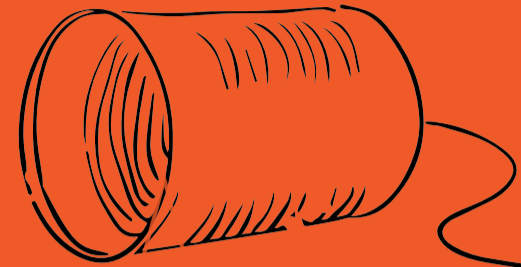




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DATRI STAY CONNECTED

The Lockdown Link COVID-19 Special Edition



From the Management desk

Dear DATRI Supporter,

We are excited to share that we shipped our first international 'post-COVID' blood stem cell product in August 2020. It would be an understatement if we say it was challenging. This one product transport gave us the confidence and faith that if we persevere we succeed. Now we are proud to say that even a pandemic, could not stop us from our mission of saving lives.

We are also pleased to say that we have worked around the lockdown and continued with domestic donations in August following the unlock norms. This situation has made us realise that opportunity lies amidst chaos and we can succeed despite the challenges with the commitment and support of our team as well as our supporters. During this tough period, DATRI has gone the extra mile to counsel donors and ensuring our donors safety by following all precautionary measures. We have also been knocking on every door to raise funds and educate everyone regarding the importance of registering as a blood stem cell donor. We are monitoring every single penny we spend so that our cause survives.

We have learnt a lot during this phase, which will enable us to save more lives in the coming months, with your support.

We have been reaching out to our supporters for getting guidance and timely help. At these times we are truly grateful for your commitment, support and selfless act of kindness.

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy !

Warm Regards

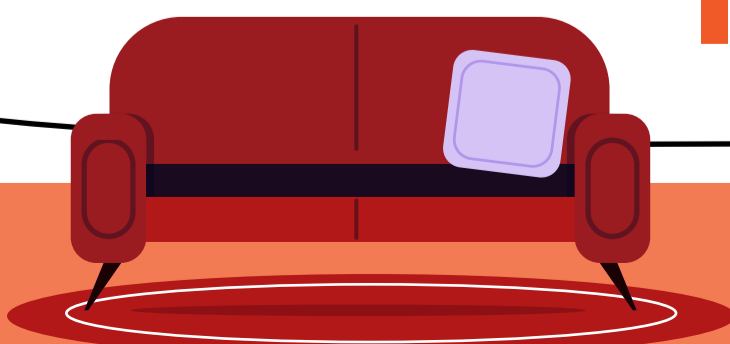
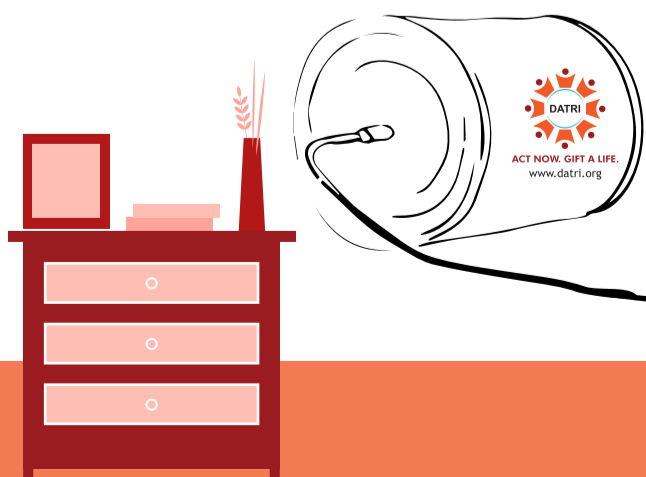
Claudia Rutt
Chief Financial Officer

