

To: [5.1.2e]@xs4all.nl [5.1.2e]@xs4all.nl
From: [5.1.2e]
Sent: Wed 9/9/2020 7:13:10 AM
Subject: FW: BOG-LSH- Patients Caribbean - Update about tertiary care in Colombia
Received: Wed 9/9/2020 7:13:10 AM

Verzonden met BlackBerry Work
 (www.blackberry.com)

Van: [5.1.2e] [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>
Datum: dinsdag 08 sep. 2020 4:00 PM
Aan: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>, [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>
Onderwerp: FW: BOG-LSH- Patients Caribbean - Update about tertiary care in Colombia

FYI (voor ministersoverleg)

Informatie van ambassade Colombia over situatie daar. Non-Covid patiënten ip welkom maar op individuele beoordeling, IC capaciteit op zich wel aanwezig. Lock down net versoepeld.

Advies is toch nog 'wait en see' wat effect van de versoepeling is.

Daarbij de informatie dat SZV 50 patiënten voor electieve zorg naar Cali wil sturen.

Met vriendelijke groet,

[5.1.2e] 2e
Cristeam Caribisch Nederland

[5.1.2e]

Programmadirectie Zorg en Jeugd Caribisch Nederland

Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport
 Parnassusplein 5 | Postbus 20350 | 2500 EJ | Den Haag

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Van: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minbuza.nl>
Verzonden: woensdag 2 september 2020 19:59
Aan: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minbuza.nl>; [5.1.2e] [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minvws.nl>
CC: [5.1.2e] <[5.1.2e]@minbuza.nl>
Onderwerp: RE: BOG-LSH- Patients Caribbean - Update about tertiary care in Colombia

Dear [5.1.2e],
 From the sidelines: the reason behind [5.1.2e] question is that the government of St Maarten informed us that SZV plans on sending 50 patients to Cali soon. With your permission, we would like to already send them [5.1.2e] information on the current situation in Colombian hospitals, so that they make an informed decision on whether or not to send them. We will indicate to them that their minister will be informed from your side next week as well.
 Does that work for you?

[5.1.2e]

Sent with BlackBerry Work
 (www.blackberry.com)

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>
Date: Wednesday, 02 Sep 2020, 18:43
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>, [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>
Subject: RE: BOG-LSH- Patients Caribbean - Update about tertiary care in Colombia

On the contrary, I think it is very important to share with them!

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>
Sent: woensdag 2 september 2020 10:27
To: [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>
Subject: RE: BOG-LSH- Patients Caribbean - Update about tertiary care in Colombia

Dear [redacted]

I was planning to share this information with the hospitals on the islands and the gezaghebbers van de BES tomorrow, and with the ministers of the CAS next week.

Are there reasons not to share the info?

Met vriendelijke groet,

[redacted]
 Corona Crisiscentrum Caribisch Nederland
 [redacted]
 Zorg en Jeugd Caribisch Nederland
 Ministerie van VWS

Van: "[redacted]" <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>
Verzonden: 2 sep. 2020 16:55
Naar: "[redacted]" <[redacted]@minvws.nl>
Cc: "[redacted]" <[redacted]@minvws.nl>; "[redacted]" <[redacted]@minvws.nl>; "[redacted]" <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>; "[redacted]" <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>
Onderwerp: RE: BOG-LSH- Patients Caribbean - Update about tertiary care in Colombia

Dear [redacted],

We have a question, do you share this information with the other islands (St. Maarten, Curacao and Aruba)?

Best Regards,

[redacted]
 [redacted]
 Embajada del Reino de los Países Bajos
 Cra 13 #93-40 Piso 5
 Bogotá, Colombia
 Tel: [redacted] Cel: [redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>
Sent: woensdag 2 september 2020 01:13

To: [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>
Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>

Subject: RE: BOG-LSH- Patients Caribbean - Update about tertiary care in Colombia

Dear [redacted]

Thanks you for this timely and useful update!
 We will monitor the situation. The next couple of weeks seem to be crucial for Colombia, we wish you good luck and wisdom!

