Kimirina ‘‘Trabajando juntos por un fin’’
Lessons learned from healthcare workers
COVID 19 and HIV in Ecuador

Amira Herdoiza MD, MPH
Corporación Kimirina
CONTEXT

- Ecuadorian Health System is limited. Primary Health Care has been weakened and there is no coordination between Local and National Government (example: Guayaquil).

- Family is at the nucleus of the Ecuadorian household, as is caring for the elderly, which may possibly increase the risk of spread to immediate family members.

- There is a big Ecuadorian community in Spain and in Italy that came for Christmas and Carnival Holiday and prevention measures have not been taken.

- Ecuador has a greater proportion of independent workers (taxi drivers, merchants, in-house help, etc.) and contractors with little-to-no social net. Challenges of mobility restrictions.
Lessons Learned

• Weak capacity of health system produced victims because of limited measures of bio security and lack of cooperation with SC: Academic sector, scientific societies, specialized NGOS, communities, profit private sector, etc.

• IN HIV response where the SC is best organized there was some achievements: adaptability to provide ARVs, but almost all prevention programmes are in stand by.

• The quarantine caused an humanitarian effect in KP
Hospital of the Ecuadorian Institute of Social Security suffered shortage of ARVs for almost 6 months. 10 drugs, used for the persons that live with HIV, are in stock 0. (Noticias – Ecuavisa)
Lessons Learned

• Health Workers must participate in the decisions and demand adequate work conditions.

• Work with CS and communities (which has been proved as successful in HIV)

• Screening and diagnosis by community trained personnel
  ✓ Rapid tests
  ✓ Real-time PCR

• Linkage with the prevention program in coordination with the health service
  ✓ Active case finding
  ✓ Case isolation
  ✓ Prophylaxis
  ✓ Linkage of health services for treatment
Lessons Learned

Emergency – post emergency (decrease 6% GDP)
– Humanitarian Aid: TG women, SW, PLWH, migrants.
– Maintain continuum of care. Be aware of shortage of ARV
– Support diagnosis and educational programs
– Promote productive projects
“The Ignorance in which the people is immersed, is the main cause of the spread of epidemics”.

Eugenio Espejo MD, hero of Ecuadorian freedom, 1785