Sethukarasi
Head - Operations

Sumati Misra
Head - Counselling and TCM



TEAM DATRI



#SAVEFROMHOME

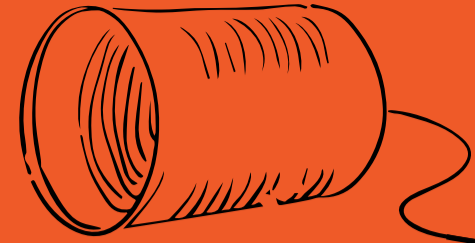




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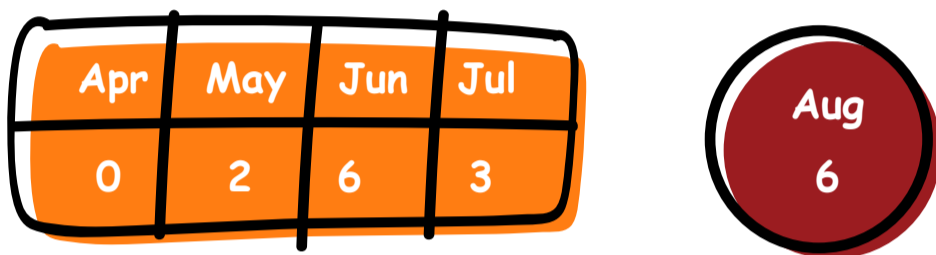


Numbers That Matter

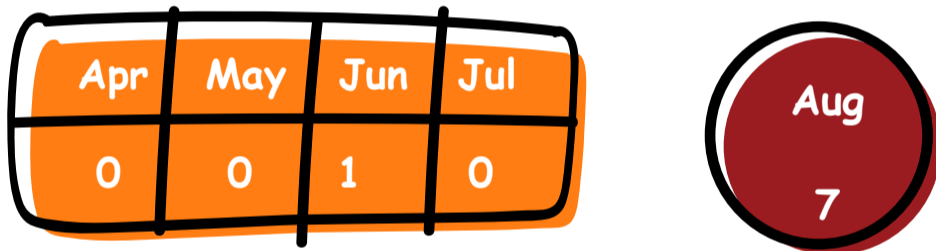
DATRI Online Registrations

We received very few online Blood Stem Cell Donor registrations from April to August 2020. DATRI is grateful for the ones who have registered with us considering the importance of expanding the registry for the benefit of Indian patients but we need more new donors. In July we started to send out registration kits to our donors, before that the courier services were not working. Thank you for your kindness and patience. If any of your friends | family | colleagues and patient's family members want to become a Blood Stem Cell Donor, please ask them to register @ www.datri.org/join

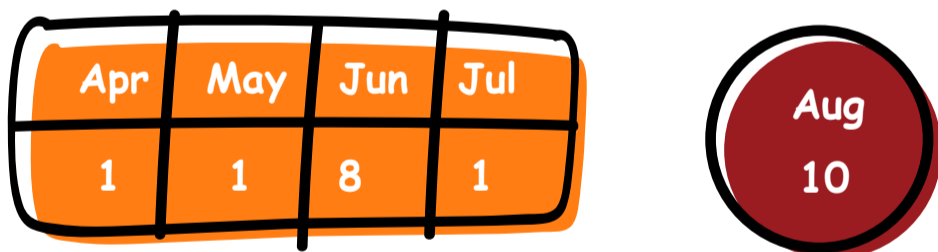
Collections from April to August 2020



CTs from April to August 2020



IDMs from April to August 2020



Funds received from April to August 2020

Month	Amount
Apr 2020	₹ 2,90,099
May 2020	₹ 3,65,708
Jun 2020	₹ 4,08,928
Jul 2020	₹ 2,11,127
Aug 2020	₹ 1,42,186

Search request from April to August 2020

The below numbers in recent months shows a gradual increase in the search numbers. We would like to take this opportunity to inform you that keep sending us requests and help us to save more lives.

Month	New Searches
Apr 2020	60
May 2020	77
Jun 2020	111
Jul 2020	130
Aug 2020	102



