

## 7- Paediatric, Gynecology and Microbiology improvement mission to Kurdistan Region 14-20 May 2011

Heevie in coordination with SIA NGO and in cooperation with General Directorate of Health in Duhok has received an Italian Medical Team from Siena, Italy on 14th of May 2011 that has visited to promote health sector in the fields of Gynecology, Prenatal and Microbiology through training on job.

In this mission (54) of the local medical staff received training on the job. The medical team consisted of the following personnel and specialties:

No.	Name	Profession and Institution	Gender	Nationality
1	Iole Pinto	President SIA – Solidarity Initiatives Association	F	Italian
2	Renato Scarinci	Prenatal Diagnosis Center Teaching Hospital of Siena	M	Italian
3	Irene Zerbetto	Gynecology Dpt. from Siena Hospital	F	Italian
4	Stefania Cresti	Microbiologist: microbiology lab Teaching Hospital of Siena	F	Italian
5	Luca Scali	Health Cooperation Director - Siena	M	Italian
6	Alessia Carrozza	Obstetrician	F	Italian

The team that consisted of the above mentioned specialties has started conducting activities throughout their different fields and split into four groups. Each group met and coordinated with their local counter parts to invest the time and efforts for better results in such a short time of visit.

## Medical Team Activities:

15/05/2011 Activities

Visiting the New Cardiac Center in Azadi hospital:



On May 15th SIA, Health Cooperation Director in Siena and rest of the medical team visited Azadi hospital and has been received by Dr. Shakir Saleem Azadi Teaching Hospital Director and Dr. Talal Rasheed, deputy director.

At first a tour was made in the New Cardiac Center in Azadi hospital. Dr. Ashur Youhana the head of the center received the delegation and started touring them in the different parts and sections of the new center and explained the types of procedures that will be applied.

The Italian medical team made an assessment for future missions to conduct heart surgeries in the center and to train the local doctors and cardiologist on the job.

## Meeting in Azadi Hospital:



A meeting had been arranged in Azadi hospital for the visiting team with their counter parts as heads of departments and doctors operating in such sections. In the meeting Dr. Shakir Saleem the Director of Azadi Hospital warmly welcomed the visiting medical team and thanked the efforts that they are paying to promote health sector in Duhok Governorate especially in the fields of Gynecology, Heart Surgery and Labs. 23 local Medical Staff participated in the meeting.

Iole Pinto stated the main aims behind such visits to the attendants which were continuation of last year visit to promote health sector specially microbiology and labs in procedures and techniques. She expressed the main role of each specialty within the visiting delegation and purposes behind their visit to give clear picture about their next activities.

Iole had expressed that Directorate General of Health would have the opportunity to select some doctors to visit Italy for training specifically in the field of Early Detection of Childhood disabilities and Early detection of neurological diseases. The local attendant doctors had raised some suggestion for Italian delegation that help to promote procedures and techniques within their departments.

Dr. Irene introduced herself and Alessia and stated that they would like to visit some centers and hospital to find out how these centers are connected and what type of procedures are used beside monitoring the current procedures used to receive and deal with pregnant women that will help to modify the kind of help and training needed to improve gynecology section.

Dr. Stefania Cresti (Microbiologist) told the microbiology and labs staff who were participating in the meeting that she has prepared a presentation with all relevant techniques and steps that help improving the work at labs.

Luca Scali the health cooperation director in Siena introduced himself and his role that is understanding how to optimize next missions for prevention and congenital preventions and identifying the fields of cooperation.



Local media was present to cover the event and interviewed Iole Pinto who explained the main purposes of such visits to Kurdistan Region – Duhok Governorate and illustrated the types of activities that will be conducted for improvements in the field of Early Detection of Childhood Disabilities, Pregnant Women Health, follow up procedures, Microbiology and labs which will help to prevent many types of diseases and give opportunities for more accurate diagnosis of such diseases.

## Microbiology Team 15/05/2011:



Dr. Stefania separately met with local staff of microbiology and laboratories at Azadi hospital. She explained to them that according to her last visit to the labs in Duhok Governorate she has prepared a presentation that includes all the related information and links to the standard protocols used in Italy and other countries that may help to improve labs and microbiologists work implementation.

The local staff suggested that Dr. Stefania visits the labs as a first step to find out what has changed since last year then identify the rest of actions and procedures that need to be applied for further improvements. 5 local medical staff participated in the meeting.

## Visit to the mobile clinic (MOPSET):

The Italian delegation made a visit to the mobile clinic (MOPSET) that was dedicated from MedChild Organization in Italy through SIA and Heevie .

