



KIWOKO HOSPITAL NEWSLETTER EXTRA: THE 2ND WAVE

Thank You!

Firstly, we would like to express our sincere thankfulness for all your ongoing encouragement, support and prayers. We are acutely aware of the very significant role that our partners and donors play in allowing the hospital to continue serving so many people from the surrounding area and much further afield. The extra support provided during the first coronavirus wave last year enabled us to not only deal with that wave, but also to get prepared for further waves, which seemed inevitable given what was happening in so many countries around the world. So, from the bottom of our hearts, **THANK YOU!**

The Second Wave...

In our April 2021 Hospital Newsletter, Dr Peter Serwadda noted that “we [had] been very privileged as a country to have had a God given, though as yet unexplainable, break in the rate of infections which had peaked in December 2020 and January 2021.” Unfortunately, starting May 2021 there was an exponential rise in the number of cases and a 2nd wave was formally declared. As the number of cases increased, hospitals rapidly filled with patients, at times oxygen supplies were not meeting demands and ICU beds became increasingly difficult to access. To help control the situation from spiraling out of control, President Museveni announced a partial lockdown at the beginning of June and on 18th June 2021 announced a much tighter lockdown for the next 42 days. Schools and churches are closed. Travel is hugely restricted, with no public transport or private cars, and movement between districts is only allowed in exceptional circumstances. Curfew is 7pm-5.30am. These restrictions have had the desired impact and over the past 2 weeks there has been a reduction in the number of reported cases and deaths.



16th July 2021

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We are very conscious that so many people all over the world have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. So many people have lost loved ones; others have lost their livelihood. We are praying that you know God's presence and help no matter what situation you face. We are especially thankful for the support of so many during these unprecedented times. Thank you.

What is KH’s role in the pandemic?



The hospital recently released a comprehensive document outlining the role of KH and also the support needed to continue providing excellent and affordable healthcare during the pandemic. [For a link to the full document, [click here](#).]

Dr Peter Serwadda (left), Hospital Director, notes some of the multiple roles of the hospital:

1. Testing for COVID-19

During the first wave, over 1000 samples for PCR testing were sent to central laboratories in Kampala and Entebbe. Since 7th June 2021, the hospital has been provided with COVID antigen rapid diagnostic test (RDT) kits for testing for COVID-19 on-site and to date over 730 tests have been done with a positivity rate of 38%. This includes 48 staff. Thankfully, so far all staff affected have been spared from severe or critical illness and were treated by isolation at home.



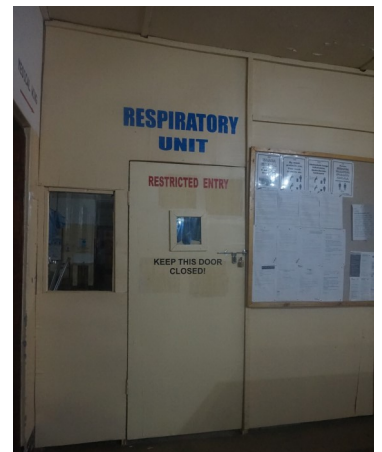
2. Vaccination against the virus

With support from the Ugandan Ministry of Health, KH is contributing to the national vaccination program. As of 30th June 2021, 619 people had been vaccinated on site. Further supplies are awaited to be able to continue this work.

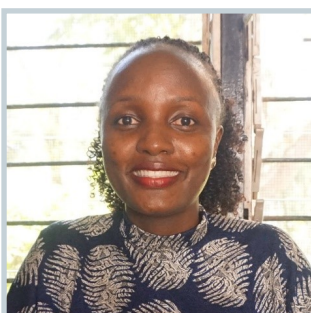


3. Inpatient Treatment of COVID-19 patients

Using donations received during the first wave, KH has been able to develop part of male ward into a respiratory ward. Special areas have been developed on NICU and maternity to deal with these specific populations. Additionally, space has been repurposed to form a COVID theatre and labour suite.



What support does KH need?



Laureen Babirye, KH Business Development Manager, outlines the urgent needs that KH has identified in dealing with not only this coronavirus wave, but also potential future waves:

1. Oxygen Supplies

Due to a general critical oxygen situation in the country and at the hospital, KH management is seeking to purchase seven (7) more oxygen concentrators (10-litre-per-minute) and twelve (12) 6800-litre oxygen cylinders. The aim is to have one concentrator for each ambulance, and one 10-litre-per-minute concentrator and a 6800-litre oxygen

cylinder (on standby) besides each of the 18 beds in the respiratory unit. Additionally, money is required for refilling of cylinders and for purchasing oxygen masks. A JustGiving OXYGEN RESPONSE FUND has been set up specifically for this: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/linda-park3>. Thank you to everyone who has already donated to this need.



