

Italian Medical Delegation visits Duhok to Cure Congenital Heart Diseases children from 15 till 22 February, 2014



Heevie with the support of KRG Government Prime Minister His Excellency Nechirvan Barzani, Signed a cooperation agreement with the Italian Organizations SIA, European Heart for Children, Children's Heart Organization – Italy, Directorate General of Health / Duhok , to conduct operations in Azadi Heart Center - Duhok for Congenital Heart Disease children and contribute to promote health sector through training local medical staff and Doctors in Italy and on the job in Kurdistan for three years from the period April 2013-April 2016. The Italian medical delegation conducted heart surgeries in the province of Duhok in Azadi Heart Center in the first visit this year's for the period from 15 until February 22, 2014. Mr. Carmelo Ficarra , Italian Consul in Erbil received the delegation at the airport in Erbil, and expressed his pleasure for the efforts and thanked all the parties involved in the project.

The Italian medical delegations consist of (24) doctors and medical staff, the team had used newly invented techniques and expertise to treat newly born children afflicted 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 (40) Operations has been conducted (24) Catheterization interventions, (5) Diagnostic Catheterization and (11) Open Heart Surgery, also (236) patients were been examined in this mission and (45) local medical Staff trained on the job.

The Italian team consists of (24) Italian 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. Matteo Reali	Heart surgeon	M	Italian
4	Dr. Marco Ranucci	Anesthetist	F	Italian
5	Dr. Umberto Di Dedda	anesthesiologist/intensivist	M	Italian
6	Dr. Giuseppe Isgrò	Intensivist	M	Italian
7	Dr. Ilaria Belloni	anesthesiologist	F	Italian
8	Dr. Vincenzo Mancini	cath lab anesthesiologist	M	Italian
9	Dr. Giuseppe Santoro	cath lab cardiologist	M	Italian
10	Dr. Carmelo Marco Arcidiacono	Cardiologist	M	Italian
11	Dr. Savina Mannarino	Cardiologist	F	Italian
12	Mauro Cotza	perfusionist	M	Italian
13	Annamaria Angelini	OR nurse	F	Italian
14	Assunta Salatino	OR nurse	F	Italian
15	Katarina Sujanska	ward nurse	F	Italian
16	Chiara Graglia	ICU nurse	F	Italian
17	Giovanni Zaffino	ICU nurse	M	Italian
18	Francesca Romeo	ICU nurse	F	Italian
19	Suevia Cabezas Alonso	ICU nurse	F	Spanish
20	Francesca Boniolo	Nurse	F	Italian
21	Daniela Damian	ward nurse	F	Romania
22	Marco Nicola Dalmazio Di Terlizzi	Vice-President BCM	M	Italian
23	Gabriella Simoni	Journalist	F	Italian
24	Fabio Tricarico	Cameraman	M	Italian

Activities of the Team:

1-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 (236) patient children are examined and evaluated, (2) Local medical Staff trained on the job by the Italian Medical Teams.



Examination and evaluation team

2-Catheterization Intervention Team



Catheterization Intervention 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 (29) Catheterization interventions, (5) Diagnostics in Azadi Heart Center in Duhok and (16) Local medical Staff trained on the job by the Italian Medical Teams.



Catheterization Intervention Team

3-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 (11) operations in Azadi Heart Center and (27) Local medical Staff trained on the job by the Italian Medical Teams.



Open Heart Surgery Team



Open Heart Surgery Team

4- Press Conference



A press Conference was held in Azadi hospital hall on 18\2\2014 where many local and satellite TV channels and media outlets were covering. Dr.Nazar Esmat Director General of Health conveyed thanks to the Italian medical delegation and Heevie. Prof. Alessandro Frigiola talked about the results of the current visit and illustrated that by April 2016 a local medical team for Heart diseases will be ready to implement operations depending on their capabilities. He delivered special thanks to Heevie and considered it as the base and source of all such missions and visits in Kurdistan Region.