



Union Européenne de l'Hospitalisation Privée European Union of Private Hospitals



Gruppo
San Donato

Gruppo San Donato hospital (Lombardy, Italy) COVID-19 Crisis Management

In order to face the threat posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Gruppo San Donato was at the forefront in immediate and close collaboration with the public authorities by opening new beds dedicated to Covid-19 patients in all the GSD's Hospitals: The 18th of March 2020, GSD had 1,304 patients currently hospitalised, meaning that 1 bed out of 4 of GSD's total beds is dedicated to Covid-19 patients, representing almost 20% of all Covid-19 patients in the Lombardy Region. 156 patients are hospitalized under respiratory assistance (CPAP) and 126 others are in Intensive Care, under constant monitoring or intubation.

GSD also provided since the 29th of February a task force composed of 5 intensivist doctors and one medical coordinator from the San Raffaele Hospital, reinforced the 2nd of March by 14 more intensivists doctors from all GSD structures leading to a total of 19 intensivist doctors and a medical coordinator sent to the 24/7 ICU's of the public hospitals in the Red Areas.

Following the closure of all the non-urgent clinical and surgical activity in the Region, Lombardy established a specialised HUB system to face the Covid-19 crisis, making those Hubs the only Hospitals habilitated to perform urgent clinical and surgical activities and towards which all patients converge once their state is stabilised in normal hospitals. In that context the 3 main Hospitals of the GSD were designated Hubs by the public authorities: the IRCCS Policlinico San Donato for Paediatric Cardiac Surgery and Electrophysiology, Cardiac Surgery for Adults and Interventional Cardiology for IRCCS Ospedale San Raffaele as well as minor traumas for IRCCS Galeazzi.

The Lombardy Region has also promised to pay the healthcare operators the 2019 budget in 2020 as a global allocation and continues to pay for the normal activity which represents a shift from the DRG model.

To open new beds GSD must face the challenge of the lack of available Healthcare personnel and the fact that the current staff is getting sick in contact of Covid-19 patients, especially on the most critical front zones, Bergamo and Brescia. GSD is therefore recruiting nurses, nursing assistants and doctors in South Italy and Eastern Europe, according to the 17/03 decree allowing to employ non-Italian personnel to face the emergency and we are also studying bonuses for the Healthcare personnel in contact with the Covid-19 patients.

It was these constant efforts and the heroism of the doctors, nurses and GSD health personnel who kept us one step ahead of the virus and made it possible for 124 patients to be discharged from hospital to return to their homes, fully recovered.

GSD Crisis Management Team