



Hadassah International Medical Relief Association, Ltd. (HIMRA)

Inside this issue:

Message from the Director-General of HMO	1
Meet Hadassah International Volunteers	2
HIMRA Highlights	3
HMO News & Updates	1,4,5,7,8,9,10,11,12
Giving Opportunities	6
UPCOMING EVENTS:	13

Did you know that...

- In the last two years, 2000 of the 5000 hospitalized terror victims in Israel have been treated at Hadassah's Hospitals in Jerusalem.
- Hadassah Hospital trains healthcare professionals from other countries. In October, Healthcare professionals from Saint Louis University in the U.S. went on an educational mission and learned firsthand about HMO's medical response plan, psychiatric preparedness and personal protection and how to deal with bioterrorism attacks.

Hadassah International Bulletin

Message from Prof. Shlomo Mor-Yosef, Director-General, Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO)

No one can calculate the cost of a life and no one should have to. At Hadassah, no one does. Because of this standard of excellence and compassion, I am asking for your help at this critical time.

As you know, Hadassah Hospitals treat more than half of Israel's terror victims. The emotional impact is almost immeasurable. The financial impact is devastating. Even when a crisis has passed, the costs continue to mount.

When the sirens sound and the waves of patients flood the Emergency Room, no one waits. We respond immediately. No one stops to think about whether we can afford an expensive drug, an additional X-ray or the services of a specialist. We respond with the best we have to offer.

For victims of terror, the Emergency Room and the Trauma Unit are only the first stops on the long journey to recovery.

In the days, weeks and months that follow, Hadassah responds with patience and persistence, healing and hope. Thanks to you we are always here to help and to heal. Thanks to you we never have to calculate the cost of a life.

With the ever-rising costs of emergency medicine coupled with the ongoing needs of our hospitals on Mount Scopus and Ein Kerem, I ask you to consider an additional gift to the Hadassah Medical Organization.

On behalf of the tens of thousands of patients whose lives you touch, please accept my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support and compassionate response.



Prof. Shlomo Mor-Yosef

HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION (HMO) NEWS UPDATE: Hadassah and Hebrew University Researchers Develop Protein that Fights Lethal Strep Bacteria

(October, 2002) Scientists at Hadassah Medical Organization and the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Medicine in Jerusalem have succeeded in creating a protein that prevents the fatal form of Streptococcus A (Strep A) bacteria from developing and ensures complete recovery when a milder form is contracted. Strep A causes tonsillitis and skin infections in its normal form, but can become

highly destructive bacteria that can penetrate the circulation system and cause multiple organ failure, with fatal consequences. In Israel, about 100 cases of severe infection caused by the Strep A bacteria are diagnosed annually; 15 percent of those afflicted die. After five years of research, a team headed by Dr. Allon Moses, an infectious disease specialist in the Department of Clinical Microbiology at Hadassah Ein

Kerem, and Prof. Emanuel Hanski of Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Medicine replicated a protein that only exists in the non-virulent form of the bacteria. When the protein was introduced into the virulent bacteria and tested on laboratory animals, there was no incidence of the severe form of the illness and all the animals recovered completely from the infection. As of yet, the protein has been tested on mice but not on humans.



Valda Knight leading the group of walkers in Auckland, New Zealand

“At a time when tension around the world is high, it is wonderful to see volunteers joining together in such a worthy cause.”

Valda Knight

Photo at right: Valda and her New Zealand group organize a fundraising event.

Meet Hadassah International's Volunteers: Valda Knight, Hadassah New Zealand

The "World Wide Walk", Hadassah International's annual fundraising event for pediatric oncology, is in its third successful year. Beginning with a dramatic kick off in New Zealand, and in Austria, England, Spain, France, Italy, and the United States, Hadassah International and Young Hadassah International volunteers throughout the world joined together in this international walk on October 6, 2002.

Set against a dramatic backdrop of Rangitoto and the glistening waters of Waitemata Harbour, an energetic and dedicated group of walkers were led by Valda Knight, President, Hadassah New Zealand. Valda is the motivating force behind the walks in Auckland and Wellington. No other International unit can boast the participation of two cities in one country!

