

## Project Activities in Missions:

**Erbil Conference ,October-2008** :Heevie invited Minister of Health Dr.Abdulrahman Younis, representative of the Office of Provincial Affairs U.S Embassy Mr. Jim Heller, Med child & SIA Italian Organizations, Director of General Health Dr.Abdulla Saeed to clarify the scheme of work for the implementation Heart surgery Projects in Erbil and catheterization Project in Duhok. This has drawn the attention of local media and people for the great importance of both projects for people and health authorities in Kurdistan Region.



**Minister of Health Dr.Abdulrahman Younis , Representative of the Office of Provincial Affairs U.S Embassy Mr. Jim Heller, Medchiled Italian Organizations, Duhok Director of General Health Dr.Abdulla Saeed, Erbil Conference ,Oct. 2008**

## 1-The First Mission of November, 2008

The mission started after Heevie has prepared the necessary arrangements such as notifying the patients and their families and meetings with high local officials like KRG Parliament President Mr. Adnan Almufti, Minister of Health Dr. Abdulrahman Younis , DG of Health Dr. Abdullah Saeed and Duhok Governor Mr. Tamar Ramadan.



**Minister of Health Dr.Abdulrahman Younis, SIA President Iole Pinto, Governor of Duhok Mr.Tamar Ramadhan, Minister of High Education Dr.Idrees Hadi , Director of General Health Dr.Abdulla Saeed , with Med Child Org.team**

## Activities:

### 1-Congenital Heart Diseases Team

- Open Heart surgery Team

(17) Open Heart Surgery has been made in Hawler Cardiac Center in Erbil from all Kurdistan Governorates.

- Catheterization Cardiologists' team

(13) Catheterization intervention has been made in Hawler Cardiac Surgery in Erbil with implementing the program of training of the local staff.



**Prof. Alessandro Frigiola ,San Donato Medical Team , Prof. Ilja Gardi, Dr.Zuhair Al Nassri,  
Dr. Carmelo Arcidiacono, Dr.Sandra Giusti in Hawler Cardiac Center**

The Italian NGOs with the Open Heart Surgery medical team who participated on November Mission, 2008:

No.	Name	Profession and Institution	Gender	Nationality
1	ILJA GARDI	Med child Health Director - Med child	M	Italy
2	ENRICO MUSSO	Project Manager MC - Med child	M	Italy
3	ALBERTO SARACCO	Health management - San Raffaele Hospital	M	Italy
4	IOLE PINTO	President - Solidarity Initiatives	F	Italy
5	Sardar Ali Aziz Karim	Secretary of the Kurdish-Italian Cultural Association	M	Italy
6	ISABELLA MANDELLI	Logistics - Association Cardiopathic children	F	Italy
	<b>Open Heart Surgery Team</b>			
7	MARCO DI TERLIZZI	President - Association Cardiopathic children	M	Italy
8	ALESSANDRO FRIGIOLA	Heart surgeon - San Donato	M	Italy
9	ALESSANDRO GIAMBERTI	Heart surgeon - San Donato	M	Italy
10	NURI HALKAWT ALI NURI	Heart surgeon - San Donato	M	Iraqi
11	MATTEO REALI	Heart surgeon - San Donato	M	Italy
12	CARMELO ARCIDIACONO	Cardiologist - San Donato	M	Italy
13	MARCO MELI	Anesthetist - San Donato	M	Italy
14	DONATELLA DE BENEDETTI	Anesthetist - San Donato	F	Italy
15	WALTER CASTRACANE	Anesthetist - San Donato	M	Italy
16	ASSUNTA SALATINO	Operating room nurse - San Donato	F	Italy
17	CARLO FERRARINI	Operating room nurse - San Donato	M	Italy
18	KANDIL HASSAN	Operating room nurse - San Donato	M	Italy
19	FRANCESCA TURRINI	Nurse - San Donato	F	Italy
20	SUEVIA CABEZAS	Nurse - San Donato	F	Italy
21	CORNELIA AUGUSTINA GHITA	Nurse - San Donato	F	Italy
22	MARINA CAMPION	Nurse - Hesperia-Modeana	F	Italy
23	DORINA IONITA	Nurse - San Donato	F	Italy
24	ELISA DAVOLIO	Heart lung technician - Hesperia-Modeana	F	Italy

(5) Local Medical staff participated in the training according to their specialties, Nov. 2008



**Prof. Mario Carminati in Hawler Cardiac Center in Erbil**

## 2- Pediatric Surgery Team.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of November, 2008 a Cyst scope has been delivered to Heevie Hospital in order to train (2) of the local doctors in Pediatric Surgery Center according to the program of (Training on the Job project) between Italy and Kurdistan.

Cyst scope is going to treat and solve the problems of Vesico Uretric Reflux by injecting a material in bladder through cyst scope which is a new and modern technology as a replacement for the traditional surgery. Such a treatment is not available in Kurdistan.

- (139) patients have been examined, (46) patients operated in Heevie Hospital in Duhok, (30) children have been chosen to be treated in Italy because of their complex cases which is not possible to be treated in Kurdistan for the coming years.

