



Ziv Newsletter

Winter 2018

The management and staff of Ziv Medical Center send all our friends
Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year!



Ready for any Scenario

Now more than ever, with the discovery of attack tunnels on Israel's border with Lebanon, it is essential for Ziv Medical Center to be prepared for an outbreak of aggression from the Hezbollah.

Ziv is required at all times to be prepared to respond to a variety of scenarios. To this end, as part of the Northern Emergency Assessment, an exercise simulating a day of war in the north was conducted in cooperation with the Emergency Division of the Ministry of Health, the hospital preparedness team in the Home Front Command, the Israel Police, MDA and the firefighters.

Although the results were termed "above and beyond expectations", Ziv as yet does not have sufficient protected areas (as for example, in the Maternity Ward and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) and is in urgent need of a reinforced surgical building so that patients will not have to be transferred to other hospitals during wartime.

Ranking High in Safety

As part of a survey conducted by the Ministry Health to assess the level of safety in all hospitals in Israel, Ziv was ranked first among government hospitals in safety and risk management and fourth among all 28 of the Israeli Medical Centers.

The survey conducted by the Ministry of Health examined a number of key issues in the hospitals: pharmacies, blood banks, operating rooms, imaging centers and emergency rooms - areas where errors in treatment can cause significant harm to the patient. The surveyors verified that the medical and

nursing staff had successfully undergone safety-related training and spoke with the medical and nursing staff to assess their awareness of safety.

Dr. Salman Zarka, Director of the Ziv Medical Center, said that he was pleased with the results of the survey. "I value the professionalism of our medical and nursing staff in all departments, working always to improve standards and to advance community services. The values of the international quality and safety assessment process of the Joint Commission International Standards for Hospitals (JCI), whose assessment Ziv passed with flying colors, are an integral part of all processes at Ziv. In June 2017, Ziv Medical Center received the JCI accreditation".

Medical Exchange with Ludwigsburg

In November **Dr. Irena Nordkin**, senior cardiologist and **Mr. Janan Nahala**, head nurse in the Operating Theaters, were guests of the Regional Clinics in Ludwigsburg, as part of the ongoing cooperation between the Regional Council of the Upper Galilee and the County District of Ludwigsburg. Their visit was followed by **Mr. Dennis Schmidt**, head nurse of the emergency department and **Mr. Jochen Blaiich**, head nurse of the pediatric unit, who spent two weeks at Ziv. Members of both delegations expressed their gratitude stating that the experience was beneficial on both personal and professional levels.



Dr. Nordkin and Mr. Nahala



Mr. Blaiich and Mr. Schmidt

Ziv Medical Center is a general hospital in northern Israel which has a level II Trauma Unit and is the only hospital in northern Israel offering radiotherapy treatment to the residents of the Galilee and Golan Heights. As a front-line hospital Ziv provides medical care to IDF soldiers and UN peacekeepers serving in the region. Since February 2013 Ziv has provided humanitarian lifesaving medical assistance to Syrian civilians wounded in the civil war raging in Syria.

Ziv Medical Center patients and staff reflect the multi-ethnic and religious

diversity of the area, coming from cities, towns, and agricultural villages and including Jews, Muslims, Christians, Druze, Circassians and Bedouin.

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Dr. Salman Zarka, Director, Ziv Medical Center (on right), receiving the award from Northern Commander, Maj.-Gen. Strik and Brig.-Gen. Amit Fisher

Ending Six Years of Humanitarian Aid

Ziv Medical Center was honored with an award from the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) at an event marking the conclusion of six years of providing humanitarian medical treatment to victims of the civil war in Syria. The project, known as "Good Neighbors", was terminated as the border with Syria has been closed after the Syrian army reclaimed control of the areas close to the border with Israel thereby closing the gates to Syrian civilians seeking medical aid in Israel.

Northern Command Chief, **Major General Yoel Strik** expressed his admiration for everyone who was involved in the project, saying "I have no words to describe the deep appreciation you deserve – for your humanity and your compassion".

Eighty-Five Nursing Graduates

In a festive and moving ceremony, 85 new nurses were certified as graduates of the School of Nursing at Ziv Medical Center.

Dr. Levana Ogni, Head of Ziv's School of Nursing, congratulated the graduates saying that nursing is not just a profession, but a way of life and a destiny.



Smart Biopsy Technology

Dr. Ran Katz, Head of Ziv's Urology Department, participated along with 20 other senior physicians from various countries in a training course at the University Hospital in Hanover, Germany in the use of smart biopsy (MRI-US-Fusion).

According to Dr. Katz, accurate diagnosis of prostate cancer increases by 30% when prostate biopsies are performed using information from MRI combined with ultrasound results, particularly in detecting the virulent tumors that constitute a greater and more immediate danger for the patient.

This smart system will soon be integrated as part of the advanced medical treatment provided by Ziv's Urology Department.



