

What's up, Doc?

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Dr **Ho Minh Tuan**

is Head of FV's Covid-19 Department



From July 2021, FV started to implement the "split hospital" model to receive and treat patients with Covid-19 symptoms. On that basis, the Covid-19 department at FV Hospital was created with 63 beds for people without ventilators and 15 beds for High Flow Nasal Cannula (HFNC) Oxygen Therapy.

Dr Ho Minh Tuan, Head of FV's Cardiology Department, was appointed Head of the Covid-19 Treatment Department by FV's Board of Directors, becoming the pioneer physician to take on the leading position of this new specialty.

Under the direction of Dr Ho Minh Tuan, this skilled team includes 15 doctors from many different specialties with extensive expertise to effectively serve the treatment of F0 patients with moderate, severe and very severe symptoms at the hospital.

Dr Ho Minh Tuan said: "We evaluate and stratify each patient's level. If the F0s have comorbidities, they will be assigned to doctors in that specialty who will directly take care of them. Important treatment decisions must be consulted on at the treatment area in order to bring the most benefit to the patient."

The treatment regimen is largely based on guidelines from the US National Institutes of Health (NIH), the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) and the British Institute for Health Care (NICE). In addition, the department is also following a number of new guidelines issued from health authorities in the region about the treatment of SARS-COV-2.

The nursing team was also strengthened from many wards and reorganised in order to both ensure treatment support at the Covid-19 treatment area, and maintain care for inpatients in other departments.

Dr Ho Minh Tuan graduated from Hue University of Medicine in 1999 and received a Master's degree in Internal Medicine from the University of Medicine in Ho Chi Minh City in 2014. Currently, Dr Ho Minh Tuan is completing his fourth year of study within the Doctoral Programme and is expected to complete his medical doctoral thesis in 2021.

Leveraging their existing talents and qualities, Dr Ho Minh Tuan and every member of his team will successfully treat many Covid-19 patients at FV who will then be discharged from the hospital to recover at home.



For FV Hospital's Accident and Emergency Department, please contact: **028 5411 3500**

FV increases

THE HIGH FLOW NASAL CANNULA OXYGEN THERAPY (HFNC) MACHINES - guarantee sufficient oxygen supply for COVID-19 patients at the hospital

From July 2021, following the split hospital model to receive and treat patients with Covid-19, FV has increased the equipment and use of HFNC machines for patients if they do not have sufficient blood oxygen saturation with the treatment of supplemental oxygen method.

Indications for the use of HFNC high-flow nasal cannula oxygen therapy also follow WHO clinical guidelines for Covid-19 (March 13, 2020). Currently, the hospital has put into use 15 HFNC machines and a liquid oxygen supply system with a capacity of up to 10,000 litres of oxygen per week, ensuring a constant oxygen supply for patients. Equipping with machines and ensuring adequate oxygen for severe Covid-19 cases is very necessary and urgent at a time due to the ongoing pandemic.

HFNC is a type of respiratory support method that delivers a large flow of oxygen (up to 60 litres per minute), delivering air to the lungs through a nasal cannula. The air entering the lungs is heated to best match the body temperature (37°C) and humidified to target the ideal saturated vapour pressure. This therapy is used in acute and chronic respiratory problems, and is the right choice for treating patients with severe or critical COVID-19 illness.



The advantage of high-flow nasal cannula oxygen therapy humidified through the nose as a system better regulates the flow of inspiratory air to help the patient to feel more comfortable and less strained when breathing. When inhaled air is warmed and moist, it has the effect of reducing inflammation, protecting respiratory mucosal cell function, improving sputum clearing function, and reducing caloric consumption in respiratory failure. The patient is still able to eat normally when placed on the HFNC ventilator. At the same time, HFNC also reduces the need for early endotracheal intubation and so avoids complications of oropharyngeal injury caused by this method.

The use of HFNC ventilators at FV Hospital will depend on the assessment and prescription of a specialist doctor. Every day, nurses will continuously adjust the pressure, oxygen flow and humidity of the HFNC machine based on the doctor's assessment, depending on the severity of the patient's condition.

Dr **VO CONG MINH** IS NOW HEAD OF FV'S **TELEMEDICINE CENTRE FOR COVID-19 PATIENTS**



In August 2021, Dr Vo Cong Minh officially assumed his new role as Head of the Telemedicine Centre for Covid-19 Patients at FV Hospital, in addition to his ongoing responsibilities as Head of FV's Otorhinology Department.

The centre's team includes five doctors from two specialties, Otorhinology and Cardiology, with professional competence in telemedicine for F0 and F1 patients.

Via this telemedicine service, doctors will spend about 20 to 30 minutes conducting remote visits on video calls with each patient every day. Based on the parameters to be monitored, including temperature, blood oxygen levels and symptoms such as cough, shortness of breath, fever, and diarrhea, the doctor will guide and prescribe the appropriate medication. Medicines will be delivered to the patient's home by FV's Pharmacy Department when needed.

In addition, doctors will instruct patients on nutrition, breathing exercises, physical therapy and how to use oxygen tanks, if required. In case the patient has related underlying medical conditions, the doctor will refer a specialist to assist with examination and treatment through FV's Telemedicine Service.

Dr Vo Cong Minh graduated from the University of Medicine in 2002, received a Specialisation Level 1 in Otorhinology in 2007 and became a Master of Medicine in 2010 at the University of Medicine, Ho Chi Minh City. Dr Minh achieved a PhD in Medicine at the same school in 2021.

Dr Cong Minh has many years of experience in examining and treating Ear-Nose-Throat (ENT) diseases and has gained the complete trust of his patients through many successfully treated cases. It is hoped that in this new field, Dr Vo Cong Minh and his team will provide patients with effective telemedicine solutions as well as help them firmly overcome Covid-19 if they unfortunately contract this novel disease.

FV COVID-19 TELEMEDICINE SERVICES

Your trusted medical companion during home quarantine



Daily teleconsultation with FV doctors during 12 days



Tele-monitoring (pulse oximetry and temperature measuring devices supplied)



Up to 2 on-site sample collections for Covid-19 testing by RT-PCR



Home delivery of medications, if needed



24/7 ambulance service (ambulance transfer is subject to additional fee)



For registration, please call:



(028) 5411 3333



Scan for registration