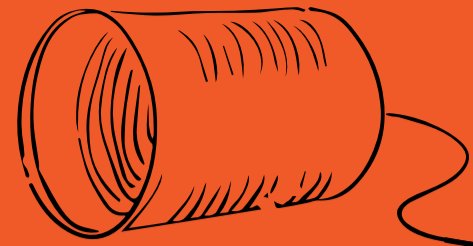


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Inside DATRI

Our best foot forward

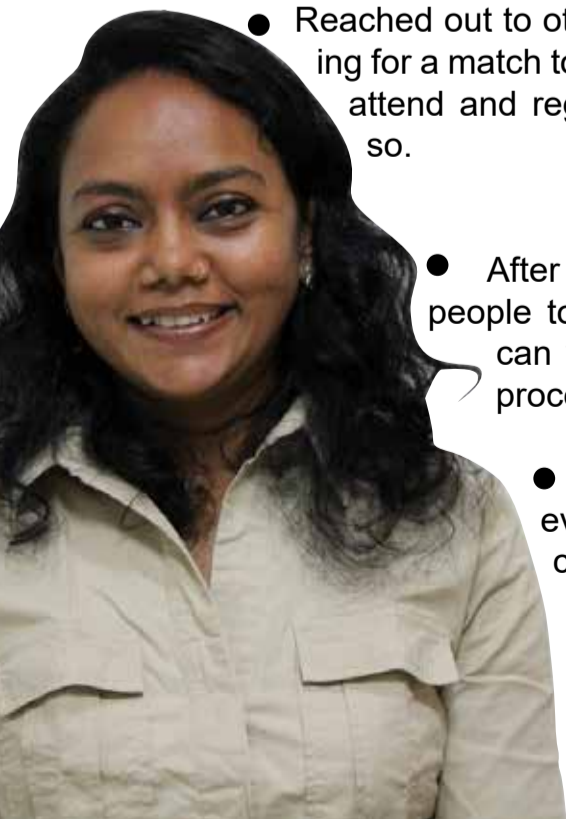
Online Awareness Sessions and Registrations:

We completed our first online awareness session and registrations on 19th July for patient Veer. Veer is a 4-year-old boy from the Gujarati Jain community residing in London. He is smart, playful, brave and adventurous. Veer enjoys all sorts of activities, especially where they involve jumping. Veer was diagnosed with a rare genetic disorder called Fanconi Anaemia, which means his stem cell production is reducing, and so his blood cells are also on a decline. In the last appointment that he had with his doctor, the parents came to know that his blood counts have dropped to dangerously low levels. This means that in order to survive he needs a bone marrow transplant at the earliest. The patient family reached out to DATRI on this and requested to help them.

I started working on initiating an online patient awareness session for Veer. We spoke with the patient family and planned an awareness session in Gujarati on 19th July 2020, Sunday at 5:30 PM. The session was moderated by me in Gujarati and the patient's parents joined from the UK to appeal for the viewers to register as Blood Stem Cell donors with DATRI. We also requested a past DATRI donor and recipient from Gujarat to share their experiences during this session. We appealed on behalf of Veer and requested people to register with DATRI. Veer's family had shared about this session on their social media so the participation was good.

The event plan and execution:

- Connected with our past donor who is willing to speak and share his experience
- Connected with our past recipient who is willing to speak and share his experience
- Reached out to all our volunteer groups asking them to spread the word about the event
- Reached out to other Gujarati patients who are waiting for a match to encourage their friends and family attend and register if they haven't already done so.
- After the event we had encouraged people to register immediately so that we can walk them through the registration process.
- We had good participation on the event day and the session was a success.



Jalpa Sukhanandi
Head - Donor Recruitment
and Counseling Gujarat



HLA UPDATE

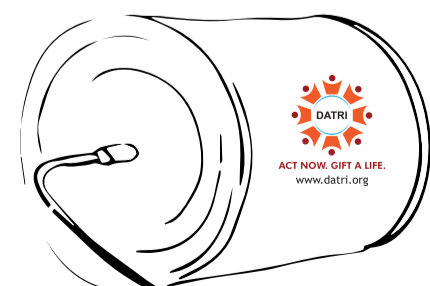
Do you know someone who has their HLA report typed but not registered as a Blood Stem Cell donor with DATRI?

When someone is diagnosed with a fatal blood disorder and needs a blood stem cell transplant, the first step would be to check if the patient has a match within the family. For this reason, the parents, siblings and extended family get their blood typed for HLA. As we know the chance of finding a blood stem cell donor within the family is only 25%, all the other patients depend on the unrelated donor registry like DATRI.

If a person already has an HLA report and was not able to support his relative, can now gift someone else a second chance of life. So, if your friends/family members who might have their HLA typed on various occasions, but wouldn't have registered with any of the Indian Blood Stem Cell registries, we request you to ask them to send their HLA report to hlareport@datri.org and get registered with DATRI as a Blood Stem Cell donor (without the registration fee).