Shot with a Fishing Rifle

A resident of the north was shot by a man using an arrow of a fishing rifle. **Dr. Alejandro Roisentul**, Head of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Department, and **Dr. Daniel Lesmes**, Deputy Director of the department, in cooperation with the Ear Nose and Throat Unit operated on the patient, cutting the arrow into three sections, which were then removed separately from the patient under full anesthesia. The surgical team was able to deal successfully with the many ruptures, fractures of the jaw and parts of teeth that had broken and were inhaled by the force of the injury.

"Sweet Clinics" Project

A joint project between Ziv and the Al-Shujaan Association (The Brave Ones), the first and only association for diabetic children in the Arab sector, was initiated by Ziv's Brainin Center for Juvenile Diabetes and Pediatric Endocrinology, headed by **Dr. Orna Deli Gottfried**. As part of the project youngsters from the association meet with the patients of the clinic, encouraging them to come for routine tests, offering support, answering questions, organizing creative activities for them, and especially helping them to enjoy the time they spend in the clinic waiting to see the doctor.

Protecting Children in the North

The staff of the Pediatric Department at Ziv, headed by **Prof. Anthony Luder**, organized an awareness raising Health and Safety Happening focusing on issues of safety in the home, in educational institutions and in the public arena.

Over 200,000 children and youth are treated annually in emergency rooms in Israel for injuries incurred in accidents, including bruises, concussions, fractures as well as injuries resulting from falls from heights, road accidents which include cars, hover boards, scooters and electric bikes, and injuries from swallowing or inhaling foreign objects, drowning, burns, electrocution, snake bites and poisoning.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

- ***Dr. Tatyana Levines** - Head of the Heart Rehabilitation Institute.
- ***Dr. Nashat Abu Saleh** - Head of Ziv's Geriatric Department (Internal Medicine C).
- ***Dr. Hussein Dabach** - Head of the newly opened Pulmonary Pediatric Service.
- ***Dr. Yuval Cohen** - has joined the Ophthalmology Department team which has extended its services in the pediatric clinic.
- ***Dr. Olga Zurinam** - has joined Ziv's Glaucoma Clinic which has expanded its services in glaucoma and eye surgery.
- ***Mr. Basal Hanna** - Head of Physiotherapy Services.

CONGRATULATIONS



***Dr. Ivgeny Solomonov**, Head of the Surgical Department at Ziv and one of the world's leading surgeons in robotic liver and pancreatic surgery, was invited to lecture at the prestigious 10th International Conference on Robotic Surgery (CRSA) in Hong Kong.

"The robotic approach is the most advanced stage in the evolution of surgery that significantly shortens the process of recovery and rehabilitation of patients" said Dr. Solomonov, adding that he hoped to develop future collaboration between Ziv's surgical department with those in hospitals in the Far East.

*The Ziv Walker Clinic of the Institute of Child Development won the Director General of the Ministry of Health's Award for Excellence in Logistics in Health Systems for their project "On the Path: from one small step in Ziv to steps throughout the country". The award was accepted by **Ms. Sharon Eisenberg**, head of the Clinic and **Ariella Lev**, Clinic Administrative Director.

***Dr Alexander Izakson**, Head of Anesthesiology Department was elected chairperson of Ziv's Medical Committee.

***Dr. Saher Srouf**, Head of the Magnetic Resonance Imaging Unit (MRI), presented his research on analysis and characterization of the use of CT scans in treating war casualties, at the European International Conference on Radiology 2018.

The study, based on Ziv's experience in treating casualties from the war in Syria, was conducted by Dr. Saher, Dr. Sima Biswas, previously a senior physician in the Surgical Department, and **Mr. Nadav Cohen**, a doctoral student.

***Dr. Alejandro Roisentul**, Head of Ziv's Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Unit, lectured to over 1000 people at the "Click - Acts from Two Realities" in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Israeli Ambassador to Argentina, **Mr. Ilan Stulman**, who attended the event in which young Argentinian Jews meet with people who have committed significant and groundbreaking deeds, expressed his great appreciation to the medical teams and their commitment to professional and compassionate treatment of each and every human being.

***Prof. Alexander Lerner** was invited to lecture at the NATO Military Excellence Center at the military hospital in Budapest, Hungary, on the subject of "Advances in the Treatment of Combat Injuries to Limbs". Prof. Lerner is Head of Orthopedics at Ziv and has much experience in dealing with the injuries of war and terrorism in Israel and through the humanitarian aid to the wounded of the Syrian civil war. Prof. Lerner was also invited to speak on this subject at the Red Cross College in Riga, Latvia.

***Dr. Alexander Braslavsky**, Head of the trauma department, and **Mr. Dudi Fuchs**, the trauma coordinator, were invited to Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, to give a Master Class to the emergency staff at the Tashkent Central Hospital as well as additional lectures at a conference for doctors from around the world. Among the lecture subjects, the two shared the way in which they treat patients in the trauma room who have been injured in road accidents, multi-casualty incidents and wounded soldiers and civilians.



