

6-Italian Medical Delegation visits Duhok to Cure Congenital Heart Diseases children, from 12th Jan., till 19 Jan., 2013



San Donato Hospital – Milan Cardiac Team

Invited by Heevie Nazdar for Children Org , the support of KRG Prime Minister His Excellency Nechirvan Barzani, in cooperation with the Italian Organizations (SIA & Bambini Cardiopatici nel Mondo, Children's Heart Organization – Italy) and Directorate General of Health / Duhok , an Italian medical team from San Donato Hospital - Milan arrived Duhok to conduct operations in Azadi Heart Center -Duhok for a group of children affiliated with Congenital Heart Diseases and contribute to promote health sector through training local medical staff and Doctors in Italy and on the job in Kurdistan for the period 12-19 January 2013.

The visit is a continuation for the constant efforts of Heevie Nazdar for Children to provide cure and treatment to maximum numbers of children in Kurdistan Region affiliated with congenital heart diseases, besides promoting health and treatment capacities of the hospitals , doctors and technicians through providing training on job while conducting operations by Italian teams and envoy them to Italy to be trained by most experienced Italian doctors and health facilities. Up to date Heevie Nazdar for Children in coordination of Italian doctors and hospitals, was able to bring lots of experience and new techniques in to the pediatric and congenital heart diseases field. The ultimate goal of Heevie is to help enabling local health facilities to provide similar health care and experience of European countries to the patient children in Kurdistan Region.

In this mission (27) Operations has been conduct (11) Catheterization interventions (4) of them Diagnostic and (12) Open Heart Surgery, also (278) patients were been examined in this mission and (44) local medical Staff trained on the job.

The Italian team consists of (19) medical staff and Doctors, as shown in the table below:

No.	Name	Profession and Institution	Gender	Nationality
1	Prof.Alessandro Frigiola	Heart surgeon, Chief of the Cardiac Surgery at Policlinico San Donato Hospital in Milan & Founder of Children with Congenital Heart Disease in the World	M	Italian
2	Dr.Alessandro Giamberti	Heart surgeon-San Donato Hospital- Milan	M	Italian
3	Dr. Halkawt Ali Nuri	Heart surgeon-San Donato Hospital- Milan	M	Iraqi
4	Dr. Giuseppe Isgrò	Anesthetist -San Donato Hospital- Milan	M	Italian
5	Ilaria Lorenza Amalia Maria Bozino Raguzzi	Anesthetist / Intensivist	F	Italian
6	Marino Smiderle	BCM/ Bambini Cardiopatici nel Mondo Association Foundation	M	Italian
7	Dr. Carmelo Marco Arcidiacono	Cardiologist-San Donato Hospital- Milan	M	Italian
8	Dr.Sandra Giusti	Cardiologist	F	Italian
9	Giovanni Carboni	Perfusionist	M	Italian
10	Marta Pasquato	Radiologist	F	Italian
11	Renza Martini	Department Nurse	F	Italian
12	Katarina Sujanska	Department Nurse	F	Slovacchia
13	Assunta Salatino	Operating Room Nurse	F	Italian
14	Michela Rosa Fiore	Operating Room Nurse	F	Italian
15	Claudio Mele	Nurse-San Donato Hospital- Milan	M	Italian
16	Chiara Graglia	Nurse-San Donato Hospital- Milan	F	Italian
17	Federica Menon	Nurse	F	Italian
18	Leonardo Giuseppe Maria Scopelliti	BCM/ Bambini Cardiopatici nel Mondo Association Foundation	M	Italian
19	Francesco Pepe	BCM/ Bambini Cardiopatici nel Mondo Association Foundation	M	Italian

Activities of the Team:

1- Press Conference/ 13.1.2013



In the first day of the mission Heevie Nazdar for Children in cooperation and coordination with Directorate General of Health in Duhok, held a press conference in Azadi Heart Center. Invitations had been sent out to all local and satellite media, Dr. Abdullah Jasim represented Directorate General of Health in Duhok and Dr. Carmelo Arcidiacono represented the Italian Team. Dr. Abdullah Jasim, started his speech thanking all participants and dedicated special thanks to Heevie Nazdar for Children and the Italian NGOs for the support they are offering to develop the health system, treating patient children, training local health personnel. Dr. Carmelo Arcidiacono declares that in this mission they will hold operations extremely difficult for complex cases, and he mentioned the cooperation for the treatment of children since 2006 in Italy and Kurdistan.

2-Meeting with Director General of Health in Duhok / 16.1.2013



Dr. Nezar Esmat the Director General of Health in Duhok meeting Professor Frigiola

Miss Bakhshan Ali, Heevie Nazdar for Children Manager, accompanied the Italian delegation to meet with Dr. Nezar Esmat the Director General of Health in Duhok. During the meeting Professor Frigiola explained the main goal of his visit to Kurdistan Region that is assist the local patients to get proper treatment locally.

