

COVID-19 Surge in India

April 30, 2021, Friday

Many of you have seen the dire news from India, which is struggling with the largest COVID-19 surge the world has yet seen. Hospitals and crematoria have been overwhelmed as daily reported new infections have topped 350,000, substantially more than the United States saw at the highest point of the pandemic here. Supplies of everything from vaccines to ventilators, oxygen, and medicines are dangerously short. The human anguish is heartbreaking.

On behalf of the entire Mount Sinai Health System, we want to express our sympathy and support for the people of India and for our faculty, staff, students, and trainees who have loved ones there. We understand how difficult it is to be so far away in their time of need. While the situation in India is especially challenging now, we are also mindful that many other countries continue to struggle with the pandemic and variants as they arise.

In the next few days, Mount Sinai will be shipping 25 ventilators, and 100 sleep apnea machines with kits to convert them to ventilators, to hospitals in India. We are grateful to Ash Tewari, MD, Chair of the Department of Urology, and Michael J. McCarry, Senior Vice President of Perioperative Services, for helping to lead this effort. We acquired these ventilators for our own COVID-19 surge last year and are pleased that we can now direct them to where they can be most useful.

If you would like to help out personally, *The New York Times* has a list of [charities and organizations](#) that are providing relief in India.

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