This year Valda obtained \$10,000 in sponsors alone, a remarkable feat for this community where fundraising is a tremendous challenge. Committed to this year's new fundraising goals, Hadassah New Zealand is designating the funds they raised to support the new Center for Emergency Medicine.

Being geographically isolated in the Southern Hemisphere poses some problems but it has not hindered Valda in her commitment to Hadassah.

Her involvement began following a trip to Israel in August 1995. Valda was scheduled to have surgery for breast cancer just 4 weeks prior to her Israel visit. Deter-

mined not to miss the trip, she arrived in Israel a little fragile and had to make a check up visit for a minor procedure. Her daughter-in-law whisked her straight off to Hadassah Hospital. Her experiences at the hospital left her with an indelible impression.

As a patient she received meticulous attention by several doctors before any action was taken. She experienced the caring concern and the rich multi-cultural diversity among the medical staff and patients. All were working together for a common good, in what seemed like an oasis of peace and harmony. Upon her return to Auckland she helped found and establish the Hadassah New Zealand unit.

Seven years later, Valda states, "It is true to say I was inspired by Hadassah and still am." Her enthusiasm for Hadassah is infectious and spread among the participants of the World Wide Walk.

"At a time when tension around the world is high it is wonderful to see volunteers joining together in such a worthy cause," exclaims Valda. "The warm and friendly atmosphere along the walk was amazing and reflected the hospital's philosophy in making the world a better place through healing and teaching without regard to national boundaries."



HIMRA HIGHLIGHTS:

- * Hadassah International's World Wide Walk for 2002, with the participation of communities in Amsterdam, London, Paris, Milan, Auckland, Wellington, Vienna and Los Angeles, has raised, to date, a total of \$55,000.
- * In November, Nancy Falchuk, and Professor Shlomo Mor-Yosef, spent a week in Mexico meeting with officials from the Mexican Ministry of Health and directors from medical and academic institutions to discuss ways Hadassah and Mexico could collaborate in the academic, medical, and scientific arenas. Hadassah Mexico's Director Ethel Fainstein, organized these and other meetings with leaders of the Jewish Community. Press and television coverage of their visit helped promote interest in the Hadassah Center For Emergency Medicine (CEM), research and education opportunities, and Hadassah's role during the current crisis in Israel. The response has been exceptional, with gifts amounting to \$150,000, and more are anticipated.
- * Hadassah Argentina is working with the pharmaceutical company, Genzyme, to educate about Gaucher, a Jewish genetic disease. For two years Genzyme has sponsored Hadassah International's World Wide Walk.
- * Canadian Hadassah-WIZO, honored Prof. Avraham Rivkind, Head of Hadassah's Trauma Unit at its 37th National Convention in Montreal, with a prestigious award.

Hadassah International is proud to announce:

Dr. Robert Entel, of Young Hadassah International's Development Team, won the 1st Annual Trinidad and Tobago Independence Day Award for outstanding professional service, a humanitarian award. He donated surplus medical supplies to them last year. Robert has also organized humanitarian trips to Havana, Cuba where he coordinates his efforts with Hadassah Cuba.

Alita Kraiser, of Sao Paulo, Brazil is our new leader for Hadassah Brazil. Alita, a professional translator, has been involved with Hadassah International over the past 2 years and we welcome her participation in this new capacity.

Yael Nathanel, new Administrator for Hadassah United Kingdom, just came on board to assist Guilda Shamash, Chair, Hadassah UK. Yael, an Israeli, has been residing in London for three years where she has just completed her Masters degree in Corporate Communications. We welcome her to the Hadassah International family.

Hadassah International (Headquarters)
50 West 58th Street,
New York, NY 10019
Tel: (212) 303-8174

For more information contact the Editors:
Pat Levinson, Public Relations Chair,
plevinson@hadassah.org and Cheryl Silverman,
Director of Communications,
csilverman@hadassah.org

Hadassah International Medical Relief
Association, Ltd., (HIMRA) is a network
of dedicated volunteers founded on the
principle that advancement & cooperation
in medicine and science transcend politics,
religion and national boundaries.



