# 7.2.1. Two Best Practices Successfully Implemented by Government College Madappally in 2020-21

## 1. A Drop of Love to Save a Life: Blood and Stem Cell Donation

### **Objectives:**

To inculcate in the students the broad and generous prospects of humanity and philanthropy through acts of charity.

To mould the students into a better community of selfless citizens ready to help the ailing and the poor.

To give a societal and altruistic colouring to academic activities

To form a full-fledged functioning blood and stem cell donation forum in the college.

To create awareness in college students and the local community regarding blood and stem cell donation.

To organize blood and stem cell donation camps.

To make available donors of rare blood groups.

To prevent death for want of blood.

To make available adequate blood to the needy patients in the locality and anywhere if needed.

To prepare the students to respond to medical emergencies in the best possible. manner.



### **Context**

As part of the extension programmes, the students of the college have often visited nearby hospitals, old age homes, and charity dialysis centre in Vatakara, where they have witnessed large number of poor patients undergoing surgery and blood transfusion and an increased demand of blood belonging to different groups.

Moreover, the college is situated adjacent to the accident prone national highway where we witness many road accidents. Our attention has also turned to the increase in the number of kidney and cancer patients in and around the locality. Further, we have been regularly contacted by the hospitals around and individuals for various groups of blood to meet immediate needs. Such instances have prompted us to turn towards the area of blood and stem cell donation. Numerous studies have proved that stem cells of younger donors have better survival rates for cancer patients undergoing stem cell transplantation. Hence young students are crucial in the survival of the patients.



### **Practice**

The college has implemented this charity scheme very effectively and systematically. The Blood Donation Forum functioning in the college has been made efficient by maintaining a readily available blood donors' directory, in which the various blood groups of teachers and students, and their contact numbers are recorded, so that any patient or hospital in need of any group of blood will receive it easily on contacting the forum. In the blood donation camps conducted regularly in association with various hospitals and medical centres in Vatakara, the members donate to the blood banks many units of blood every year.

The blood donors' directory is updated at the beginning of every academic year. A special list of rare blood groups is also prepared for emergencies to make available donors of rare blood groups. The World Blood Donors Day is celebrated on 14 June every year and awareness classes are conducted by experts in the health and medical fields to remove the various apprehensions of the students regarding blood and stem cell donations. Newly enrolled students are given first-hand experience

about blood transfusion at various medical centres, and the cooperation of the parents is also ensured through interactions with them. The prime beneficiaries of the blood donation scheme are the patients undergoing treatments at Government Taluk Hospital, Kottaparamba Hospital, Cooperative Hospital and the *Thanal*, the Charity Dialysis Centre, Vatakara.

The college is located at a proximal distance from these centres and other medical facilities in and around Vatakara. These centres, especially the dialysis centre, are in need of a large number of units of blood for transfusion. The Blood Donation Forum gives all possible support to their rising needs. The voluntary service of the alumni is also sought in this regard.

In order to help the cancer patients across the state, stem cells are collected by conducting annual camps in alliance with *DATRI Stem Cell Foundation*. The Pain and Palliative Care unit functioning in the college work along with Blood Donation Forum did meritorious service in helping and caring the aged and the ailing, especially the cancer patients in the locality. A donor was found finally.



https://www.instagram.com/p/CMzrZ2Mls2J/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=

### **Evidence of Success**

As a result of these activities each year more and more students are coming forward voluntarily to partake in blood donation and stem cell donation with added vigour and willingness. The number of members in the Blood Donors Forum has also increased considerably. The experience gathered by the students in the forum has made them take leading roles in the various charity activities and in conducting

blood donations camps in their locality. The more subtle aspect of this transformation can be seen in the students' attitude towards the poor needy and the oppressed. Their willingness to serve the deprived and the distressed is increasing by and by. Therefore it is hoped to create a better community of selfless citizens through acts of charity like this. A full-fledged blood donation forum is functioning in the college at present. Through this social service, we have developed a rapport with the people in the premises. Those who have received certain service from the college have been expressing their deep felt gratitude by constantly keeping in touch with us. The benefactors' gatherings are held in the college time and again. Therefore the natives cherish the college as the most benevolent and resourceful institution of the area.

### **Problems Encountered and Resources Required:**

For lack of awareness students are not confident enough in donating blood and stem cells for the first time. Therefore more awareness programmes are to be conducted in this respect. The girl students are still reluctant in donating blood due to certain socio-cultural prejudices. Such problems need to be addressed through proper guidance and counseling. Due to the stipulations of curricular activities the students may find it difficult in donating blood within the time constraints. The money for transportation and other expenses cannot be met with by the poor students alone and therefore a provision for assisting the donors financially should be introduced.

## 2. Knowledge Repository Created in YouTube for imparting classes during lockdown.

## **Objectives:**

To impart free online classes to the students in the absence of regular classes.

To create a knowledge repository of study materials which can be accessed any time by any knowledge seeker.

#### **Context:**

Kerala witnessed a rapid surge of COVID during 2020-21. As regular classes could not be conducted during lockdown, many teachers started YouTube classes for transacting the lessons. Several students had difficulty in attending live classes online and as such, recorded classes had to be offered to ensure no one fell behind.

The students who were unable to purchase Android phones were given the phones by collecting funds from teachers and students. We ensured that the learning progressed effectively throughout the lockdown period through a collective effort.

Given below are the links of the YouTube channels of some of the teachers.

Dr. Harikrishnan G, Associate Professor, Department of Physics

https://youtube.com/channel/UCN7hOlgYdPOjECdqFJu\_V7A

Dr Nithyaja B, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKXdp05jDbAmwBxoA7SR9Lw/

Liyakhath FM, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry

https://youtube.com/user/liyaku

Mubash, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics

https://youtube.com/channel/UC6-dsd8xfsyvuu8csIuITXg

Viswas Viswam KC, Assistant Professor, Department of English

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC-0jZ-lhlo9UcBbkcZtrOw

Soumya PK, Assistant Professor, Department of English

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNy8UiS4GMlIT0rQznAq8Eg

Dr Smitha Madanan. Assistant Professor, Department of English

https://www.youtube.com/user/smitha83m

Dr Umar N, Assistant Professor, Department of English

https://youtube.com/user/ghatshilagogol

### Jithin Pola, Assistant Professor, Department of History

## https://youtube.com/channel/UC6VlwUeeWT2IxY9Ft5w0rkA

### **Evidence of Success**

Students appreciated the efforts taken by the teachers during the absence of regular classes. Students were able to access the classes according to their convenience. On demand from the learners the teachers continued to upload recorded classes in the YouTube channels even after the regular classes started.

### **Problems Encountered and Resources Required:**

As most teachers were uploading classes from their homes using their phones and laptop, some of the videos lacked technical perfection. May areas were under strict lockdown and as such several teachers could not travel to the college to utilize the resources there. However better video lessons were created once the lockdown was lifted and the resources in the college became available. Some students had a problem of network issues. We solved the the issues by contacting the local government bodies who then made free internet available in specific locations of the concerned panchayats.