Dr. Braslavsky and Mr. Fuchs visiting the Chief Surgeon of the Uzbekistani army



***Prof. Jamal Zidan**, Director of Ziv's Oncology Institute, lectured at the 12th International Cancer Congress in Moscow for senior oncologists and cancer researchers worldwide, and chaired the second session of the Congress. Prof. Zidan presented his research in the field of molecular biology of cancerous cells, and the biomarkers existing in breast cancer. He also lectured on this subject at the annual International Conference on New Discoveries in the Field of Pharmaceuticals, Science and Technology held in Boston, USA.



Ms. Orna Gabrieli, occupational therapist at Ziv's Institute for Child Development and **Ms. Shoshi Ofir**, medical clown of the Dream Doctors group, presented their study at the 16th Congress of the World Association for Infant Mental Health (WAIMH) held in Rome, attended by around 1,800 academics and therapists from 72 countries.

The purpose of their study was to examine whether the use of medical clowns can improve the communication and social abilities of young children on the autism spectrum (ASD). Following the introduction and follow-up of an innovative treatment package which combines three evidence-based therapies, their results showed a marked improvement on both levels.

Since 2005 the **Friends of Ziv Medical Center** in Zefat, in cooperation with the **Dream Doctors Foundation** and the **Magi Fund**, have been operating the Medical Clowns' Project in Ziv whereby specially trained medical clowns visit the wards of the medical center every day, with an emphasis on the Pediatric Department.

NEW EQUIPMENT

*A new blood testing device has been installed in the Oncology Department which optimizes the blood count procedure. The tests are conducted by the hematological laboratory team, headed by **Dr. Ifat Tzvoni**.

*Two new Ultra Sound devices have been installed in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and in the O&B Emergency Unit. These new devices are among the most advanced and modern in the world, demonstrating a very high resolution and a precise and excellent image.

CONFERENCES

Marking World Bioethics Day

The conference on bioethics was held in conjunction with the UNESCO Chair of the University of Haifa, the Safed Academic College and the Azrieli Faculty of Medicine in the Galilee.

Ziv Director, **Dr. Salman Zarka**, said "The conference is an excellent opportunity for joint learning. Ethics and law help the medical staff make difficult decisions. This is a field that enriches us with knowledge, values and insights which we require, alongside our professional medical knowledge"

During the conference the numerous ethical dilemmas which arose throughout the six years in which Ziv provided humanitarian medical aid to casualties of the civil war in Syria were noted.



Ziv's last Syrian patient

Pharmacology Conference

Doctors, pharmacists and researchers from all over the country and representatives of the world's leading pharmaceutical companies participated in the National Conference on Pharmacology initiated by Ziv, in cooperation with the Hospital Pharmacy Administration Forum and the State Pharmacists Organization.

Mr. Zuhir Faraj, Director of Pharmaceutical Services at Ziv, initiator and director of the conference, welcomed the participants, stating that pharmacists have a significant role in promoting health in general and in the North in particular and are an inseparable part of the medical team. **Dr. Osamah Hussein**, head of Ziv's Internal Medicine A Department devoted his lecture to a new group of drugs covered in Israel's drug basket which lower the LDL cholesterol responsible for the development of atherosclerosis leading to myocardial infarction, stroke and blockage in the arteries of the legs.



(l to r): Prof. Jamal Zidan, Head, Ziv Oncology Institute; Dr. Anan Abbasi, Ziv Deputy Director; Ms. Gabi Naftali, Chair, Forum Pharmacy Directors of General Hospitals; Dr. Salman Zarka, Director, Ziv; Mr. Zuhir Faraj, Director of Pharmaceutical Services at Ziv

Nursing Conference

The Annual Nursing Research Conference held at Ziv, organized by the Nursing Administration and headed by **Mr. Arie Bitan**, addressed professional and ethical issues in the field of nursing and presented innovative research results.

Guest speaker, **Prof. Manfred Green**, delivered a lecture on "Meta-Analysis and Decision-Making". Prof. Green, a prominent epidemiologist who heads the international Master of Public Health degree program at Haifa University together with the University of Georgia, is an expert in public health, medical administration and occupational medicine.

Many Thanks To Our Generous Donors

*Thanks to **Project Rozanna** in Australia and **Amainu** in the USA, an advanced monitoring system has been installed in the Pediatric Department. The new monitor checks all vital signs - pulse, EEG, blood pressure, oxygen saturation and body temperature, enabling the transfer of information from all patients' monitors to the main nursing station.

*A generous fund from the USA has provided a matching donation which has enabled Ziv to purchase much needed equipment for Beit Ida Child Health Center, including a respirator, bronchoscope, gastroscopy colonoscopy and an electrosurgical diathermy.

*Many thanks to **Shula and Giora Ackerstein** for their contribution enabling the replacement of all the patient-armchairs in the Dialysis Department!



Youngsters from Kibbutz Mahanayim organized the annual traditional fair, donating the funds they raised to Ziv's Hemato-Oncology Department headed by Dr. Najib Dali.



Our Synagogue is looking for a donor – the hospital's new synagogue has now been operating for a year, but we have yet to find a generous donor after whom the Synagogue will be named.



Our Breast Health Center, currently under construction, is seeking a donor after whom the center will be named.

How to Donate

Every gift helps our patients. Matching funds and donor recognition are available.

For further information and donations please contact:

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