Clown Therapy at HMO (photo above): "There is nothing better than entertaining a sick child with a red nose and making him laugh," states Jerome Harush, an Israeli from Ashdod. He and others are serving as clowns entertaining patients at Hadassah Ein Kerem. They find that providing comic relief helps patients emotionally endure the pain of illness.

In Gratitude to the Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO):

A Letter from Efrat Ravid, Victim of the Moment Café Suicide Bombing

The following was written by Efrat Ravid for the World Wide Walk for Young Hadassah International

My name is Efrat Ravid and I am 21 years old. I was injured in the "Moment Café" suicide attack on March 9, 2002. If someone had told me that I would experience what I have been through over the last seven months, I would not have believed them. It was just another Saturday night, and my friend and I decided to go for coffee at Moment Café. We had been sitting at the bar for about two hours, when I heard the most horrific blast and saw a flash of light, everything turned hazy and I passed out. I woke up three days later...

When I woke up, I remembered everything that had happened. I looked at myself – I was attached to all kinds of tubes and pipes in every part of my body. My right leg had an external fixation, which is a device with nails of steel that went through my flesh and reached the bone which had been crushed. Next to it I saw the ugliest scar which was the result of surgery – the doctors told me that they worked for twelve hours to save my leg by transplanting a vein to replace part of an artery that had been torn. Then I looked up, and saw another ugly scar that went right down my chest; it appeared that one of the nails that was in the bomb got stuck next to my heart, so the doctors had to open my chest (like open heart surgery) in order to take it out.

But the most frightening feeling was when I tried to move my right side and I couldn't, and when I tried to speak, I couldn't. I also had brain damage, in the part of the brain that controls the ability to speak and move the right side of the body. I was shocked, I started crying, I couldn't believe that this was happening to me. I couldn't comprehend the possible consequences of these injuries, and, worst of all, I couldn't communicate with my surroundings – with my mother, my brother and my sister. They cried all the time and I wanted to tell them that I'm OK, but I couldn't. I remember my brother telling me what happened. A stranger had seen me lying on the ground helpless, unconscious and bleeding to death. He took a piece of wood and a *Tallit* (a prayer shawl) from a religious man and made a tourniquet. This man saved my life. I couldn't believe how close I had been to death. *(continued on the next page)*

Hadassah in the News



From time to time we will provide you with articles about Hadassah that appear in the press around the world. We would like to be able to share these reports with everyone, so please keep us informed on articles that are published in your communities!

In the November 2002 issue of *O, The Oprah Magazine*, David Tuller's article called "Jerusalem Hope" starts by describing the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem as follows:

"At a world-renowned hospital in Jerusalem, Jewish and Arab doctors work side by side in a fragile, imperfect, but nearly miraculous co-existence. They treat both victims of suicide bombings and the terrorists who set off bombs, wounded Israeli soldiers and the Palestinians they've shot, Jews and Muslims with ordinary and catastrophic medical problems. Clinging to an ideal of cooperation, they try to put aside the passions that rake this land and stick to the basics: Lives are at stake; people in pain need medical attention, care. This ideal isn't always achieved, but the goal remains. "Everybody treats everybody," says Shai Kaufman, a Jewish orthopedic surgeon. "If you think about politics when treating patients, you can't concentrate on work."

This excerpt is from "Jerusalem Hope" published by *O, The Oprah Magazine*.
Copyright © 2002 by David Tuller. Reprinted by permission of *O, The Oprah Magazine*.

A Letter from Efrat Ravid *(continued from page 4)*

After a week in the Intensive Care Unit at Hadassah, I was transferred to the surgical ward. That day, like a miracle, I started talking, and the same day my friend was discharged from the hospital. I thought probably I would be next, but I was very wrong. I spent the next three months at Hadassah hospital, attached to the bed, not being able to move, go to the toilet or even take a shower. During that time, I was spiritually crushed and I felt that I was on the edge of insanity. I was depressed, I cried all the time and I couldn't believe that someday this nightmare would be over. But it was.

