



## COVID-19 Special Edition # 4 - March 27, 2020

# PROJECT PATIENT CARE.ORG

Greetings Rotarians,

As of yesterday, the United States had the highest number of confirmed Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases among any country. As we actively engage in “Social Distancing” and “Stay at Home” we are all working together to ‘Bend the Curve.’

It has been said that if we reduce the transmission of COVID-19 by these efforts, we will be saving the lives of many people.

Talk about saving lives – how about us all working together to save the lives of those that are working to save our lives. Our healthcare workers need our support during these strenuous times when they are facing shortages of personal protective equipment, ventilators, ICU beds, and in many cases, not enough hands or hours in the day.

Earlier this week, Patient Project Care interviewed World Health Organization staff based in Italy as they described the surge of cases and the step approach Italy took to isolation. While the rate of increase of new confirmed cases is slowing down, the death rate is not. As of this writing, Italy had 10.19% of all confirmed COVID-19 cases resulting in death. Approximately 8.3% of the confirmed COVID-19 cases are healthcare workers. And heartbreaking to many, 37 physicians have died in Italy treating COVID-19.



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*Champion Change Agents  
March 2020*

## **PODCAST WITH WHO BASED IN ITALY**

Project Patient Care interviewed **Sara Albolino, Ph.D.**, Chair WHO Collaborating Centre Director Centre for Patient Safety in Tuscany, Italy and **Giulia Dagliana, PSM, MSc**, Coordinator WHO Collaborating Center - Human Factor and Communication for Safe & Quality Care in Tuscany, Italy. To listen to the Podcast, click [Here](#)

The Podcast is approximately 50 minutes long and covers a variety of lessons shared by Sara and Giulia. They discuss what happened in Italy and even though this is an unprecedented virus, suggested there are different paths that can be taken to improve outcomes and save patient and healthcare provider lives.

Topics discussed in the podcast include:

- Step process for 'stopping the spread' and containment of regions
- Challenge of too little personal protective equipment contributing to infections and deaths of healthcare workers
- Too few ventilators resulting in decisions as to who receive or do not receive a ventilator
- Temporary beds in hotels and other locations filled the gap in patient bed supply and provided relief for tired healthcare workers
- People dying alone with only hospital staff at their side
- The worst crisis for Italy since WWII
- Need for global cooperation and collaborative leadership

As we grapple with the increasing number of confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths, let's make sure we are all following 'Social Distancing' and where required, 'Stay at Home.'

### **Featured Article in Chicago Tribune**

The Chicago Tribune had a featured article on Project Patient Care and their outreach and shared learnings with the staff from the World Health Organization in Italy. Click [Here](#) for article

## **Resources**

There are many resources readily available from international, national, state, county/city government agencies. Typically resources are centralized with most in state and city departments of public health.

A few links:

**World Health Organization** - <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** - [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

**Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) -**

<https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-coronavirus>

**State of Illinois -** <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx>

**Illinois Department of Public Health -** <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/>

**City of Chicago -** <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid-19/home.html>



## **We Enjoy Hearing from YOU!**

Please feel free to contact us at any time but during the COVID-19 'Stay at Home' period, we are all working remotely from our homes.

Contact us at:

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Thank you!