

## The Era of Corona

There is so much being said and yet it is still so hard to write even a few simple words.

But still ... this is my mission, and it is no less important than other tasks in life.

The task is to convey my experience as a nurse in a dialysis unit in the era of Corona

I postponed and postponed, but here it is.

It's been a year, but we remember a lot.

The reports came suddenly, and I denied all the news that I heard

It never occurred to me that there was room for concern, I thought this was something that would come and go and not really influence us

But this time it was something different.

Pictures and numbers, disturbing news from China, Italy, Spain, America.

People telling of weird and inconceivable things -- and then came masks and lockdowns

The staff began to worry, and the simplest equipment for personal protection and disinfection were lacking

We received a single box of gloves for the shift, it was unreal and unworkable simultaneously.

And we started safeguarding everywhere because we did not know how it was spreading and how dangerous it was, as we went through the first wave

Wards were opened for the treatment of Corona patients in which we performed dialysis treatments

One of my friends told me that she was worried that we, the staff, would become infected and infect the patients, and the patients would die one by one – she cried and worried, about immunocompromised patients with high morbidity

Then came the second wave, rougher and crueler, requiring complicated and exhausting logistical organization. We treated our patients in different wards which we were foreign to us, we worked alone, isolated from other dialysis staff, which caused further complications in organizing and coping with patient care. In addition to the patients physical and emotional difficulties, some recovered, and some were lost. Every patient we lost, we mourned.

In addition there was illness and quarantine among staff members, which made the running of the dialysis unit very difficult.

We were in touch with each and every staff member, we wrote and worried, it was an emergency that we did not see the end of.

This was how it was also during the third wave, although we already knew how to organize and what to expect. We were used to treating Corona patients outside of the ward, how to don and doff protective equipment, how to prevent infection also among staff members, but there is still no end in sight...

Now, a month following the widespread vaccination, we start to feel a drop of relief

Most of the staff and the patients were vaccinated.

The country has started to recover and reopen

I wish us all health and only good news!

Best regards, Zoya

Israelis Brand Ambassador