After three traumatic months, I returned home in a wheel chair. At that point, I realized how truly helpless I was. I needed help with everything and I hated it. While all of my friends were continuing with their lives, I was still struggling with my injuries. Two months later I started walking with crutches and now I can walk by myself. I have finally gained back my independence and it feels great! While I was in the hospital and even afterwards, the women of Hadassah visited, called and showed a lot of concern about my condition. They organized interviews with foreign media networks like CNN, BBC, Fox news, and newspapers like USA today and many more. It helped me to express the way that I feel and in a way it helped me to recover. I am very grateful for the support that I received from Hadassah. I am also grateful to all the volunteers around the world who support the wonderful work of Hadassah. To every person participating in the World Wide Walk, in ten countries around the world, every step you take makes a difference.



Opportunities for Giving

The New Center For Emergency Medicine – A Work In Progress

Hadassah's major fundraising campaign for the new Center for Emergency Medicine (CEM) is coming close to achieving its goal of \$28 million US dollars in the first phase of CEM's fundraising campaign. Since June 26, 2002, when the foundation cornerstone was set, significant progress has been made and we are happy to report that the basement level is now complete. Large steel rods can be seen protruding from cement walls and electrical cables are visible, as the new Center for Emergency Medicine becomes a reality. Presently an entirely new edifice is being constructed adjacent to the current Emergency Room building, which is slated to be completed in one year. In the meantime, all emergency care will be conducted in the new facility.

Some of the features of the new CEM, listed below, will make this new facility one of the most outstanding in Israel:

- * The new CEM will be triple the current size of the CEM, with floor space of 43,000 Square Feet.
- * The new CEM is designed for maximum flexibility; there will be 63 beds with the capability of doubling the number to 129. The reception area will have the capacity to be converted into a ten bed treatment zone.
- * The new CEM will be proofed against conventional, biological, and chemical attack.
- * There will be a special pediatric Emergency Room with a special entrance so children will be protected from the activities of the regular ER and an Observation Unit of 12 beds, where patients can stay over for 24 hours.



GIFTS TO THE HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION CAN BE SENT TO:

Hadassah International Bank Leumi Account # 63040016

By check mail to: Mr. Albert Israel, Bank Leumi, Jerusalem Main Branch #901, 21 Jaffa Street, Jerusalem, Israel 94141 or By wire: Swift Code: LUMI IL IT XXX

Hadassah International's special project for the CEM campaign is fundraising for the Imaging Unit. There are still many opportunities for giving:

Ultrasound Examination Suite with Dressing Room	\$50,000
Technical Room	\$18,000
Staff Lounge	\$18,000
Mobile X-ray Area in Trauma Unit	\$15,000
Fast Track Equipment Room	\$18,000
Medication Room	\$15,000
Sterile Supplies Equipment Room	\$18,000

For more information on donating to these or other fundraising opportunities please contact your local Hadassah International office or by email: International@hadassah.org.

**You can make a difference, and truly,
Every Second Counts in the Life of a Patient.**

Latest Developments at HMO:

Hadassah Diabetes Center:

Professor Nurit Kaiser and Dr. Gil Leibovitz, of Hadassah Diabetes Center, recently visited Hadassah in New York after attending an Islet Cell Conference of the American Diabetes Association, in the United States. Prof. Kaiser, an islet cell physiologist and Dr. Leibovitz, a clinical and research diabetologist, spoke about their recent achievements in research and their hopes for future plans for the Hadassah Diabetes Center. The Center seeks to create an environment where many diverse medical specialties can join forces and provide the best treatment for this debilitating disease, whose complications often include problems with vision, kidney failure, and cardiovascular problems. The most exciting aspect of the center is the co-existence of a modern therapeutic center and a state-of-the-art research center under one roof. This provides a unique opportunity for direct interactions between patient physicians and basic researchers.

