As the COVID-19 disease continues to persist in the country and state of Punjab, percolating across variable strata of human populace, there is no room for complacence.

The department of medical education is providing not only tertiary services but isolation and quarantine facilities too.

In the wake of no validated specific treatment identification of suspects, confirmation, and isolation are effective tools to flatten the spread.

As of now confirming of suspect cases gains a primordial importance. It is here that the workforce of laboratories come in. The department has three tertiary labs based at Amritsar, Patiala, and Faridkot. These labs are maintained by highly trained professionals, mainly Members of faculty. These members not only supervise but also partake in testing of samples. Great efforts have been made by the govt of Punjab to ramp up the testing facilities.

The Amritsar VRDL lab that caters to 8 surrounding districts has been helped by GNDU in form of man power and machine. Senior research scientists from Guru Anged dev university of veterinary sciences have assisted in the labs.

Similarly Faridkot has had assistance from PAU and from senior molecular biologists from Central Univ of Punjab Bhatinda.

Patiala testing lab has been supported by Thapar institute to augment the capacity to test. IIT Ropar has provided state of the art machinery and technical knowhow and contributed significantly to these labs.
This one is a nursing officer at Rajindra hospital patiala. She was posted in the isolation ward in the facilities provided by the authorities. She tended to covid positive patients providing them all the care and psychological support. Tending to a patient on ventilator was a challenge in itself. Also she shares how difficult it was to perform with PPE kits. Her major concern after duty was her immediate family, her small child and ageing mother in law. A week or so in the covid 19 ward she started to develop flu like symptoms. She was home quarantined and tested twice. Staying in the same premise and living and eating separately took a toll on her psyche. Thankfully She tested negative but continued to be quarantined. Now this strong willed woman has resumed her normal duties as a post op recovery nursing officer.
BEST TERTIARY CARE MEDICAL SERVICES TO COVID-19 PATIENTS AT GOVT. MEDICAL COLLEGES AT AMRITSAR, PATIALA & FARIDKOT

64 VENTILATORS AVAILABLE IN THESE HOSPITALS WHICH ARE RESERVED FOR COVID-19 PATIENTS

COMBINED CAPACITY OF ONE THOUSAND ISOLATION BEDS FOR COVID-19 PATIENTS

The Department of Medical Education and Research has huge facility for tertiary care of COVID-19 patients. Government Medical Colleges at Amritsar, Patiala and Faridkot are tertiary care institutes with combined capacity of one thousand isolation beds for COVID-19 patients (to be increased in the near future) there are 64 ventilators available in these hospitals which are reserved for covid-19 patients. (The number is likely to be enhanced shortly)

These hospitals served as referral centre to there respective drainage areas. These hospitals have VRDL labs that cater to the testing facility of the Whole State. Till now 21353 tests have been perform and a total of 1105 positive patients have been detected. (The testing capacity of these labs will be enhanced shortly)

Till date 972 Patients have been admitted. They are looked after very well in the wards. Hygienic food is provided to the patients and other items of daily use like tooth paste burses comb etc are provided regularly. LEDs have been installed in the wards for the entertainment of the patients. Some games are given to children to play.

Time to time Counselling is done by the Psychiatrists and Counsellors.

Washing Machines are been installed for the convenience of the patients.
Doctor's account of working in difficult times with utmost dedication

This is Dr KD Singh, professor of microbiology at government medical college Amritsar. He is the incharge of viral laboratory at the GMC Amritsar. He speaks of day to day functioning in the labs where covid19 samples are tested. He speaks of various hardships faced by him and his subordinates in carrying out the routines. Starting from a capacity of just 40 samples a day now with the efforts of authorities the capacity has been raised to 700 per day. Also with a vision to raise the testing to 2000 per day in the near future.
MOTHER’S DAY: BRAVE HEART MOTHER TENDING HER CORONA POSITIVE 2 YEARS DAUGHTER 24X7 DONNING COMPLETE PPE KIT

Covid-19 Mother’s Day reveals a unique story of a strong lady, Monika 35 years of age. Mother of two sons of 10 years and a daughter of 2 years. Hailing from Rajpura the two year old Nitara tested positive two weeks back.

They were admitted to isolation ward in Rajindra hospital Patiala. Monika is looking after her daughter donning complete PPE kits.

It was disclosed by an official spokesperson of the Punjab Government. A doctor can tell how tough it is to function with this kind of a protective gear even for a few hours. But this brave mother is tending to her daughter 24X7 with this clothing for more than 2 weeks. She gets a change once in 24 hours. Sweating, fogging of eye protection, straining of straps around the face masks were immediate concerns that she admitted on the telephonic conversation. The Punjab Government salutes this brave heart Mother on Mother’s Day.
Touching story of a crona positive, she expresses high words of praise for Government facilities

The story of Nedhi Agarwal

Currently she is in the isolation ward of Rajindra hospital patiala. A chartered accountant by profession who hails from patiala and works with a firm in Tricity. They were asked by their company to work from home on March 17th onwards.

She and her family had volunteered for testing when somebody in the neighbourhood had tested positive. She and her family including two and a half year old daughter were shifted to the 5th floor isolation on the 17th of April.

She is fully satisfied with facilities in the ward, the quality of food being provided, the behaviour of the frontline workers that is the staff nurses and doctors as seen speaking to male staff nurse Mr Sapinder Pal Singh in the video.

Initially there were some issues of milk and baby food for her daughter that were resolved on an urgent basis by the concerned authorities.

Her mother in law tested negative after 14 days, though she was still positive. She continues to be in good spirits and is awaiting a retest coming Saturday. We wish her good luck.