



Recommendations Regarding Covid-19 Management for the Family Healthcare System

Aile Hekimliği Sistemi için Covid-19 Yönetim Önerileri

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Dear Editor,

Primary preventive healthcare services have always been the easiest and fastest way for the patient to access healthcare services. In addition to the emergency departments, these centers come to mind first to be referred in case of pandemics.^[1] Primary healthcare personnel undertake a great responsibility in this new and special case of Covid-19 viral pandemic. The basis for the emergency action plan should be established by taking necessary measures in these primary healthcare centers and easing the workload in order to prevent a bottleneck in the health system.

Necessary equipment should be provided, or diagnosis centers should be established so that Covid-19 virus can be diagnosed through all primary preventive healthcare services. People should stay in isolated environments as much as possible and the contagion risk for the virus should be minimized in order to ease the workload of hospitals and to take the pandemic under control. It is clear that the delayed diagnosis of people infected with the virus increase the risk of getting infected. In countries where family healthcare system runs properly, a good planning and designation of family healthcare centers as the basis for emergency

action plans to minimize the risk of infection could help limiting the contagion areas.^[2] Cities should be separated into regions and isolated. Healthcare needs other than urgent ones should be met by the family healthcare center in order to minimize the risk for contagion and to ease the workload of hospitals to prevent a bottleneck in the health system.

Family healthcare centers should employ Covid-19 diagnosis kits^[3] giving fast results. However, they are not being as valid and reliable as PCR (polymerase chain reaction) diagnosis methods.^[4] Patient referral system should operate without any compromise in order to minimize the risk for contagion. The borders of small areas in cities should be determined and a single-family healthcare center should be designated to each region to limit the virus.

We believe that primary preventive healthcare services always forming the first and basic step of healthcare systems should be well-organized and public cooperation should be ensured to limit Covid-19 viral pandemic. It would be helpful in terms of minimizing loss of life until vaccine and medicine studies prove their success.



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