

**Physicians For Peace
West Bank: Ramallah, Nablus, and Jerusalem
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Team Leader: Dr Eid Mustafa
Team Members: Dr. Jack Bevivino
Dr. Munir Zufari,
Dr. Rajai Khoury
Dr Nasim Yacob
Dr Abdel-Raouf Ismail
Dra. Ivette Icaza
Jackie Powell, RN
Doris Surles, RN
Richard Sieller, PT, CHT

I would first like to recognize and thank Dr. Eid Mustafa. The level of success of this project is directly related to the time, energy and vision that he has put forth during all phases of this and previous missions here in the West Bank. I would also like to thank Dr. Rajai Khoury and the friends and families of both Dr Mustafa and Dr Khoury. Their kindness and hospitality will be remembered fondly.

This mission report will be submitted on behalf of both Dra. Ivette Icaza and myself.

This mission trip is considered an implementation mission. Please refer to the previously submitted reports on the methodology of a “burn rehabilitation implementation mission”.

A 5 day clinical workshop was held at Ramallah Hospital. There were 15 total attendees with varied backgrounds from all areas of the West Bank. Physical Therapists, Nurses and professional seamstress’ were represented. There were two separate professional seamstress teams from the Ramallah and Nablus areas. The future sites of two of the burn compression garment labs will be located in these cities. The names of the facilities are Ina’ash Alosra and Arab Women’s Union Society at Ihihad Hospital respectively. Ivette and I obtained an individual photograph of all participants and they are hyperlinked to an excel data base with their personal contact information. A third lab will be established in Hebron at Ahli Hospital when the supplies and materials are released from Israeli customs. The training will occur in Ramallah.

Ivette and I established several forms for the collection of data. These forms were translated into Arabic. These forms are on the CD for review. Hard copies of these forms were provided to the clinicians and the seamstress' recorded all data of the patients that were treated during this 5 day clinical workshop. There were children treated and adults with minor and major healed burns. Compression garments, custom splints and Uvex masks were fabricated for these patients as needed. We will email these forms electronically to all the clinicians and facilities upon our return.

The clinical workshop was a tremendous success. We evaluated and treated more than 40 patients. We concentrated on the training for the seamstress' during the first two days. The 4 professional seamstress' that received the training rapidly became proficient at the process of custom garment fabrication. The qualities of the garments produced are of the highest commercial grade. These ladies understood the type of garment required as well as being able to determine the amount of compression required. By week's end, these professional seamstresses' were producing garments that surpassed the quality of garments being made in any of our previous clinics and are equal to the quality provided by the US manufacturer, Jobst. My hope is that over the coming years, we can expand this service to other Mid Eastern countries and utilize these experts to educate and train others either here in Palestine or have them travel to a new country and facility. I believe this could ultimately generate revenue for their respective institutions. These institutions provide help to orphans and women. In short, we will have two primary compression garment programs in Nablus and Ramallah. A third site will be Hebron..

The Uvex program was a lot of fun. The clinicians enjoyed this new medium and rapidly became proficient with the technique. The plastic surgeons are excited that they will now be able to treat facial and body burns with compression techniques. The clinic participants practiced over 3 days on the fabrication and fitting techniques and successfully fitted 3 patients. These 3 patients are the very first to receive this custom product in the Middle East. All patients treated were instructed to follow-up with the therapists and/or seamstresses either on a weekly or monthly basis. The Uvex clinics will be located in Makassed Hospital in Jerusalem and Rafidi Hospital in Nablus. Once again, the third site will be located in Hebron when the supplies and materials are released by the custom officials.

The splinting workshop was a great hit. Over two specialized days, we were able to treat 8 patients with different pathology and spend time with both didactic and practical training. Through the generous support of the Sammons and Preston company, sample material was available to fabricate 10 different custom splints. Each participant was able to make at least 4 different custom splints. There is a photo in the splinting file that demonstrates the types and quality of the splints that were fabricated. The future sites that will provide custom splints are located in Nablus, Hebron and Jerusalem.

I would also like to recognize Yasmin Hassan and her husband. Mrs. Hassan provided translation and logistic services for us during our clinical workshop. The success of this

educational symposium was a result of her efforts during these 5 days.. As we now have 3 comprehensive sites here in the West Bank, We have identified the problems of centralized data collection and a centralized inventory and resolved this through Mrs. Hassan.

I would also like to recognize my other team members who have provided further insight into the problems that the people of Palestine face and their friendship during this mission.

Sincerely,

Dra. Ivette Icaza
Richard Sieller, PT, CHT