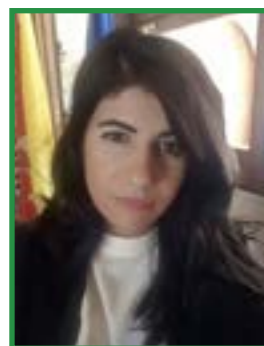


Lebanese Red Cross Fight Against COVID-19



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Another time the Lebanese Red Cross, volunteers and staff, are on the frontlines risking their own lives to alleviate human suffering and serve the Lebanese community. From the first moment of the COVID-19 crisis, the Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) is working every day tirelessly to offer hope and help, and provide support to individuals and families all over Lebanon.

With the support of the international red cross and red crescent movement, the LRC was well-prepared to handle outbreak scenarios and had developed proactive response plans since the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa. The stations were already equipped with a contingency stock of personal protective equipment (PPEs) and a team of paramedics was ready to tackle such crisis.

As the pandemic hit Lebanon in February 2020, the level of their preparedness and organization was further elevated. A group of LRC emergency medical technicians (EMTs) was specially trained to respond to COVID-19 missions. They underwent training that covers disease



background and the preventive measures, the procedures for transporting COVID-19 patients to the hospital, in addition to the national response strategy developed by the Lebanese ministry of health and the LRC response plan.

The LRC implemented policies and rules that comply with the safety measures and unified them across all LRC stations in order to minimize the risks of viral transmission and protect the LRC volunteers and employees, the patients, and the community. These safety protocols are applied in every stage of COVID mission from case assessment by the medical directors, to dealing with infected or suspected patients, donning and doffing disposable PPE, preparing and decontaminating ambulances before and after each mission. By May 2020, the LRC trained 1,315 EMTs from 47 emergency medical stations and dedicated more than 100 ambulances to only transport COVID-19 cases. To date, LRC transported 2,689 suspected and confirmed cases to Rafik Hariri University Hospital and 31,297 PCR tests as reported by their daily posts on social media platforms. The LRC has also organized public awareness sessions, in collaboration with official and educational bodies and NGOs, to reduce the risk and combat viral spread.

Amid the country's economic crisis and the challenges that the healthcare system is facing, the infection rates in Lebanon would have been much higher without the LRC readiness, valuable efforts, and sacrifices. The LRC is always committed to support all individuals throughout Lebanon and deliver its impartial, neutral, and voluntary life saving mission.



More than a Hospital



Nestled in the picturesque mountains of Lebanon's serene Shouf area 45 km far from Beirut, Ain Wazein Medical Village (AWMV) is a private non-governmental not-for-profit integrated academic medical compound built on 33,360 m² in the green area of Ain Wazein village, Mount Lebanon Governorate.

AWMV houses "The Hospital", the "Geriatric Medical Center", the "Nursing School", the "Oncology Medical Center" and the "Home Care Center". AWMV is also managing aal ajabal hospital in Korneyel (Al Matn Caza) and a the Primary Healthcare Center in Beiteddine- Shouf, and it hosts the Lebanese University's Faculty of Public Health – Branch VI within its campus.

AWMV is accredited by the Ministry of Public Health as Class "A" since 2011 and it is certified as a teaching, training and research center from the Ministry of Public Health (decree 1/423) since 2010, in addition to being ISO 2015-9001 accredited since 2017.

Offering a continuum of care services from primary and secondary healthcare, all the way to tertiary care, intermediate care, palliative care, as well as long term care for the elderly and home care.

Due to the COVID19- pandemic, AWMV has developed specific services: Communicable Diseases Evaluation and Management Unit, PCR testing, drive thru services, quarantine centers and a 7/24 hotline to serve the community.

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