Dr. Nezar Esmat explained the urgent need for treatment for congenital heart diseases affiliated children and offered all the possible support to enhance the treatment and develop kinds of cure and services offered. Professor Frigiola proposed assistance to conduct four future missions to operate local patients and train local physicians on the job.

3-Examination and evaluation team



Examination and evaluation team

The examination and evaluation team made to the patient children to find out about the type of the diseases they are affiliated with, then and evaluation was made for the possibility of conducting Catheterization or open-heart surgeries and some patients will be selected to be treated in Italy also to prepare next group of patient children to be operated when the next mission is prepared to conduct operations. In this mission (278) patient children are examined and evaluated, (2) Local medical Staff trained on the job by the Italian Medical Teams.

4-Catheterization Intervention Team



Catheterization Team

The second team was Catheterization intervention one, which had taken care of conducting Catheterization interventions to the patient children affiliated with heart diseases that can be treated through Catheterization. This team conduct **(15)** Catheterization interventions, **(4)** Diagnostics in Azadi Heart Center in Duhok and **(17)** Local medical Staff trained on the job by the Italian Medical Teams.

5-Open Heart Surgery Team



Open Heart Surgery Team

The team of the open heart surgeries conducted surgery for extremely difficult complex cases in Duhok; Supervised by Prof. Alessandro Frigiola the Italian team accompanied by local doctors conducted the open heart surgery. The open heart surgeries conducted (12) operations in Azadi Heart Center and (25) Local medical Staff trained on the job by the Italian Medical Teams.



Open Heart Surgery Team



On the last day, the Directorate General of Health distributed certificate and appreciation letters for the Italian team



On January 19 the Italian paid a visit to Heevie Nazdar for Children office in Duhok. The Italian team was received by Miss Bakhshan Ali Aziz, Heevie Nazdar for Children Manager who warmly welcomed the guest and highly evaluated such a visit.

7-Italian Medical Delegation visits Duhok to Cure Congenital Heart Diseases children and pediatric surgery patients from 11 till 18 May, 2013



Invited by Heevie Nazdar for Children Org , the support of KRG Prime Minister His Excellency Nechirvan Barzani, in cooperation with the Italian Organizations (SIA & Bambini Cardiopatici nel Mondo, Children's Heart Organization – Italy) and Directorate General of Health / Duhok , an Italian medical team from San Donato Hospital - Milan consists of **(20)** medical staff and Doctors arrived Duhok to conduct operations in Azadi Heart Center -Duhok for a group of children affiliated with Congenital Heart Diseases and contribute to promote health sector through training local medical staff and Doctors in Italy and on the job in Kurdistan for the period 11 till 18 May, 2013.

During the current visit the Italian team had conducted number of complex catheterization and open heart operations. Such operations were the ones for first time implemented in Middle East. The team had used newly invented techniques and expertise to treat newly born children affiliated with heart diseases. The importance of such new techniques are for the benefit of local staff under training by such professional team which may after three years will run full operations of the heart center self-sufficiently.

In this mission **(31)** Operations has been conduct **(18)** Catheterization interventions **(4)** of them Diagnostic and **(13)** Open Heart Surgery, also **(290)** patients were been examined in this mission and **(45)** local medical Staff trained on the job.

The Italian team consists of (22) medical staff and Doctors, as shown in the table below:

No.	Name	Profession	Gender	Nationality
1	Prof.Alessandro Frigiola	Heart surgeon	M	Italian
2	Dr.Alessandro Giamberti	Heart surgeon	M	Italian
3	Dr. Halkawt Ali Nuri	Heart surgeon	M	Iraqi
4	Dr. Marco Ranucci	Anesthesist	M	Italian
5	Dr. Silvia Meloni	Anesthesist	F	Italian
6	Dr. Tommaso Aloisio	Anesthesist	M	Italian
7	Dr. Giuseppe Isgrò	Anesthetist	M	Italian
8	Dr. Carmelo Marco Arcidiacono	Cardiologist	M	Italian
9	Dr.Rita Emanuela Calaciura	Cardiologist	F	Italian
10	Dr.Giuseppe Santoro	cath lab cardiologist	M	Italian
11	Antonio Lorenzo Ditta	Heart lung technician	M	Italian
12	Daniela Damian	nurse	F	Romania
13	Assunta Salatino	operating room nurse	F	Italian
14	Michela Rosa Fiore	operating room nurse	F	Italian
15	Chiara Graglia	Nurse	F	Italian
16	Federica Dellafiore	Nurse	F	Italian
17	Roseline Arlotto	Nurse	F	France
18	Giovanni Zaffino	Nurse	M	Italian
19	Francesca Romeo	Nurse	F	Italian
20	Dr.Luciano Musi	Pediatric surgeon	M	Italian
21	RAI I TV Team	Media	M	Italian
22	Dr. Renato Corrado	Health Programmers Representative at Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	M	Italian