No one currently knows why someone is a match for an unrelated patient, but we know that ethnicity matters, but why is one donor a match and their parents/siblings are not is still unknown.

Kindly spread the word about this to your friends, colleagues and family members. This increases the number of donors in the database and in turn, increases the opportunity of saving more lives.



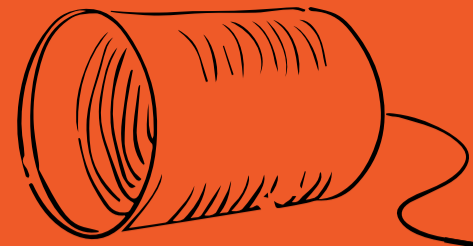


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In the Spotlight



COVID and Collections:

In June and July, the Chennai team managed to do two collections. Both the donors were counselled before the pandemic in different circumstances.

Muthukumar, a young man registered with DATRI in 2016. He lives in a small town 75 km away from Erode. We managed to arrange his travel for the health check-up before the COVID situation and his collection was planned in the same month. In Chennai with the average COVID infected cases were between 2000-4000 every day and lockdown across the country, we got completely stuck with no hope.

COVID 19 was really a challenging situation for us in convincing the donor and his family as the patient's condition was also getting worse day by day. Due to complete lockdown and the postponement of collection the health check-up got expired and we had no option but to repeat the tests. It was a really tough time finding an accredited lab which does the tests closest to his location. We managed to complete the tests after the reschedule collection date. The next challenge was bringing the donor to Chennai for the GCSF and collection, as there was no public transport available because of lockdown. The donor was also a little hesitant to travel by road in the car for 500km. At last, we arranged the car travel from his town to Coimbatore and from there to Chennai by flight. His family members were very nervous but sent their son only because of the trust they had in DATRI. The donor agreed to stay in Chennai for 5 days till his collection was completed, as there was no option in managing the GCSF in his hometown. DATRI took good care of him during the GCSF process.

The next challenge was the product transport, to Mumbai. The only possible way we had was by plane with limited airlines. There was no direct flights available and we had to sort out for the least layoff time as the product had to be delivered on an urgent basis. Backup options and e-pass were also planned in case of last minute flight cancellation. Finally, the product reached transplant center safely and in good condition.

The next donor was a totally different experience. Venkatesh a young man registered with DATRI in 2018. He was a match for a 3 year old child suffering from AML. When he was counseled he was a little nervous and hesitant to go-ahead. After multiple attempts to reach him, I got a chance to meet him. He was newly married and his wife was also nervous about him donating. After counselling he finally agreed and CT was planned before COVID 19. After COVID situation everything changed. Again we had a lot of discussions to initiate the health check-up. The donor accompanied by his wife for the health check-up and all queries were clarified and the collection date was confirmed. COVID tests were done for the donor at regular intervals.

Meanwhile, the State government again imposed 144, during the GCSF time so we struggled to get the e-pass. Special permission was obtained so that the GCSF and collection was managed successfully. The product was transported by road to the transplant center, since all the special documents like e-pass were obtained in prior.

It was a tough time in managing the donor, his family, the patient situation, COVID fear, e-pass, logistics, hospital visit, food, safety. But the final output of witnessing the smile and happiness of the children and their families after the successful transplant was irreplaceable. In situations like this we also understand the meaning of "Why we do and what we do" better. So how many hurdles we might face, we will overcome everything for our lifesaving cause.

Krishnan. R Manager - Hospital Relations

Race against time

DATRI's 1st International Product Transport Experience - Since the pandemic was a great learning experience and a testimony of the determination and willingness of the team to serve our patients.

Though the donor counselling was difficult, logistics was planned, and the donor was brought to Chennai for donation.

During GCSF, we learnt that only femoral donation would be possible. Hence, donor needed to be counselled again and educated about femoral donation. The donor agreed for the femoral donation and on 17th August the collection happened in Chennai. This was an international transport and the product had to be transported to Germany through time:matters, a Lufthansa Cargo Company. Due to the pandemic, there were limited flights out of India and we were requested to handover the product to Cryopdp in Bangalore. With different State guidelines due to the pandemic, logistics had to be planned meticulously. Our Bangalore Associate Jeevan, reached Chennai to pick the product and handover it to Cryopdp in Bangalore by 7:45 pm on the same day. Meanwhile, our transplant centre team prepared the documentation requested by time:matters and Cryopdp. Dr. Lakshman from Apollo Hospital - Chennai and his team were very supportive, they helped us with multiple forms and documentation that was requested.

