## COVER STORY Working Together Against the COVID-19 Pandemic

## Update on June 23, 2021

## Defend the Front Line & See the Light of Hope

In May 2021, The COVID-19 epidemic suddenly expanded in northern Taiwan and caused 599 deaths and 14,260 people infected.

During the most severe peak of the epidemic, in addition to launching a large number of north-to-south patient transport, there're still a lot of asking for help messages on the group platform of the New Taipei City Health Bureau and hospitals, "Patient C in danger! Which hospital can accommodate?" So that Taipei Tzu Chi Hospital Supt. Chao You-Chen responded and admitted as many patients as possible even though the staff were already under enough load of caring pressure.

This was how a 32-year-old



On May 27, 2021, the interdisciplinary medical team worked together to perform caesarean section in the positive pressure operating room after intubation for the COVID-19 confirmed pregnant woman. Both the mom & baby are safe & healthy now.



Taipei Tzu Chi Hospital, in cooperation with the New Taipei City Health Bureau, assumes the health care responsibility of one local hotel as an isolation shelter for confirmed patients. Vice Supt. Hsyu Rong-Yaun serves as the commander-in-chief and leads the team to perform tasks. The confirmed patients began to be admitted on May 31 2021.

pregnant woman was transferred to Taipei Tzu Chi Hospital. When she arrived at the emergency department, her lung infection was guite serious. Because of pregnancy, treatment drugs are also restricted. The medical teams of the Infectious Diseases, Thoracic, O&G Dept., Pediatrics, and Anesthesia Dept. had a tripartite video conference with family members and the patient. Their final decision was that she must be intubated immediately and caesarean section delivery in advance. With proper arrangements, the laparotomy was successfully completed in the positive pressure operating room. Luckily, the mother and the baby were all safe and healthy now.

In addition to taking care of critically

ill COVID-19 patients in the hospital, Taipei Tzu Chi Hospital also assumed a New Taipei City epidemic prevention hotel, which is like assuming another small hospital temporarily requisitioned. In the test of the epidemic, all hospital staff bravely stood on the front line, with sincere heart and humanistic love, to fight for life.

Supt. Chao says gratefully, "Although we have taken care of the largest number of confirmed patients in Taiwan, currently more than 750, every staff can protect his/her own safety and the cleanliness of the hospital, and there is no nosocomial infection at all." From June 15, the hospital staff went to five Tzu Chi Jing Si Halls in New Taipei City to vaccinate the elderly. The





In the shelter hotel, the hospital medical professionals doing fast screening for all working staff before entering the hotel.

service method of "elders staying still, doctors and nurses walking around" and the big photos recognized by doctors on their chests have won strong praise from major media and district officials.

The epidemic has not yet subsided, and Master Cheng Yen kindly indicated: Beware of "returning the carbine." Supt. Chao reminds all staff, "Let us stick to the last critical moment, protect our own safety, and use the 'energy of love' to lead everyone through the epidemic safely!"



The nursing station set in the lobby for security. Photo depicts the nursing practitioner speaking to one admitted patient on the phone.



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