Hadassah's Diabetes Team is working on both Type 1 (Juvenile) and Type 2 (late onset) diabetes. In research for Type 1, Dr. Leibowitz and his colleagues are working on producing insulin producing cells from human embryonic stem cells. In research for Type 2, Hadassah researchers are trying to improve the insulin response of the type 2 diabetic pancreas to glucose.

The Diabetes Center is also looking to expand its efforts in the fight against diabetes. It is currently working on the development of an Islet Cell Transplantation Unit (ICTU), where islet cells from humans or animal sources would be transplanted to replace malfunctioning islet cells. The success of islet cell transplantation has recently shown to be very effective in treating Type 1 Diabetes and is now performed in 30 centers worldwide. The researchers and physicians of the Hadassah Diabetes Center are hoping that Hadassah will soon be able to also provide this service.

Bone Marrow Transplantation

Professor Shimon Slavin, Director, Bone Marrow Transplantation Department, announced that his department has succeeded in turning bone marrow cells into bone cells. This is truly groundbreaking news and is only the beginning in turning bone marrow cells into other types of necessary human cells.

Slavin's next goal is to turn bone marrow cells into liver cells. One patient of Professor Slavin, a Bedouin infant who suffers from a debilitating genetic disease, is supposed to receive this experimental treatment, where bone marrow cells will be turned into liver cells. This will forgo the necessity of a liver transplant. The baby will be the first patient in the world to undergo this novel treatment. In the future Professor Slavin also hopes to turn bone marrow cells into muscle cells.

Emergency Pediatric Unit to Treat Terror Victims

Due to increasing numbers of child victims in terror attacks, Hadassah Hospital at Ein Kerem is planning the construction of a pediatric emergency center equipped to handle casualties of conventional and non-conventional warfare. Prof. Raphael Udassin, head of the hospital's department of pediatric surgery, explains that children need to be treated separately, because when it comes to emergency medical care, they cannot be treated simply as small adults. Their skin is more vulnerable to infection and their immune systems are far less developed, Udassin says. Children are also an easy mark for terrorists, he adds, as they "tend to congregate in groups, which sadly makes them a tempting target." Hadassah-Israel held a fundraising dinner to raise money for construction of the new unit.

Special News Report:

HMO Reaches out in Kenya Rescue Effort – 9 of the Wounded Brought to Hadassah

Four of Hadassah's finest were dispatched to Kenya by the Israeli Foreign Ministry shortly after the horrific bombing of a beachside hotel in Mombassa on Thursday, November 28th. Professor Shmuel Shapira, Deputy Director of HMO, Professor Avi Rivkind, head of the Trauma Unit, Professor Yoel Donchin, head of the Critical Care Transport Unit, and Professor Arieh Eldad, head of the Plastic and Esthetic surgery department, made up the team sent to administer emergency care to the wounded. An IDF medical delegation soon followed which included two other Hadassah physicians, Dr. Eitan Gross of Pediatrics and Dr. Micha Shamir of Anesthesiology.

Yediot Acharonot, Israel's leading newspaper, included a large report on the rescue initiative of Hadassah's doctors, entitled "From Hadassah Hospital to Inferno in Africa". **The following is a report of the rescue mission given by Professor Arieh Eldad, as translated by Ron Krumer, head of External Affairs for HMO.**

Thursday morning is usually a hectic day in the department of plastic surgery at Hadassah. Many phone calls. This time it was Prof. Yoel Donchin on the line. "Do you have a valid passport?" he asks. This question always means that whatever plans I had for the next day or two are cancelled. It was time to apologize to the patients who were waiting for me in my clinic. Prof. Avi Rivkind, Prof. Shmuel Shapira and Prof. Donchin gave their apologies to the people who were waiting for them.

In less than three hours we are on a plane packed with special equipment for operations and treating of burns, bleeding, and anesthesiology, on our way to Mombassa, Kenya.

