



Global Giving July 2020 Project Report

MEDICAL FACILITIES & SUPPORT FROM MEDICAL UNIT

As of March 22nd 2020 ASF, had to adhere to Bangladesh’s lockdown requirements for the COVID situation. The entire ASF staff had to work from home that period on, and the medical facilities onsite medical facilities had to be temporary closed. To support the survivors’ community during this pandemic all support were temporarily provided via the Notification and Referral Hotline where callers were reaching out.

Over the course of the past 3.5 months (March 22 – July 6), ASF received over 127 calls acid violence from acid related incidents requiring medical consultation from all over the Bangladesh. Medical consultation included giving callers health consultation, case management support with government hospitals, referrals to tertiary hospitals, legal advice and financial request for food and medicine. The following table includes some summary stats on the calls received:

Type of Service	Number of Total Calls Received	Number of Calls Referred	Number of Callers Provided Service
Psychotherapy Counselling	0	0	0
Physio Advice	1	0	1
Pressure Garments	5	0	5
Legal Advice	4	4	0
Medical Advice	89	1	88
New victim consultation	5	0	5
Financial Request for Food/Hunger	9	0	9
Financial Request for Medical Related cost (medicine, transportation etc.)	12	0	10
Other Inquiries	2	0	2
Total	127	5	120

Modified ASF Medical Service During the Pandemic:

1. Consultation and follow up through hotline service.
2. Remote case consultation and treatment made available from nearby government hospital.
3. New case management and monitoring of government doctors at recognised hospitals.
4. Assistance in referral of critical cases to specialized hospital and took advice from our professional specialized consultant panel.
5. Bearing ambulance cost and medicine cost after assessing their financial status.
6. Financial assistance for buying medicine
7. Financial support for emergency foods and medicine.

Additional Information of Service Provided:

- **Medical Advice**

Acid victims are asking for health consultation which are 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. ASF has taken every effort to try and resolve the issues brought in through the hotline and through working with other nearby and available government hospitals and/or medical facilities that can assist with the specialized need.

- **New Victim Case Management**

From March 2020 to July 6th 2020 ASF had five new cases of acid attacks from the Rajshahi, Bogura, Noakhali, Tangail and Jessore districts. Among them three of the cases needed to be referred to Dhaka's Sheikh Hasina National Burn Institute for more complex treatments as their burn percentage was high. Unfortunately, one patient did not make it due to the severity of complications from the attack and the other two are still getting treatment. ASF is providing financial support to these victims and patients as required.

From other two cases where there have been seven victims, five have been discharged and two are undergoing treatment at the Burn and Plastic surgery department of Rajshahi Medical College. ASF regularly is monitoring their status and has assured to support them with any financial or legal needs.

- **Remote Consultation**

One of the cases that was previously referred to ASF regarding the acid victim Rafiqul had to be referred on to Dhaka Medical College Hospital's ICU facilities. He has been since discharged in May 2020 after a long six months of treatment. ASF has provided nearly over 1,00,000 BDT in financial aid towards his treatment. Rafiqul still requires additional care.

Another case ASF is currently handing is for Rina begum from Jessore where ASF has supported her with a minimum of 35,000 BDT. Rina also requires additional funding to complete her whole treatment plan.

- **Financial Assistance for emergency medicine and foods**

Through the help of UK Charity Fund and Global Giving Funds, ASF is providing emergency medicine and food assistance for acid survivors during this pandemic. Majority of the victims come from lower socio-economic status and most are without any income at this time. ASF has listed at least 51 acid victims who are in need during this crucial moment of COVID-19. It is anticipated that more requests may be coming in. A total of 200,625 BDT to 28 acid victims. 23 victims are still in the process of receiving their funds. A total of seven patients have also been provided funds to get their prescribed medicines.