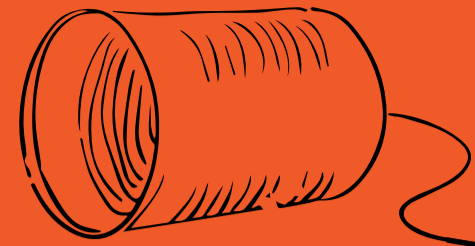
Everything seemed to be going as planned, until we received a call from time:matters at 11:30 pm on 17th August to inform us that due to a technical issue, they were unable to print the shipping bill and therefore the product would not be shipped on 18th Aug morning flight. This needed to be resolved as the blood stem cells had to be transported. So, the case was escalated to our CFO Claudia Rutt who contacted the Lufthansa Chairman of the Board and we received permission to handover the product to the pilot as 'special permission'. This permission was conveyed to time:matters who requested the Lufthansa Duty Manager (Passenger flights) to assist in getting the customs clearance. It was 3:00 am when I spoke to the duty manager who informed that the customs officials won't give a clearance until they receive an ICMR (Indian Council for Research) letter. So far, we have done 116 international



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product transportations and ICMR letter was never asked before. I tried to explain our routine to the duty manager and requested him to check with the Apheresis Centre and Transplant Centre letters along with other documents but all efforts were in vain. The plane departed an hour late (from the scheduled time) without the product.

On 18th Aug, we continued the quest to find a solution to the problem, the next flight to Germany from Bangalore was scheduled for Friday, 21st Aug. So, the product had to be cryopreserved, we contacted our hospital partners in Bangalore to check cryopreservation options. Meanwhile we also contacted the German Registry to explore other options. During a conference call with all concerned parties, it was decided that we would try to get the product shipped via Mumbai on 19th August, 2:30 am flight. So DATRI was requested to transport the product to Mumbai. The only flight available to Mumbai was at 4:00 pm and it was a race to get the necessary activities done as it was already noon. A new set of paperwork was done and Dr. Lakshman signed the letters again, flight ticket for Jeevan was booked, e-pass applied etc. After a series of checks at the Bangalore airport, Jeevan reached Mumbai and handed over the product to the Cryopdp contact by 6:15 pm. Then we waited for the custom's clearance. At 9:15 pm we received the information that the shipment had been cleared from customs and would be handed over to the Lufthansa airline staff. We breathed a sigh of relief at 11:01 pm when it was confirmed that it had been loaded and in the custody of the crew. The product finally landed in Germany on 19th Aug and was successfully handed over to the Transplant Centre.

This donation has proven that our commitment to overcome hurdles and obstacles is stronger than the challenges. The team proved that we would go the extra mile to help and support each other. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our partners Dr. Lakshman and his team who are equally committed to DATRI's cause!

I would like to acknowledge the team members who made this possible Jeevan, Krishnan, Lakshmi, Rajkiran, Sathya, Saranya, Shakthi and Claudia.

Sumati Misra
Head - Counseling & Transplant Centre Management

Gujarat's Lifesaving Collections:

In June, Gujarat team has completed 2 collections. These donors were counselled before lockdown. But after lockdown when patients were ready for the transplant, the donor's family was not ready for the donation in Ahmedabad, where there was an average of 500 new cases of COVID. On the other hand, patient's condition was getting critical. So our Gujarat team had started working on the available options within the city. First our team checked for the hospital where we can do collection safely. They contacted one hospital where all the facilities with specialized doctor and nursing staff's availability and signed a MOU with them.



