STRENGTHENING
THE FIRST LEVEL OF CARE IN THE
RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Temporal distribution of COVID-19 Cases, 22 September 2020

Classification and clinical status of confirmed COVID-19 Cases by date of onset symptoms, Jamaica (4988 cases)
# Hospitals in Jamaica Bed complement for COVID-19

Updated Daily - 22 September

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hospitals</th>
<th>ICU Beds</th>
<th>HDU Beds</th>
<th>Isolation Beds (380 planned)</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Available</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERHA</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5 (50%)</td>
<td>As below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRHA</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NERHA</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>WRHA</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Total</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5 (50%)</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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[Universal health] Access and coverage for all

[PAHO]
Hospital Readiness

A – tertiary hospitals
B – Referral Hospitals
C – Community Hospitals
Dots – Primary care centres
Strategic Vision for Health 2030

1. Safeguarding access to equitable, comprehensive and quality health care
2. Stewardship capacity of the MoHW is strengthened to improve leadership and governance to achieve universal access to health and universal health coverage
3. Increased and improved health financing with equity and efficiency
4. Social participation and intersectoral collaborations to address the social determinants of health
5. Ensuring human resources for health in sufficient number and competencies, committed to the mission
6. Making reliable and modern infrastructure available for Health Services Delivery
Primary Health Care Renewal

Comprehensive Health Centre
- Enhance resolutive capacity of the first level of care
- Provide additional specialist and diagnostic services
- Social work, rehabilitation and palliative care

Out Patient Resource Centre
- Integrate in the primary care network to facilitate the integration and increase access to services
- Hub for technology driven continued medical education through tele-consulting and tele-conferencing.
Integrated Health Services Delivery Networks

Figure 3. Graphic representation of the essential attributes of IHSDNs

Involvement in Governance

Community / Territory
- Public Health
- Family
- Person
- Intersectoral Action
- First Level of Care

Determines Supply

Specialized Care

Involvement in Governance

Source: PAHO, IHSDN, 2011

Context: Type of health system, funding level, legal and regulatory framework, health authority's steering capacity, availability of human, physical and technological resources, etc.
Redesigning First Level of Care

• Epidemiological surveillance, investigation and monitoring of cases and contacts in the community
• Redesign health services and guidance through centralized hotline and online platform, with counseling and protocolized guidance
• Consultation with other levels and patient referral
• Individual and community education on self-care, prevention measures, isolation, and quarantine
• Identification and monitoring of the health of at-risk persons and groups
• Promotion and coordination of the participation and involvement of community organizations and leaders
Maintaining Essential Health Services

• Establish roadmap for phased reallocation of capacity for essential services (vaccination; reproductive health, care of vulnerable populations, critical inpatient therapies; emergency health conditions)
• Improve patient self-care and the training of community caregivers
• Protocolized outpatient care of patients with chronic conditions or patients receiving home-based hospital care as part of the first-level care network
• Protocolized assistance for telehealth and telemedicine to manage patients remotely.
• Establish outreach mechanisms, including mobile units, to ensure delivery of essential services
Challenges

• Strengthening governance mechanisms for a whole-society and whole-government approach for Universal Health

• Establish mechanisms for effective coordination, communication and linkages throughout the integrated health services network to address population health needs in the COVID-19 Pandemic

• Ensure the protection of health workers at the first level of care and safe conditions to provide health services to the communities and vulnerable populations.

• Provide the technological resources to the first level of care for implementation of new modalities of health services
Thank you very much