Activities of the Team:

1-Press Conference/ 12.5.2013



Local media interested on reporting for such activities gathered at Azadi Center for Heart Diseases and hold a press conference with Italian Professionals, member of the team, Dr. Nezar Esmat Director General of Health in Duhok and Miss Bakhshan Ali Heevie Nazdar for Children Manager. Dr. Nezar Esmat expressed his thanks to the efforts of the Italian medical efforts which are invested to help local population and promoting health services levels through conducting operations at local hospitals and training local doctors, technicians and nurses on the job at the same time he dedicated special thanks to the efforts of Heevie Nazdar for Children for organizing and leading such kind of initiatives. Prof. Alessandro Frigiola explained the agreement that had been signed with Heevie Nazdar for Children and Directorate General of Health in Duhok which will be run for three years in which Italian medical teams specialized to treat heart diseases will visit Duhok city and implement various kinds of heart operations for pediatric. Professor Frigiola told local media that some of the most complex cases will be operated at local health facilities in Duhok; local professionals are main target besides treating children to form a full operative team that will be able to work independently after three years of training.

The Italian team was accompanied with Dr. Renato Corrado, envoy of Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Health Issues to Kurdistan Region, who mainly works to report back the health conditions, infrastructure and needs to the Italian Government. The envoy is going to start a project funded by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with Heevie Nazdar for Children and Directorate General of Health in one Hand and Italian Universities on the other hand. Dr. Corrado participated in the press conference with local media then met with Miss Bakhshan Ali and Dr. Nezar Esmat where he explained the details of the initiative and project by Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Local media outlets which attended the press event were Speda TV, Kurdistan TV, NRT TV, War TV, War Newspaper, Gali Kurdistan TV, KNN TV, K TV, Duhok TV and Avro newspaper.

2-Meeting with Director General of Health in Duhok / 14.5.2013



Prof. Alessandro Frigiola with Dr. Nezar Esmat

Head of the Italian delegation Professor Frigiola hold a technical and administrative meeting with both Dr. Nezar Esmat and Miss Bakhshan Ali. They discussed some of the technical and organizational phases of the project. They agreed to isolate adult team from the pediatric team. This will apply on both catheterization and open heart. The purpose is to identify kinds of the training and technical support required to upgrade the center in the aspects of medical staff and techniques.

3-Examination and evaluation team



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Catheterization Intervention Team

5-Open Heart Surgery Team



Open Heart Surgery Team

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Open Heart Surgery Team



Open Heart Surgery Team

Dr. Halkawt Ali Nuri the first Pediatric Heart Diseases surgeon in Iraq is a Kurd



Dr. Halkawt Ali Nuri who works with Italian team is the first pediatric surgeon in Iraq sent by Heevie Organization with support of Kurdistan Regional Government in 2007 to study in Italy.

Dr. Halkawt explained in a press conference for (Speda TV, KNN TV, Payam TV, Kurdistan TV, Gale Kurdistan TV) Kurdistan Local Media in 23.5.2013 the nature of the surgical procedures carried out in this mission and how some of them were held for the first time in Middle East Region , then Dr. Halkawt delivered a lecture in a Heevie hospital for twenty doctors about the Congenital Heart Diseases surgeries and the latest scientific developments in such aspect the world .

Dr.Halkwat eventually met with the Director General of health in Dohuk, where they discussed several points about Heevie and General Directorate for the health of Dohuk cooperation agreemnet with Italian organizations:

(Children's Heart Organization, SIA NGO, European Heart for Children, IRCCS) Policlinico San Donato Hospital)To conduct heart surgery for children and training local health staff for a period of 3 years.

8-Urological Pediatric Diseases Team in Heevie Hospital 12.5.2013



Within the same delegation visit a team for Urological Pediatric Diseases Headed by Prof. Luciano Musi which conducted operations for a group of children affiliated with urological Pediatric Diseases at Heevie pediatric Hospital.

In this mission (7) Operations has been conducted, (23) patients were been examined in this mission and (35) local medical Staff trained on the job. Local pediatricians expressed their gratitude for such kinds of training were they receive new information and learn new techniques for pediatric surgeries.

Seminar:



Prof. Luciano Musi

Prof. Luciano Musi hold a lecture for local pediatricians from were couple of pediatric surgeons were invitd from Mosul and Erbil I to expand the training activities covering wider number of local surgeons and pediatricians. The lecturer concentrated on the latest techniques and technologies used to treat patient children. He updated the locals with most recent studies and researches in the field that help identifying and treating patient children. The main aim is to help local medical professionals treat patients locally and decrease parents attempts seeking treatment abroad.