I am no stranger to this sense of urgency. A highly professional mission must be sent to the site as early as possible in order to start assessing the situation, collecting information and start working. We landed a little before 8pm. It was 110 degrees, very humid, complete darkness. The most severe victims were in the 'Mombassa Hospital', including members of the Anter family, who lost two of their children. The mother who was critically injured, is resuscitated. Her daughter, Adva is in the ICU nearby. The father runs between them, carrying also the terrible pain of losing their two sons.

From our first impression, it appears that the wounded received excellent treatment before we arrived. We move on from one wounded to another, bringing to them and their families not only the medical professionalism, but also the feeling that the state of Israel came to rescue them, and they are about to start their way back home.

There, as well as in the other hospitals we went to, we saw this familiar picture after a terror attack in Israel. Shrapnel all over the body, burns, fractures, blast, ear injuries. But there is something else here that we do not find so much in Israel - dismay. A hospital at night is always an amazing world. In Africa it is amazing 77 times. Black nurses dressed with white gowns hover along the corridors and in the rooms like fairies. As morning gets closer and we continue to move from one hospital to another, we notice how tired the crews are. Even for us, the doctors from Israel, it feels like we are participating in a surreal experience.

Special News Report:

(continued from page 8)

Report of the rescue mission given by Professor Arieh Eldad (*continued*):

Back to the severely wounded. After a short discussion with the local doctors we are convinced that they can continue to treat them without our help. However, Marcy the hotel receptionist, who suffers from burns and fractures in her limbs, wanted to continue her treatment in Israel. After some coordination with the local authorities and our Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Marcy and her mother were to come with us to Israel.

Before we leave, I need to perform one more simple surgical procedure on one of the wounded in order to prevent appearance of gangrene in her arm. Full cooperation between the Israeli and local hospital crews enables us to do it quickly and the patient is shortly ready to go home.

The ride to the airport is very slow in order to avoid the pain of shaking for the wounded. When we arrive at the airport we see the most amazing scene; it is completely controlled by the IDF. Five large airplanes, almost 200 soldiers, tons of equipment and a lot of commotion. The wounded are taken onto the planes and we take off towards dawn.



Doctors getting ready to leave for Kenya.



Hadassah doctors in Mombassa as members of the IDF mission.

Statement by Ambassador John D. Negroponte, United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Following the Vote on the Resolution on the Mombasa Bombing, Security Council Stakeout, December 13, 2002 :

Today, we voted to condemn the terrorist attacks that took place in Kenya on November 28. International terrorism continues to be one of the most dangerous threats to international peace and security and the attacks in Kenya deserve the Security Council's strongest condemnation. The terrorists who perpetrated this heinous act have boldly claimed credit for the violence and bloodshed. Their intention was to kill as many Israelis - both at the Paradise hotel and on the departing aircraft - as possible. And in addition to the Israelis who were killed, tragically, 10 innocent Kenyans were also victims of the attacks. We deplore this total disregard for the value of human life.

Yesterday, on Kenyan National Day, President Moi urged all peace loving Kenyans to condemn terrorism. It is therefore appropriate that today, the Security Council, joins with President Moi in condemning the attacks in Mombassa and extending our condolences to the Kenyan and Israeli people. Tragically, Kenya has been the victim of terrorist acts before, including the attacks of 1980 and 1998. We know Al-Qaida was behind the 1998 bombing of the United States Embassy. And Al-Qaida has claimed responsibility for the latest attacks as well.

This resolution reaffirms the Security Council's commitment to keep efforts to combat terrorism at the top of its agenda and underscores the continued determination of the international community to work together until Al-Qaida can no longer threaten innocent civilians of any country.

The Hadassah Medical Organization's Involvement in Other Countries

COMMUNITY ORIENTED PRIMARY CARE (COPC) INITIATIVE

In the 1940's two young South African physicians moved, soon after graduation, to the rural area of what is today Kwa-Zulu, Natal. They developed a concept of community-based health care that was based on the principle of providing care in relationship to the assessed needs of the community and that took into account the social, and cultural background of the population. This concept was later developed by them in the Hadassah Community Health Center in Jerusalem. These principles and practice came to be known as Community Oriented Primary Care (COPC). It was taken to the four corners of the world both by the 600 graduates of the International Master of Public Health Course and by Faculty members of the Hadassah Department of Social Medicine and the Hebrew University-Hadassah Braun School of Public Health and Community Medicine.

