

BEST PRACTICES: 2020-21

Best Practice -1

1. Title of the practice: COVID - 19 AWARENESS CUM COUNSELLING PROGRAMME AND HELPLINE CENTRE

2. Objectives of the Practice:

1. Understanding the impact of COVID-19 pandemic
2. Creating awareness among the students, staff and people in general about COVID - 19 pandemic
3. Giving counseling to the needy people
4. Creating COVID - 19 help line centre

3. The Context:

As we all know pandemic is an epidemic of an infectious disease that spreads all over the world and creates havoc. In 1918, Spanish Flu infected 500 million people across the world. The death toll was also high and over 20 million people lost their lives. Since the COVID 19 spread in 2019 in China and its reach all over the world has brought everybody under the shadow of one more pandemic and millions of people have been losing their lives these days. In many countries two to four waves have created mayhem and compelled people and governments to lock everything down for months together. On 27 January 2020, the first case of COVID 19 was reported in Kerala; since then, we have seen that almost everything got affected by this pandemic. Recently India has come out of the second wave of novel corona virus and has been trying level best to bring back the normalcy. After the second wave, we have been trying to come back to a new normal but still there is threat of third wave which has created havoc.

This scenario compelled us to think positively about the psychological support which was needed for the people in the pandemic. Hence we have taken this programme.

4. The Practice:

We have conducted through “Zoom App” COVID-19 AWARENESS CUM COUNSELLING PROGRAMME and also made Tele counseling during the COVID-19 Pandemic to patients. By creating the COVID -19 help line centre, we have helped to needy people by sharing the information related to the COVID test centres, hospital

beds availability, oxygen cylinders, ventilators, blood banks etc. physically and also through Whatsapp / Whatsapp groups.

5. Evidence of Success:

It had helped to know about the precautionary measures as well as the Covid appropriate behaviour. It also had helped to get their doubts clarified in regard to the treatment and the care required to fight against this disease. It had helped to boost their psychology and think positively to come out of this distressful situation. Many people had given the feedback that they were really feeling happy and comfortable and also it has reduced their tension.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

1. Many times it was not possible to have conversation with the patients as the mobile phones were with the family members or the relatives. So we had to convince them to keep at least one mobile phone with the patient so that we can have a direct conversation.
2. Physical interaction is very less at help line centre.
3. Mobile continues to be the main source of interaction.
4. We face network connectivity issues.
5. Mobile phones, Zoom App, What's App, Proper internet connectivity, Contact numbers of concern offices/hospitals/patients etc. are required resources.

Best Practice -2

1. Title of the practice: Q.R Coding of Plants in the College Campus

2. Objectives of the Practice:

The main objectives of taxonomical information for digitalization using new techniques of QR code are as follows:

- 1) To incorporate the plant species information to QR code such as
 - a) Vernacular name of the plant
 - b) Botanical name of the plant
 - c) Family of the plant
 - d) Category of the plant type such as Herb/Shrub/Tree and
 - e) Number of such species present in the college.

2) To visualize the plant information through scanning the QR code. The main benefits of QR code assigning to the plants is that, any student or any interested person wants to know about the information of a plant. He or She is to scan the QR code attached to the plant with his or her mobile phone camera to get the information quickly and on the spot itself without going into library or to meet the subject expert for information search to know about the plant.

3. The Context:

The Department of Botany maintains a garden which consists of Wild, Medicinal and Ornamental Plants. The garden caters to the needs of students for their taxonomy practical. Earlier the Scientific Names on the Name plates were displayed. But from June 2021 onwards QR codes were assigned to the plants in the campus as per directives received from O/o the Commissioner of the Collegiate Education, Hyderabad.

4. The Practice:

The QR (QR stands for quick response) codes are two dimensional barcodes. These QR codes are machine readable optical label that contains information about the tree/plant to which it is attached. The QR codes data about an item generally used for location, identification or track that points to a website or application. The QR code consists of black squares arranged in a square grid on a white back ground, which can be read by the camera of the mobile phone and processed using the software until the image of the QR code in the image can be accurately interpreted

5. The Evidence of success:

It helped a lot to the students / persons who want to know about the information of the plants such as family, scientific name of the plant, medicinal values of the plant etc. Many students had given good feedback regarding the QR Codes. It inculcated enthusiasm in students to know about plants.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

- Technical problems were faced to generate QR Codes.
- QR Code not permitted to store large information.
- It requires QR Code software which is run with support of OS.
- For reading QR code requires QR Scanner. Hence technical knowledge and OS supported mobile is required.
- QR Code image has to be laminated for longer life.