Furthermore, mental health is affected for the isolation and people suffer from anxiety, depression, insomnia any many more. All these difficulties can be acute for the people who have gone through Intensive Care Unit (ICU). Keeping all these in mind, CRP's health professionals including physiotherapist, occupational therapist, speech and language therapist, nurse, counselor and physician with a multi-disciplinary team approach are providing services to the COVID-10 survivors. This service is available in CRP-Savar and CRP-Mirpur.



First patient receiving rehabilitation services at CRP-Savar