In November, 2002, Prof. Leon Epstein, the Director of the School of Public Health and members of the Jerusalem team were involved in presentations on COPC in two sessions at the 130th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association in Philadelphia. At the same time, nine papers on COPC, written by esteemed health professionals from different parts of the world, were published in the November 2002 issue of the American Journal of Public Health (Vol. 92, No. 11), including one featuring the Hadassah-Hebrew University School of Public Health entitled "The Jerusalem Experience: Three Decades of Service, Research, and Training in Community-Oriented Primary Care." The article concludes that the Jerusalem experience has shown the feasibility and sustainability of primary care-public health integration in community health services, and its positive impact on community health. (Copies are available upon request).

For more than 25 years, the principles of community-oriented primary care (COPC) have been demonstrated in different forms of primary health care practice at the Hadassah Community Health Center in the Kiryat Hayovel neighborhood of Western Jerusalem. The COPC approach involves the recognition that health services should be responsive to health needs in the widest sense. They should be flexible in their response to changes in these needs, and that the health services' responsibility is to the health of all members of the defined community.

The COPC approach is the focus of a field-based workshop in the Hadassah Masters of Public Health program at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Faculty of Medicine. This masters degree, now in its 28th year, is offered to health professionals from all over the world. More than 1000 health professionals, from over 76 countries, have participated in this program. Former US Surgeon General, Dr. David Satcher, praised the school for its "tremendous contribution to public health around the globe." Some of its graduates have gone on to head projects such as the World Health Organization's malaria prevention program and the women's reproductive health program in Kenya.

Decades of COPC service, research and training in Jerusalem have set the stage for the development of collaborative links with academic and clinical institutions in countries around the world. Hadassah is currently helping to develop COPC programs in many countries, including Uzbekistan, Macedonia, Russia, Albania, Georgia, Philippines, Kenya, Nigeria and Uganda.

In the US, a COPC workshop is offered jointly with members of the Jerusalem faculty at the George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services.

In South Africa, a series of training workshops were organized in several cities.

In Spain, a COPC training program has been developed with the Catalonian Society of Family Physicians, with the participation of more than 500 family physicians and nurses. An outcome of this collaboration has been the incorporation of COPC into the Spanish National Family Medicine Residency Program and its application in 8 primary health care clinics as demonstration centers.

In the United Kingdom, a COPC project was carried out in 17 general practices together with the King's Fund.

Dr. Anthony Melili, a Kenyan physician who graduated in 1994, has said: "This program is great because it gives us the ability to improve our own health care systems. It also contributes to Israel because our image of Israel used to be based on what we saw on television, and it was not a very positive image. But when we study here, we develop a much better image of Israel and we bring that image back to our countries with us. Hadassah's program in public health is truly going to 'heal the world and make it a better place.' "

SPECIAL DELEGATIONS VISIT THE HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION

Delegation of Visiting US Professors Protest Against anti-Israel Divestiture by Judy Siegel-Itzkovich of The Jerusalem Post, November 24, 2002

In November, Prof. Benjamin Sachs, a senior obstetrician/gynecologist at Harvard University, led a delegation of 70 prominent American professors, 12 of them from Harvard Medical School, who came to Israel to show solidarity with Israel and protest the anti-Israel divestiture effort while attending a two-day medical conference in Jerusalem.

Despite the large number of countries that encourage terrorism and have committed crimes against humanity, said Sachs, "only Israel with its healthy democracy, independent judiciary, and freedom of speech has been targeted and not Iraq, Syria or China, to name only a few."

Divestiture would be a major blow to Israel's already weakened economy. The anti-divestiture movement began in Europe, but so far, no universities have done more than threaten, Sachs said. He also noted that a boycott of Israel would harm Palestinians no less than Israelis. He pointed to the Hebrew University-Hadassah Kuvim Center for Infectious and Tropical Diseases, which has worked for many years with Egypt's Ain Shams University to develop a vaccine against Rift Valley fever, a disease afflicting Egyptians and other Africans.