Met vriendelijke groet,

[redacted]
 Corona Crisiscentrum Caribisch Nederland

[redacted]
 Zorg en Jeugd Caribisch Nederland
 Ministerie van VWS

Van: [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>

Verzonden: 2 sep. 2020 01:47

Naar: [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>

Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>

Onderwerp: BOG-LSH- Patients Caribbean - Update about tertiary care in Colombia

Dear [redacted],

The last report from the Ministry of Health confirmed 7,230 new cases (August 31) compared with figures of 12,000 - 13,000 during mid-august, showing an improvement due to the reduction of speed of infection. In general, ICUs have improved their capacity (as shown in the figures below). Colombia has started a new type of lock-down which will open more economic activities, and results will depend mainly on citizen behavior, so we will see how these new measures affect the spread of disease during the following 2-3 weeks. El Country Hospital in Bogotá for example mentioned that they had to adjust their expectation about the peak now that the government has opened the economy (the peak will be double as high as expected they mentioned).

As you may already know, the situation is different in each city, the cases in Barranquilla are already started descending, while the other main cities are reaching their peaks; Bogotá (first week September), Cali (second week September), Medellín (third week September), and Bucaramanga (October).

I have asked around for information regarding ICU occupation for your reference, data 30/08/2020

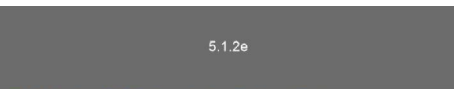
Barranquilla: 43%
 Cali: 74%
 Bogotá: 78%
 Medellín: 81%
 Bucaramanga: 85 %

As additional information, we continue following the same procedure of receiving air-ambulances per approval of the Colombian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including clinical history of non-Covid patients and letters of acceptance from the recipient hospital. Considering the circumstances, this process has been quite efficient.

My advice is to closely monitor the coming two/three weeks because this will be crucial (foremost in Bogotá and other major cities) to see the impact of the reopening of the economy. I will keep you updated.

Let me know if you required further detail.

Best Regards,



Embajada del Reino de los Países Bajos
Cra 13 #93-40 Piso 5
Bogotá, Colombia
Tel: [redacted] Cel: [redacted]

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>

Sent: maandag 31 augustus 2020 08:00

To: [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>

Cc: [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>

Subject: Update about tertiary care in Colombia

Dear [redacted]

Thank you for the information, this was very helpful.

Would it be possible to get a update how things are at the moment in Colombia? Hopefully numbers of new infections are stabilizing or even going down (according to the WHO website). Is this what you see as well? How does this affect ICU capacity at the moment?

At the moment things are worrisome in Aruba and Sint Maarten, with rising numbers of new infections and hospitalizations. Curacao has some clusters of local spread of the disease but no hospitalizations so far. We will have to wait and see what will happen there. Bonaire has 2 active cases and both Saba and Statia 1.

Met vriendelijke groet,

[redacted]
Crisisteam Caribisch Nederland

[redacted]
Programmadirectie Zorg en Jeugd Caribisch Nederland

Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport
Pamassusplein 5 | Postbus 20350 | 2500 EJ | Den Haag

T (+31) [redacted]
E [redacted]@minvws.nl
www.rijksoverheid.nl

Van: [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>

Verzonden: donderdag 16 juli 2020 18:47

Aan: [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>

CC: [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@minvws.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>; [redacted] <[redacted]@minbuza.nl>

Onderwerp: BOG-LSH-Patients Caribbean parts of the Kingdom : Questions about tertiary care in Colombia

Dear [REDACTED] :

Thanks for your message. As you mentioned we were granted the humanitarian status for our patients. Nevertheless, we are required to submit case by case for approval via Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including a formal approval of the recipient hospital. This makes it even more pertinent to have the all necessary information as quickly as possible.