The MOPSET that is equipped with very high technology is used for telemedicine, which allows the local doctors in Duhok to interact with their counterparts in Italy besides the normal usage that is providing cure for patients in rural areas.



**16 /05/2011 Activities** - Cooperation Agreement between Directorate General of Health in Duhok , Directorate of Health in Siena Italy , SIA Org. and Heevie Org.



On May 16th Dr. Abdullah Saeed Director General of Health in Duhok received the Italian delegation at his office. He thanked the medical team for the efforts of improving health sector in Duhok Governorate. Health Cooperation agreement between Directorate General of Health in Duhok, Directorate of Health in Italy, Heevie and SIA Org. Cooperation Agreement between the City of Siena, the organization Heevie , the Association Solidarity Initiatives Onlus IS of Siena, the University Teaching Hospital of Siena and the General Directorate of Health of Duhok for the care of children in the Region of Iraqi Kurdistan.

The agreement included t the care of children with congenital disorders of gastro intestinal and urogenital and training of local staff. Transfer the urgent cases that are evaluated clinically in previous missions in Kurdistan Region to Siena Pediatric Teaching Hospital for treatment. the University Teaching Hospital of Siena to give authorization to accept children from the Autonomous Region of Iraqi Kurdistan suffering from serious illnesses that require pediatric surgery at the Pediatric Surgery University Hospital of Siena, up to a maximum of 20 patients per year for the first two years (2010 - 2011).

Heevie will provide logistic support to the patients and families including travel preparations hold contacts and updates information to be provided to SIA that will engage in Italy of providing support and assistance during patients residency in Italy for treatment. Dr. Abdullah Saeed Director General of Health, Miss Bakhshan Ali Heevie Manager and Iole Pinto SIA President signed the agreement and exchanged drafts. Local media was present to tape the signing procedures. A while after the medical delegation restarted their normal activities with their local counterparts.

**Microbiology Team 16/05/2011:**



Dr. Stefania Cresti met Azadi and Central Lab Microbiologists in the conference room at Azadi Hospital. She made an over view on her evaluation of last year and presented a power point presentation that contained the standard procedures, steps and techniques that are used in Italy and developed countries.

The presentation included links of internet that enable local microbiologists to have access to the most recent standardized procedures in the labs. The local Doctors have raised many question and asked for more help and consultancy.

28 local doctors, college of medicine lectures, microbiologists and lab professionals attended the presentation.

Prenatal Diagnosis Team 16/05/2011:



Dr. Renato Scarinci and Luca Scali visited the premature section in Azadi hospital and met with doctors and medical personnel working the section.

Dr. Renato checked some premature babies and asked for the type of procedures used to diagnose prenatal anomalies.

They made a tour in the section and made an assessment of the section to Identify the needs and type of training needed to improve the offered services and treatment.

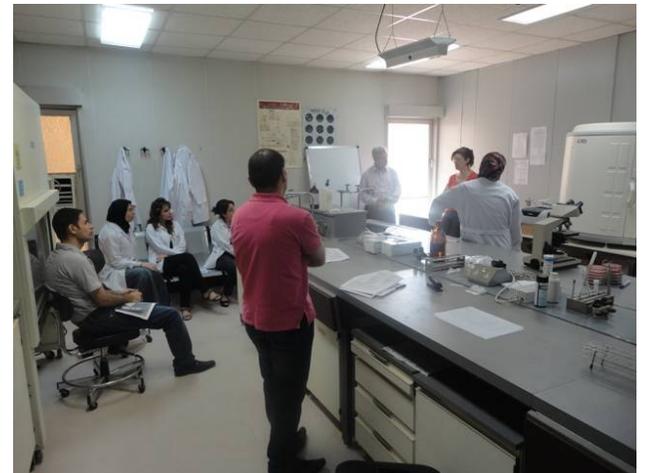
**Gynecological and Obstetric Team 16/05/2011:** Dr. Irene Zerbetto and Alessia Carrozza with Dr. Vian Sabri, Dr. Eman and Dr. Muna detected about 15 pregnant women at Heevie using Ultra Sound device.



## 17/05/2011 Activities

### Microbiology Team

Dr, Stefania Cresti visited Azadi Hospital Laboratory and met with operation personnel technician and doctors. She made and evaluation of the laboratory current techniques to find out the improvements taken place since last year mission of evaluation. Attended by 12 microbiologists, bacteriologists, University lectures, teachers and doctors, Dr. Stefania presented a workshop on the type of modals and standard techniques used at laboratories to better diagnose and identify diseases. The attendants raised many questions and conducted discussions with Dr. Stefania.



