



UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS

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The COVID-19 Emergency Room of the UHS: Protection from Cross-infection

Proposal for UPMASA

Updated Version

The UPLB University Health Service is a 30-bed capacity hospital that operates 24/7. Being the only government hospital in Los Baños it has gone beyond its original mandate. While its origin is to attend to UPLB constituents e.g the faculty, staff their dependents and the students, the UHS has opened its doors to the Los Baños community and the nearby municipalities.

Since a lot of its doctors are products of the UP System, it is sometimes referred to as the little PGH at the foot of Mount Makiling. The indigent community bypass even the bigger more accessible hospitals outside the UPLB Campus. They brave the rolling hills of Forestry to reach this little hospital.

Since the COVID-19 Pandemic, the UHS has been thrown into the frontlines. With only 8 Doctors and 15 Nurses the UHS valiantly attends to COVID cases. As a level 1 hospital, it is not supposed to attend to moderate or severe cases of COVID. But by force of circumstance, it has attended to 50 and more cases of COVID moderate to severe in these 19 months of the Pandemic. Given its little manpower and limited capability it heroically fights back to overcome the unseen enemy.

In March 2021, it was forced to close for 2 weeks because its COVID warriors, the health care workers were badly hit by the COVID virus. Like a bullet, it hit the Frontliners. Some almost lost their lives. But being warriors, the virus was overcome by the faith and determination of the frontliners. The already infected COVID Positive Doctors and Nurses attended to their comrades who were fighting for their life having been hit by severe COVID.

As the country goes through the more virulent Delta Variant, the UHS again feels the surge. It smells the ominous danger.

Hence, we are hoping UPMASA can help shield the health care workers and their patients from cross infection.

We are submitting this proposal for a container van fabricated Emergency Room and other equipment.

This is the UHS before the Pandemic.



This is the UHS now in this Pandemic.





The tents serve as a makeshift ER for COVID probables and COVID confirmed cases.

Without the tents, ER patients will all be attended inside the same single ER of the UHS. There will be the danger of cross infection of COVID and non-COVID patients. Hence, we need to cohort patients. COVID probables and confirmend : Outside Tent. Non-COVID cases will be triaged to the main Emergency Room.

19 months into the Pandemic, the makeshift ER has gone through the different events.

During the super typhoon of 2020 our ER tents were no match to the wind and rain. And in these times, we have nowhere to bring our COVID patients.



Two weeks ago, during the height of the turbulent wind, the tents tumbled. Dragging with it the oxygen tank full of oxygen. Good thing the tank did not explode.





Nag tumbling tumbling po mga tents. Pati nga Stretchers and Oxygen tanks. Mabuti po hindi sumabog yun oxygen tank. We are also afraid that during turbulent winds the tree branches might fall into the tents. This can put the patients and the health care workers in a precarious situation.

During brownouts our hospital staff continue to attend to patients at the ER tent even in the most grueling situations.







Hence, we are respectfully asking our UPMASA to adopt the COVID ER of the UHS.

II. Project Details

2 units 20 foot container van fabricated into a makeshift Emergency Room

1 unit Portable Toilet

Total package: Approximate cost: P 850,000.00 to include price increase through time

I have attached a sample quotation from a local company which specializes in Container Van fabrication

Item	Unit	Details	Cost	Subtotal
Container Van fabricated as Emergency Room retrofitted to	2	Priority Project	P 263,000 plus Vat	P 611,000

ensure good air exchange	1			P 107,000
Portable Toilet		Priority Project		
				P 718,000 with allowance for price increase through time
				P 850,000

Equipment for the ER ConVan

Hospital beds	4	With IV stand and cabinet	P 50,000	P 200,000
Defibrillator	1		P 200,000	P 200,000
Cardiac Monitor	1		P 250,000	P 250,000
Air conditioning unit	2		P 35,000.00	P 70,000.00
Exhaust fans	2		P 10,000	P 20,000.00
Swabbing Booth	2	With air conditioner	P 70,000	P 140,000
Total				P 880,000

III. Versatility of the Project ER ConVan

The purpose of the ER ConVan is to serve as an ER extension to cohort COVID patients. The whole world is praying that this Pandemic will end soon. What will happen to this investment?

The UHS has an ongoing renovation as part of its Master Plan. It has 3 phases:

Phase 1: Isolation Wing: 9 Isolation Rooms will be added to be future-proofed for emerging diseases of global concerns. This will commence this year. While this is under construction, our COVID patients in the old Isolation Ward will be temporarily admitted in the ConVan. This will now be repurposed as temporary Isolation Ward.

Phase 2: Operating Room Complex. This will commence this year too. Hence, the 2 ConVans with 4 bed capacity can function as extension of our Ward.

Phase 3: Upgrading of the Emergency Room. This will happen probably in 5 years. The ConVan can again be repurposed as ER extension.

Hence, with the investment we are putting into this ER Project, the relevance and applicability will see us through for at least 10 years and more.

As of this time, the engineers of UPLB are already doing site inspection in preparation for the ConVans. Drains, water and electrical source are already being prepared.





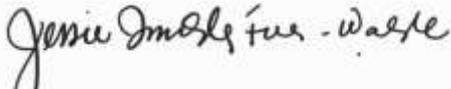
Thank you for the interest of UPMASA to reach out to the UHS. We hope that this project will come into fruition this year 2021.

The UHS is deeply grateful for your support.

We hope that you will consider our proposal.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,



Jessie Imelda Foronda-Walde, MD.
Director

