

Role of MMA in Pandemic of COVID-19

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The Military Medical Academy (MMA), Belgrade, is the largest health institution in Military Health Department (MHD). During the COVID-19 outbreak, due to the central ventilation system, MMA was designated to provide all specialist health services, except for COVID-19 patients. In addition to caring for members of the military system, MMA is taking care of insured civilians during COVID pandemic.

In the Republic of Serbia, the first case of COVID-19 was reported on 6 March 2020, and the outbreak is still ongoing . In order to ensure timely and coordinated treatment and to protect the citizens of Serbia, the COVID-19 crisis response team was formed in March 2020, by the Government of the Republic of Serbia. The activities at the MHD and MMA, who were in charge for healthcare of military and civilian population, were in accordance with all recommendations of COVID-19 crisis response team. Up to this day, daily testing and monitoring of the epidemiological situation on the ground, are the most important activities as the basis for adjusting preventive measures against COVID-19.

In MMA, between 25th February and 28th December 2020, a total of 6912 respondents were tested and 1334 (19.3%) of them had COVID-19. All respondents were those with symptoms of COVID-19 or had contact with known COVID case within 14 days.

Testing for COVID-19 gives us information for better understanding of the pandemic and the risks it poses in different populations in Serbia.

Key words: COVID-19, MMA, daily testing, preventive measures