- (11) Local Medical Staff participated in the training on November 2008

The Italian medical team from Siena Hospital according to their specialties:

Pediatric Surgery Team			
Nr.	Name	Profession and Institution	Gender
1	Mario Messina	Pediatric Surgeon: Head of Pediatric Surgery Dpt. Teaching Hospital of Siena	M
2	Giovanni Di Maggio	Pediatric Surgeon: Pediatric Surgery Dpt. Teaching Hospital of Siena	M



**Prof.Mario Messina, Giovanni Di Maggio,Dr.Iole Pinto in Heevie Hospital in Dohuk**

### 3- Haematological Team / Leukemia Disease.

The main goal of their visit was training the local staff through a work shop which was divided into case discussion with local doctors and treatment methods, a common clinical data base of Haematological patients defined to make easier transfer data and communication with the Italian reference network.

All the meetings were in Directorate of Health in Duhok with the presence of (17) of the local staff from (Duhok, Erbil, Sulaymania, and Mosul). All the attendants had discussed the problems they face in treating such a dangerous disease. Some of the mentioned problems are dimension of medicine, lack of financial support, ignorance of people. Dr. Gardi, head of the mission, confirmed the exchange of knowledge and experience between Kurdistan and Italy.

In addition, he is convinced that Duhok will be the point of contact because of its strong medical administration and support indicating that this mission will make Kurdistan, and probably the Iraq as whole, take advantage of it.

- (61) Leukemia patients have been evaluated with patients treated in Italy.
- (17) Local medical staff participated in the training on November 2008

The Italian Haematological medical team who participated in the training on November 2008

Nr.	Name	Profession & Institution	Gender
1	Anna Maria Testi	Hematologist-Leukemia - Policlinico Umberto I Rome	F
2	Robert Chiesa	Hematologist- Thalassaemia - San Raffaele Hospital Milan	M
3	Marco Fossati	Hematologist- Thalassaemia - San Raffaele Hospital Milan	M



**Italian Medical Team, Dr. Annamaria Testi, Dr. Marco Andreatani with the local Team**

#### 4 - Haematological Team -Thalasseamia Diseases

Another part of their mission was meeting with Thalasseamia association of all Kurdistan (Duhok, Erbil, Sulaymania, Kirkuk, Mosul and Khanaqin) who were (15) .The aim was to closely meet and identify the needs of the associations and find out the work plan they are following and how to improve future data and communications.

In the meeting, Thalasseamia association representatives welcomed the Italian delegation for their visit; they clarified the problems they face in their career. Some of these problems are intermittent treatment for patients, lack of some important medicine and equipment. Also, they produced their requirements. In addition to these demands, efforts that are exerted to open up a developed Thalasseamia centers in Kurdistan and taking more patients to Italy for treatment.

The Italian side clarified that even in Italy the treatment of such a dangerous disease is not that easy issue, besides, it is very expensive. In addition, they assured the importance of medical awareness that people should care about a lot to prevent many cases in the future.

- (23) Thalassaemia patients treated in Italy have been examined within a training program for the local staff, to better give an idea about the diagnosing cases and evaluating them even after bone marrow transplant operations. Also, a meeting has been arranged between the Italian team and all Thalasseamia Association members from all Kurdistan Governorates. During the meeting, many points and problems have been discussed.

- (20) Local medical staff participated in the training on November 2008

The Italian Thalassaemia medical team according to their specialties:

Nr.	Name	Profession & Institution	Gender
1	Annamaria Testi	Hematologist-Leukemia - Policlinico Umberto I Rome	M
2	Robert Chiesa	Hematologist- Thalassaemia - San Raffaele Hospital Milan	M



**Italian Medical Team with the local Team**

## 5- Neurological Team:

The program consisted of daily meeting in emergency hospital by attending post call meeting with all the staff of the emergency hospital discussing the cases then the team started the operation of one case each day & then major tour to the neurosurgery department. In the afternoon, they examined neurosurgery cases in the Heevie organization with the help of local staff.

- (211) Patients have been examined as well as (3) surgeries within them with the presence of the local staff as a part of (Training on the Job).
- (6) Local medical staff participated in the training on November 2008

The Italian Neurological Surgeon team:

Nr.	Name	Profession & Institution	Gender
1	Stefania Acerno	Pediatric Neurologist and Neurosurgeon - San Raffaele Hospital Milan	F



**Dr.Stefania Acerno**

## 6- Biologist Team

Biologists' team consists of Dr. MARCO ANDREANI Biologist Transplantation Lab/ IME Policlinico Torvergata Rome.

Dr. Marco managed visits to the Blood Bank in Duhok to implement training program, below are the points agreed about:

- ✓ Training one person to use Flowcytrometer machine for Leukemia diagnosis in Italy for 3 months.
- ✓ Training one person for Blood Transfusion in Italy for 1 month.
- ✓ Definition of a project to start up a HLA lab in Kurdistan to find compatible donors for patient's candidate to bone marrow transplant and creation of a regional register of bone marrow donors for Thalassemia and Leukemia patients.

- (11) Local medical staff participated in the training on November 2008

The Italian Blood Lab. medical team:

Nr.	Name	Profession& Institution	Gender
1	Marco Andreani	Biologist Transplantation Lab. - IME Policlinico Torvergata Rome	M



**Director of General Health Dr. Abdulla Saeed, with Medchild team**