Editor’s Pen:

Lessons from the second peak laid down the path to anticipate the third wave COVID-19 preparedness: India at war against COVID-19 pandemic

Ashwani Tandon
Journalnmo@gmail.com

It is pleasure for NMO Journal to present a second volume on the COVID-19 series. The present volume brings articles on laboratory tests. Through this volume, we are introducing student corner as the journal is committed to fulfilling the NMO objective to bring students and residents to NMO Journal platform and encourage scientific writing. The second peak brings learning to health care staff, administrators and government machinery. Unfortunately, we all witness the blame game in sporty fashion when nations demand single-point coordination. This scenario was used to the mala-fide image of Indian leadership. The same leadership receives worldwide appreciation for handling the first peak of the pandemic and implements an unexpected visionary vaccination program. The high demand for oxygen was met successfully by the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers and in about 20 days sufficient oxygen resorted to match the demand for COVID-19 patient care. The NMO Journal acknowledges the experience of former union health minister Dr. Harshvardhan Ji for his contributions during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is great pleasure for the Editorial team of NMO to welcome the new dynamic union health minister Shri Mansukh Mandaviya Ji. As we all witness hon’ble minister’s administrative skills through the ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers to handle the unexpected heavy demand of oxygen. This dynamic approach will be desired especially during the COVID-19 peak and is well appreciated by national leadership and now health, medical education, and family welfare are under his able guidance.

We all as the nation learned lessons during the second wave and now displaying our preparedness during the third wave and NMO is all part of it. NMO is coordinating with other Sewa organizations (NGO’s). It is a proud moment for NMO as the President, Secretary, and Organizing Secretary of NMO are working hard to train the manpower through various modules. It will reflect on the ground for supporting vaccination drive, maternal and child health
preparedness, development of teleconsultation facilities in the coming days. The central and state
governments are also focusing on mass vaccination as India completed 40 crore vaccination
landmark and it is the highest globally recorded in the least time frame. We must focus now on
large-scale genome sequencing and all institute of national importance (INIs) including new
AIIMS must start it without further delay. This capacity building will help to identify novel
strains and variants of concern for the planning and management of COVID-19 in India.
Secondly, unexpected scenarios such as superinfection by Mucorales bring newer challenges to
all of us. The shortage of antifungal medication taught us to keep sufficient budget provisions at
the district level and implementation of direct purchase mechanisms through the pharma industry
is a must. The pharma industry must be on alert module for bulk production to match the demand
of any such medicine. India as the country has global strength in vaccination and now we need to
equip our drug industry with gene-editing tools. Government of India must allocate a special
budget for this purpose. As the scientific community claimed (proven or unproven) SARS-Cov-2
is engineered virus, therefore, drugs will come from this gene-editing tool. My review is giving
insight into the potential of various gene-editing tools and its use as diagnostic or therapeutics for
COVID-19 management in the future.

We believe that Bharat (India) is preparing well for any anticipated peak of COVID-19 in
coming days and again overcome it by its committed skills.

NMO journal is committed to bringing good scientific data for readers with special thanks to
Prof. D K Sharma for contributing psychotherapy through Bhagwat Geeta. I am sure the present
volume will benefit the readers especially the young medical and dental students.

Dr. Ashwani Tandon
Editor In Chief
NMO Journal