It is important to highlight that the situation in Colombia is becoming more critical in terms of number of infected people, especially in the main cities, and that the capacity of ICUS and Medical Personnel in some cities is reaching its limits.

Below reply to your questions as per the info we have available

From: [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) <[REDACTED]@minvws.nl>

Sent: woensdag 15 juli 2020 02:08

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@minbuza.nl>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@minbuza.nl>

Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@minvws.nl>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@minvws.nl>

Subject: Questions about tertiary care in Colombia

Dear [REDACTED]

Hope this email finds you and yours well.

As you know, the PM of Colombia granted humanitarian status to medical flights for critical non-COVID-19 patients from as per letter of June 22nd. I take this to mean that emergency patients (=tertiary care) from the Kingdom are welcome again ☺

At the moment we are treating these patients in Martinique. In the past months we have only had a handful of cases (2 actually sent to Martinique, 2 that didn't for various reasons). Before we discuss with the hospitals on the islands about changing the route of emergency patients however, we would like to have some extra information and also your thoughts on the matter:

1. What is the risk of infection for the patients/companions/medical flight personnel? The country still is 'orange' and Cali is at the border of 'red'. Sint Maarten uses mainly hospitals in Cali, Aruba uses Bucaramanga and Barranquilla, Curacao and Bonaire use Medellín and Bogotá. As mentioned above cases are increasing and we expect the peak during the following weeks, private hospitals and air companies have developed protocols to avoid infection, nevertheless considering the increase of cases is hard to tell. If you decide to send a patient it is important to double check on the need of a companion so we reduce the number of people traveling and in risk.
2. In the light of these questions, do you have a short update on the situation in Colombia in general and in the healthcare system? Has Covid led to a stop in elective and non-urgent care? Is cancer and fertility treatment (Inser hospital) still been done?

Colombia has not reach the peak yet (we expect this peak in the following weeks). Cases are increasing every day and at the same time the government and the private institutions are making great efforts on expanding capacity. The general situation in the different cities is as follows: Bogotá - Red, Medellín-Orange, Barranquilla-Orange, Cali-Orange, Bucaramanga is so far doing well.

Oncology patients continue their treatments and private hospitals have worked on protocols for ambulatory treatments and avoid infection within hospitals. (some of them have their oncology treatments (chemotherapy and radiotherapy) on different buildings). Inser Hospital for fertility is working normally, as per Coomeva's information.

3. How are the hospitals segregating Covid and non-Covid care? Are there fi. separate ICUs for non-Covid care? Or maybe separate hospitals for Covid?
Hospitals are doing the best to separate non-COVID and COVID patients, some have capacity for different building and some others different floors. ICUS are in general at this point also separated.

4. Is there any ICU and operation capacity in the hospitals to care for emergency patients from the Kingdom? In most cities the ICU capacity is reaching its limits. Bucaramanga is the city with more capacity now. Considering this, case by case has to be consulted with the recipient hospital before we ask for the approval from the Government.
5. If we decide to return this patient group to Colombia, would you advise to use just one hospital for all patients from the Kingdom or would spreading them to the usual hospitals be smarter? If we would use just one hospital, which one do you think we should we use, and why?

I think is good to have several alternatives, considering that the situation continues to change on daily basis. For example, If you would be willing to send an urgent patient today you could think about using the international facilities in Bucaramanga, as per the current situation within the area.

I realize these are many questions. In advance, I hope you can help us answer most of them. In any case thank you for your time and effort ☺

Hope this helps! I would advise to wait to revise the COVID situation in Colombia by the second week of August and in the meantime avoid to send patients during this period.

If you are willing to review further information on protocols "for international patients" for the different operators and hospitals within the country and find those useful I think we can ask for them.

Keep safe. Keep safe!

5.1.2e

Embajada del Reino de los Países Bajos
Cra 13 #93-40 Piso 5
Bogotá, Colombia

Tel: 5.1.2e Cel: 5.1.2e

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