

A potential solution to manage pregnancies amidst COVID-19 pandemic

New Delhi, July 13: The Department of Biotechnology's public sector undertaking Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (DBT-BIRAC) is supporting a new advanced intrapartum monitoring tool for an automated partograph generation developed by Janitri Innovations.

Named DAKSH, the patented technology allows the staff nurse to register and enter vital signs of a pregnant woman, reminds her to monitor the labour vitals, as per the standard WHO intrapartum protocol and generates alerts in case of complications, based on an in-built algorithm. With this system, a doctor at a remote location can also view the live labor progress and guide the staff nurse.

The technology can be of immense use in the current COVID crisis. During the labour phase, women visit hospitals and get admitted for at least 48 hours. During their hospital stay, they can be exposed to the risk of COVID-19 in multiple ways. For instance, the doctors have to visit them frequently and the SBAs (Skilled Birth Attendants) assigned to labour rooms are also in constant contact. Further, in this unfortunate situation of Corona spread, the work burden of the medical professionals has increased manifold. Among other things, they need to handle documents regularly and consequently have to keep washing that hands every now and then. DAKSH can be useful in addressing these issues:

1. It provides for remote monitoring. The doctors can guide the nurses without visiting them. The progress of labor can be seen by the doctor remotely.
2. Patient Management can be made easier. Multiple patients can be seen on a single screen, and audio and critical alerts can be generated based on the complications and reminders can be set for the measurement of vitals.
3. The technology offers digital documentation. This is a paperless system. Automated partographs are generated and case sheets will be maintained digitally. This means less contact and less exposure. This also gives unlimited cloud storage.



Contact details:

BIRAC communication team : Dr Shirshendu Mukherjee, Dr Hafsa

Ahmad and Ms Ginny Bansal (mdpmubmgf@birac.nic.in,
nbm9@birac.nic.in, pmubmgf6@birac.nic.in)

Link: <https://birac.nic.in>