2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The exponential rise in the COVID-19 cases nationally has resulted in a sharp rise in the cost of PPEs. Unsurprisingly, this has coincided with a high demand of PPE at KH due to both increasing number of patients as well as new Ministry of Health recommendations such as double masking for those working in clinical areas. The hospital has tentatively projected the cost of PPE needed for the next 6 months.

3. Human Resource Needs—Continuity of Care

Due to staff needing to isolate with COVID-19, duty rosters have been rescheduled and locums hired. Therefore the staff wage bill has increased.



4. Continuity of HIV service

In the first wave, KH had major shifts in its activities regarding handling patients. In order to minimize crowding at the facility and hence cutting down COVID-19 transmission, distribution of HIV drugs (drug refills) to patients in their respective communities was suggested. Unfortunately, we currently do not have enough functioning vehicles to achieve this, and therefore KH is seeking to

repair the Toyota Landcruiser (UG 1168M) to facilitate mobility and hence distribution of the drugs.

5. Medical Records and OPD Modifications

KH plans to construct a client shelter at the medical record store to allow clients registering births etc to practice social distancing. Additionally, a protective barrier between staff and patients undergoing triage at OPD is needed.

IN SUMMARY, KH desires to be prepared not only for the coming weeks and months of the current wave, but the hugely uncertain future we are all facing, particularly taking into consideration that other countries around the world are facing third or more waves. The following table shows the projected costs.

Item	Cost (UGX)	Cost (GBP)	Cost (Dollars)
Oxygen related Needs	138,000,000	28,048	38,655
PPEs	193,751,840	39,382	54,298
Human Resource Needs	115,530,984	23,467	32,377
Support for the HIV clinic	5,000,000	1,016	1,400
Space and infrastructure modification (OPD & Medical Records Stores)	4,578,000	930	1,282
Total	456,860,824	92,843	128,012



DONATIONS

Kiwoko Hospital cannot exist without the faithful giving of our friends and supporters. In addition to individual supporters, a number of registered charities support the work of KH in bringing good news to the poor, in word and in action. These include:

Friends of Kiwoko Hospital is a registered charity based in Northern Ireland (UK charity Ref. 104586) www.fokh.org.uk

FOKUS Ministries is a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit organisation based in USA. www.fokusministries.org

Hilfe Fuer Kiwoko eV is a non-profit organisation recognised in Germany. <https://hilfe-fuer-kiwoko.de/>

... AND COMMISSION

All the above charities can gain commission if you are purchasing through Amazon. Use the Amazon Smile starter page (e.g. smile.amazon.de). You will be prompted to pick your chosen charity, and proceed as normal from there!

amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.



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KEEP PRAYING...

- What a mighty God we serve! We thank Him for His continued faithfulness, provision and care, through which we can continue to serve the people of our local communities and beyond.
- Praise God for all our partners, donors and supporters. Kiwoko Hospital can only function due to the partnership these organisations and individuals provide in so many different ways— through financial giving, education, prayer, encouragement....
- Pray for hospital leadership. Pray for wisdom as they make many decisions about the present and future running of the hospital.
- Thank God for all our staff, each with an important role at the hospital. Continue to pray for their protection, especially from COVID-19. Pray for healing for those who become infected with COVID-19.
- Current lockdown restrictions mean the ministry side of the hospital has had to be suspended. Pray for all those involved in this important part of the hospital mission. Pray for good recommencement of ministry when restrictions are lifted.
- The KH HTI has also been closed. Pray for the students who have been sent home. Pray for staff, some of whom are able to serve in the hospital during this time.
- Pray for our surrounding communities, many of whom have been negatively impacted by COVID-19 and/or the consequences of the restrictions.
- Pray for every patient and attendant who comes to Kiwoko. Pray that they will experience God's love in action, and that they would know God's speaking voice into their lives.
- Pray that in everything happening at Kiwoko Hospital, God will be glorified.

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.”

Romans 12:12

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Kiwoko Hospital is a private, not-for-profit, mission hospital in rural Uganda. We are so thankful to our supporters for their ongoing significant contribution to the work of the hospital. Without you we would be unable to provide the high quality healthcare that our patients deserve.

If you have enjoyed this update newsletter please forward it on to

family, friends and colleagues. We are currently in the process of developing our own website. In the meantime, for more information on Kiwoko Hospital, go to the FOKH website:

www.fokh.org.uk

We also post regular updates on our Facebook page: [https://](https://web.facebook.com/kiwokohospital/)

web.facebook.com/kiwokohospital/