In another case, he said, the head of Hadassah-University Hospital's Institute of Gene Therapy was turned down by a foreign researcher who was asked to provide a pig blood component for the study of the blood disease thalassemia, which is especially common among Arab children. The researcher explained her refusal by saying her university protests Israel's recent military actions.



Visiting Delegation of US Physicians meet with Israel's President Moshe Katsav at his home in Jerusalem. This two-day conference was sponsored by the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston and Hadassah.

SPECIAL DELEGATIONS VISIT THE HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION



From Left to Right: Prof. Benjamin Sachs, of Harvard Medical School, President of Israel, Moshe Katsav, Bonnie Lipton, Hadassah National President, Prof. Shlomo Mor-Yosef, Director-General, HMO

UNESCO DELEGATION VISITS HADASSAH HOSPITAL AT EIN KEREM

UNESCO considers funding the school for hospitalized children at Hadassah Ein Kerem

On December 10th, a UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) delegation consisting of Marcio Barbosa, Assistant to the Director General of UNESCO; Vivianne Launay, Assistant Deputy Director General for International Co-operation; Mary Joy Pigozzi, Director of the Department of Quality Education; and Danny Bar'el, Director of the Ministry of Education's Israel Committee of UNESCO visited Hadassah. The visit was arranged by His Excellency Yitzhak Eldan, Israel Ambassador to UNESCO, Beatrice Birnbaum, Director of European Development, Hadassah International, Ron Krumer, Director of External Relations, HMO and Ora Sela, Chairman, HMO Israel Committee.

The UNESCO delegation indicated that they were interested in seeing the school for hospitalized children in the Mother and Child Center at Ein Kerem. Edna Pinchover, the school principal, and Professors Bransky, Engelhard and Yudassin met with the delegation and discussed the school's philosophy and function. The Hadassah staff explained that the Arab and Jewish patients are taught together by both Arab and Jewish teachers and celebrate one another's holidays and special days together. The delegation's visit concluded with a tour of the school, where they saw the activities for themselves and spoke with some of the teachers and parents.

Hadassah International Calendar Special Events:

DECEMBER 2002:

- December:** Hadassah Spain: “World Wide Walk” in Barcelona.
- Dec. 5:** Hadassah UK: Fashion Show and Israel Expo Fair, London.
- Dec. 8-14:** Deputy Director General of UNESCO visits Hadassah Hospital.
- Dec. 9:** Hadassah France: Gala Evening of Comedy at the Comedia Theater, Paris
- Dec. 9:** Hadassah Austria: Book presentation, on “The Call from Vienna,” by Gennadi E. Kagan. The book throws a new light on the Zionist movement. Hadassah and the Jewish Museum are sharing the honor of presenting this book, edited by Böhlau Editing House, Vienna.
- Dec. 9:** Young Hadassah Milan: Event, with Efrat Ravid, a victim of the Moment Suicide Bombing, Milan.
- Dec. 11:** Hadassah Austria: Prof. Shaul Shaked, Prof. Emeritus from the Schwarzman Institute of Hebrew University, President of the Union Academique International, Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Religion, speaks on Jewish Healing Through Magic in Antiquity”at the Vienna University.
- Dec. 19:** Hadassah France: Bridge Party at home of Plenipotentiary Minister of Israel Embassy, Paris.

JANUARY 2003:

- Jan. 15:** Young Hadassah Holland Express – release date.
- Jan. 26:** Hadassah-WIZO Organization of Canada: Healthcare Services Luncheon at Windermere Manor, London, Ontario.

Please share your upcoming events with our Hadassah International units. We would like to post your events in the next issue. Be sure to indicate the type of event (e.g. lecture, fundraising gala dinner, art auction, etc.), with the date, place and contact information (email address). Email the information to csilverman@hadassah.org.