

From: Prabhat Adhikari

Date: August 7, 2020 at 11:54:52 PM EDT

To: Bhupesh Khadka

Subject: Re: Proposal on TeleICU & TelePsychiatry consultation for COVID hospitals

Dear ANMF team,

Let me answer your Qs here as follows :

Why Telemedicine ?

- As we know, Nepal is getting badly hit with COVID & now most of the hospitals in hot spots are already filled with cases.

In Birgunj itself, the ward & ICU are all filled. Also, more than 30 hospital staffs became infected & are in quarantine.

So the hospital is badly handicapped.

Not only do they lack medical resources, they also lack human resources & also lack higher level medical expertise.

In this matter, Telemedicine is one of the most effective tools to address certain issues, as evident by practice in other parts of the world, like the USA.

<https://nayapatrikadaily.com/news-details/48825/2020-08-08>

Why ASK Foundation ?

- ASK Foundation has been doing Telemedicine since its establishment. Also, the members of ASK Foundation have been providing free Telemedicine service since 2010.

Besides, the hospital at Birgunj formally requested the ASK Foundation for help in this regard.

Why Danphe EMR / Telemedicine ? :

- NMC has released a [Telemedicine guideline](#), which I have shared here in this email.

Danphe has built a Telemedicine platform consistent with the guideline where the system needs to be capable of automatically storing health records with data security & following HIPAA guidelines.

This software has already passed the security audit on that matter.

So, in an ideal scenario, it is expected that both parties use proper Telemedicine software.

But if there is any user acceptance issue or others, then we propose using google meet, zoom, etc while utilizing a Telemedicine personnel to keep all the medical records.

Why is Danphe providing free software ?

- Danphe has been helping ASK Foundation for free since it's formation, as a part of CSR.

Also, a certain percentage of the company's revenue goes to ASK Foundation.

With regards,

Prabhat Adhikari

On Fri, Aug 7, 2020 at 9:13 AM Bhupesh Khadka wrote:
Thank you Prabhat for leading telehealth in Nepal. This is much needed.

The proposal is good but it lacks information re Daphe EMR- details on how it works, why and how is it giving the service free etc. I believe these information are vital parts of the project.

Thanking you,
Bhupesh Khadka, MD
President, ANMF

On Aug 7, 2020, at 12:17 AM, Prabhat Adhikari wrote:

Dear ANMF team,

The pandemic has revealed the gaps in the healthcare system of Nepal. The urban areas like Birgunj , Janakpur , Dhangadi are being the epicenters of Covid 19 outbreak, with poor healthcare infrastructure and skilled manpower. The lack of super specialized experts for critical care lack in each hospital of urban and suburban areas of Nepal. Tele-medicine with super specialized support can be the best way to serve the needs of the current situation. Moreover, many of the patients are suffering from Psychiatric illnesses, which can be managed by Telepsychiatry. ASK foundation has been serving rural Nepal since its formal inception last 4 years ago and has served nearly 560 patients from four different centers. As a team, the doctors in ASK Foundation had been working in Telemedicine since 2010 serving more than 3000 patients. ASK foundation shall support the critical situation in Birgunj with its Tele medicine experience for psychiatry and critical care domain of health.

Here, we submit our proposal in establishing a specialized Telemedicine center in KTM & providing service to COVID19 hub hospitals throughout Nepal. Initially, we will start with Birgunj, & we will then gradually expand the service to other centers in need. So far, we are in favourable discussion with government or not-for-profit hospitals in Janakpur, Tulsipur, Jumla, Dhulikhel , etc. who are willing to accept the service.

We hope, with the support of ANMF, we can achieve our noble mission.
Looking forward to hearing from you soon,
with regards,

Prabhat Adhikari, MD
Vice-President, ASK Foundation

PS :
I have included key members of ASK Foundation in this email.