Followed by this, the donors were contacted and their health check-up was planned immediately. A goodie bag was handed over to the donor which includes gloves, sanitizer, mask etc in advance to ensure their safety. Health check-up was done and collection dates were checked and donation was planned. Vipul Patel, a fitness enthusiast, who works with Diamond company donated for a pediatric patient. On first day of GCSF, conditioning for donation, his wife delivered a baby girl. Even though he was busy with family commitments, he took out time and went ahead with the donation. After donation he asked DATRI team to convey his best wishes to patient family and shown his desire to see recipient and his family. Jay Patel, another donor, a newly-wed, interior designer was happy to come forward and donate. His wife was very supportive even during this lockdown. Expressing his feelings post donation, he said "I am extremely happy that just a few hours of mine can save someone's life. At the time of registering with DATRI, I never thought that I will get a chance to save a life within a few years of registering. Though the situation is not normal in our country, when everyone is at home trying to support to eradicate a virus, I stepped out to save a life.". Both the committed donors took a very huge step to support someone in their critical situation. DATRI team is grateful to Dr. Dharmesh Vaghasiya, Dr. Hasmukh Ballar and nursing staff of Mahavir Hospital - Surat who have helped us with the collection.

These donations were completed with the help and support of various team members who have relentlessly worked to make this donation possible during these difficult times. We have meticulously worked on every detail to ensure safety of the donor, as well as our team. Doctors and hospital staffs supported us in taking extra measures to ensure safety at every step. Our team has also worked on taking all State road permits and travelling non-stop 24 hours to deliver the collected Blood Stem Cells at the earliest.

Within 12 days our team had counselled a backup donor, worked on a new AC and convinced them to help us, signed MOU, completed health check-up of donors, administrating GCSF and delivered two products. Gujarat Media has also highlighted the donor's initiative and helped us in creating awareness among the public.

Jalpa Sukhanandi
Head - Donor Recruitment and Counseling Gujarat

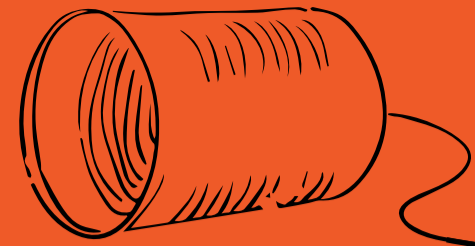




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Events at DATRI

World Humanitarian Day!

Love only grows by sharing, you can have more for yourself by giving it away to others... On this World Humanitarian Day, DATRI hosted an interview of our donor Suprim, where he shared his experience about serving as a COVID frontline worker and also donating his blood stem cells during this pandemic to save a life. You can watch the interview here <https://youtu.be/sa-quykv7EU>



DATRI GET SPORTY & GIFT A LIFE

CROSSED 1000 REGISTRATIONS

Registration Extended Until 4th Sep 2020

SPONSORS

RadioCity.in, DIMENSIONS HEALTH CLUB BEYOND FITNESS, Pro-Bikers

DATRI GET SPORTY AND GIFT A LIFE CHALLENGE

Registration ends on Sep 4

For those of you waiting for DATRI's Cycle to Gift a Life, this year we have gone virtual and have expanded our array of offerings! Anyone can participate across India.

We are happy to partner with LifeCykul and bring to you our "Get SPORTY and Gift A Life" Challenge. Why? Because blood cancer hasn't taken a break due to the ongoing pandemic and neither shall we! We need to recruit more donors to save more lives.

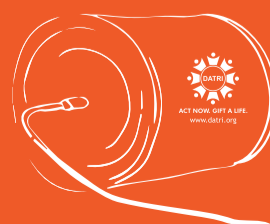
Whether it's a regular cycling routine around your neighborhood, a daily walk down the road, or a run on your treadmill, fit this into your daily exercise! (keep safe by following safety guidelines around the coronavirus) Running, cycling and walking not your thing? Fear not! We have Pushups, Squats, Planks and Suryanamaskars.

Register by paying INR 250, install the LifeCyckul app & track your CHALLENGE activities.

We have already crossed 1000 registrations now and on popular demand extending the registration date until 4th Sep 2020, hurry up and register now

@ <https://www.facebook.com/events/892173354525116t>

We hope you enjoyed reading this edition of our DATRI CONNECT - Newsletter and insights on what makes DATRI work the way we do. Our mission to save lives has become tougher with the pandemic. But this phase also gives us hope that we shall overcome the challenges together. We also look forward to your support and guidance in the coming days and months.



We would like to know your feedback | suggestions or queries, please feel free to write to us marcom@datri.org