## Prenatal Diagnosis Team 17/05/2011:

Dr. Renato and Luca visited the center of Early Detection of Childhood and disabilities in Duhok. They met with the head of the center who illustrated the type of support and treatment they offer at the center. The team aimed to understand the needs of the center and ways of help and support that will fit improving the services and treatment as Luca scali is the Health Cooperation Director in Siena.

The team extended their visit to the office of Dr. Sarwar Sideeq the head of planning section in Duhok Directorate General of Health. They intended to know about the future plans and the types of training and support required implementing such types of plans in the future.



**Gynecological and Obstetric Team 17/05/2011:**



The team visited Azadi Hospital, Gynecology section and met with Gynecologists working the section as well as Ultra sound detectors.

Dr. Irene and Alessia Carrozza coordinated with Dr. Asima Mohammed and detected 5 pregnant women. They made a visit to the delivery room at Azadi Hospital and checked some of the records of the section to have better idea about the cases and numbers that are received in the section.

The team made another visit to Barzan delivery center in Duhok just to have an overview about the center.

## 18/05/2011 Activities

All the Teams visited, Qasrook, Gulan Hospitals and Aqra General Hospital



The Italian Medical team visited several hospitals in Aqra area and started with Qasrook hospital they met the Manager Dr. Barzan Khalid who started explaining the nature of the work at hospital and types of the cases they are dealing with. The team made a tour in the various sections.



Gulan Hospital in Aqra that was recently constructed was one of the hospitals that medical delegation visited. They met the manager Dr. Salim Khateeb and heads of the section. Dr. Raad Abdulrahman took the delegation in a tour inside the hospital.



The final visit was to Aqra General Hospital in city center where the team met with Hospital director Dr. Basheer Qasim and heads of section. The local Medical staff of Aqra Hospitals consisted of 7 Doctors.

### 19/05/2011 Activities

Final meeting at Azadi Hospital with local Heads of Section and doctors to reveal assessment, Dr. Shakir Saleem Azadi Hospital Manager, his Deputy Dr. Talal Rasheed and 14 heads of section, microbiologists, Gynecologists and obstetricians met with Italian Medical team to have a feedback about their current mission assessment and recommendation to improve the labs, gynecology and prenatal diagnosis sections.



### Microbiology Team:

Dr. Stefania illustrated that since her last visit to laboratories in Duhok Governorate she had specified some issues that needed to be implemented for the improvement of quality and services provided.

- Most of the recommended issues had been done and lab is for now is offering a good quality of services.
- but yet the clinical diagnosis is really essential for more accurate results.
- She recommended for this time to establish a network among all laboratories and microbiology departments.
- The central lab should be a reference point for Microbiology Department in the College of Medicine, University of Duhok.
- Continuous update of laboratories
- Establish a strong relation with diagnosis to ensure quality
- Start up with standard procedures at all levels

Local Microbiologists working in Azadi Teaching hospital asked for support to conduct the following:

- Guidelines of diagnostic procedures that are currently followed in Italy to compare with the current used one in Azadi hospital
- Establishment of External quality control. Support is needed to implement this.
- Connection and coordination of local labs with their counter parts in Italy
- Training and exchange expertise with Italian laboratories.

### Gynecological and Obstetric Team:

Dr. Irene stated that during her current visit she recommended and advised for the following:

- Most of the women especially in country side don't regularly visit Gynecologists, there should be some way to control these women who needs to be controlled and detected.
- Follow up screening test and Italian side will provide support.
- Control the number of anomalies using data analysis

### Prenatal Diagnosis Team:

Dr. Renato started praising the pediatric doctors in Azadi hospital and stated that they are really good tem but at the same time he recommended the following:

- Diagnosis of thalassemia in Early detection of childhood.
- Establishment a genetic laboratory is essential.

Local gynecologists have suggested the following to prevent and early detect some congenital diseases:

- Providing training for the usage of 4D Ultrasound machine and Doppler.
- Training specialized doctors to diagnose fatal echo cardiograph.
- Training local doctors to conduct Amniocentesis and cordocentesis tests with help of ultrasound devices.

### Visit to college of medicine:



Dr. Stefania made a quick visit to college of medicine and met with the dean then made tour in college of medicine laboratory and checks the techniques and procedures used in teaching process.

### Visit to Technical Institute in Duhok:

The whole team paid a visit to Technical Institute in Duhok, Health Institute, Obstetrics department where they met the head of the department who illustrated about the nature of the teaching in such department and curriculum used to teach students. This visit was made to better understand the needs, connections and references by which pregnant women will need during pregnancy and to find out potential fields of providing help and support to improve gynecology departments.

