



**ASF Hospital
Monthly Report
December 2020 to April 2021**

ASF is ensuring health care support and other facilities to the survivors during this pandemic by maintaining all safety measures. Medical Hotline service is an ongoing process and essential service for online medicine consultation, psychological and other referral services for emergency cases etc. So far we have received 122 calls from December, 2020 to April, 2021 from the acid survivors located all over Bangladesh. All calls are including health consultation, new case management in govt. hospital, about referral to tertiary hospital, legal advice, financial request for food and medicine. For full recovery and rehabilitation, the acid victims need holistic care services and Old acid victims also need life-long support. ASF is trying to give support as much as they can with its limited resources.

Type of Service	Medical Advice(Physical)	Medical Advice (Hotline)	No. of total advice	Physio Advice	Psychotherapy Counselling	PRESSURE GARMENTS	NEW CASE	Refers
December	30	44	74	15	11	0	0	19
January	00	23	23	00	00	00	00	00
February	10	24	34	5	2	4	0	5
March	13	18	31	8	0	2	3	6
April	0	13	13	1	1	1	0	1
Total Number	53	122	175	29	14	7	3	31

There is a summary given below about the beneficiaries' statistics.

Medical consultation

Acid victims are seeking for health consultation which is their regular complications occurred due to chemical burn. Most of the issues are regarding contracture, eye problems, hearing problem, infection, feeding tube management and many more.

We try to solve this problem through hotline, direct service, nearby available govt. hospital and with the help of our specialized consultation panel.

Physiotherapy and psychotherapy support

From the very beginning ASF is trying to provide psychosocial and physical rehabilitation to prevent disability to the survivors. In this time period of reporting 29 patients were fully physically rehabilitated through physiotherapy support and 14 patients were taken psychological support from psychologist.

Medical supplies

We were providing hearing aid, pressure garments and glasses for 12 patients from ASF.

Referred to Govt. Hospital:

31 patients were referred to NIO, SHSMCH and Lalmonirhat Sadar Hospital

Legal advice

Our legal officer has given legal advices and referral to 5 of our survivors

Case Report

26 years old female patient is the 3rd child of her parents. She got married after completing SSC. She lived with her husband in the resident of Shankar Pasha Union in Jessore. She comes from a well off family.

Presenting Problem:

She described her chief complaints that

- ✓ She remained sad and upset often
- ✓ She couldn't perform usual activity because she lost her interest
- ✓ Anxious about present situations such as protecting the marriage life, doubt about getting justice etc.
- ✓ Suicidal ideation

- ✓ Perpetrators threats to her and her family

Functional Level of Assessment:

The initial sessions were directed toward assessment of her presenting problems. Her current psychological problems can be divided into following domains:

Category	Assessment
Cognitive	Initially her thoughts were, “In any case, I have to get justice, I need to get my past family back, Being a victim of so much harassment, sometimes I think it would be better to die, I think I would end myself”
Emotional	The client was very much shocked in the initial stage. She wouldn’t process her present situation. She was sad, upset, and also afraid about her cure of burnt area. And she was also worried and anxious about the sustainability of her marriage life
Social	She had experienced hassles and harassment to deal her acid incident legal and social aspects.

Therapist’s observation:

Appearance and behavior	The client wears clean dress up, and her appearance and behavior were culturally accepted.
Facial expression	Her facial expression reflect her sufferings
Posture and movement	Her body posture was normal due to her damage.
Speech	Her speech was normal; she cried while talking about her trauma.
Mood	She has low mood, anxious, and also has guilt feelings over her past.

Assessment of suicidal risk:

Suicidal ideation: She doesn’t have frequent but twice or thrice times thoughts about suicide strikes into her mind.

Suicidal attempt: No Attempt

Lethality of the means of suicidal attempts: N/A

Impulsive or Planned? N/A

History of attack

According to statement of Tania, she said that she lived happily with her husband and besides she also took care some part of her husband's business. By doing these, she had to able saving money and plan to do something by herself. She said that Jewel, relative cum neighbor from her paternal side, borrowed Tk15 lakh from her a year ago for doing business and ensure her to give the money back with interests. But, as when she demanded the money after one year, firstly Jewel was making excuses to money back and then started threatening to kill her throwing acid. Following the threat, Tania went to her husband's house on August 13 after lodging a general diary (GD) with Narail Sadar police station in this regard. However, she came back to her paternal house as Jewel offered a village arbitration meeting to resolve the matter. Later, Jewel and his associate Wahidur threw acid on her at the night when she was going to her uncle's house to see the GD copy. Then, she was taken to Narail Sadar Hospital where she was referred to Khulna Medical College Hospital following a deterioration of her health condition. After hearing the details of the incident, ASF adopted her from Khulna Medical College Hospital and is continuing to provide holistic services so that she is able to receive appropriate treatment.

Psychological support:

To ensure her psychological wellbeing, ASF is providing her regular individual psychotherapy sessions.

- **Ventilation:** Psychotherapy sessions integrated the basic skills like active and reflective listening and empathetic understanding. She was provided with ample opportunity to ventilate and an environment to normalize her situation. She was encouraged to talk about her problems. Through empathy and reflection of feelings she revealed her problems. This worked as a healing process, because empathetic environment and rapport with the therapist helped her to heal emotionally.
- **Psycho-education:** It was provided to orient the Tania with five part model of cognitive behavior therapy so that she does have some conceptualization of how her complaints are explained in CBT and at the same time how he will get psychological assistance following this model, what cognitive and behavioral works she will need to do and what would be the consequences. Also, it was helpful to make her understand the connection between thoughts, emotions, behaviors and physiology.
- **Thought challenge:** The thought challenge refers as the central technique to cognitive therapy. It was used as Tania had number of thoughts regarding herself, her future which had direct influence on her self-defeating emotions and behavior and which if kept unresolved would perpetuate the problems. Also, this technique was to uplift her low mood by challenging irrational and suicidal thoughts. Moreover, it was directed to increase her acceptance toward the changed circumstances and her losses
- **Problem-solving:** In session, Tania was oriented with problem-solving technique. It helps her to the process of finding solutions to problems encountered in life.

Challenges:

Although psychological treatment was helpful throughout the sessions, it was not still extremely satisfactory due to some challenges. Life threatening messages from the perpetrator, legal and

social related problems makes psychological conditions vulnerable. If these issues are continuing she will not be able to lead a peaceful life.

Recommendation

From clinical observation and interview, it has been observed that Patients psychological condition is vulnerable due to many factors. Along with medical treatment and psychological support, it will be essential to resolve the legal and social issues.

Support given

Medical care, physiotherapy services, Psychological session, free of cost medicine and follow up, little financial assistance for nutrition.

Thanks,

Hridita Mustafiz

Coordinator- health care