

140.
Italy as a Strategic Center for the Initial Treatment of Medevac Patients from Bosnia and their Placement throughout Europe: Clinical and Organizational Aspects (August 1993 to Present)

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- February 1993: Airlift from Falconara (AN) Airport to Sarajevo; longest airlift in U.N. history
- 13 August 1993: Operation IRMA—the first medevac from Sarajevo
- 19–20 August 1993: Camp Hospital no. 68 (Italian Military Red Cross) established at Falconara (AN) Airport upon express directive from Italian Government. The hospital was intended to provide initial treatment and serve as a placement center for patients who then would be distributed throughout Europe.
- October 1993: “Sarajevo Medevac” was the medevac pilot project in Bosnia. From this experience, the program was expanded to Zenica, Tuzla, and Mostar in October 1993.

A total of 880 patients, accompanied by 1,167 escorts, were admitted to Camp Hospital no. 68.

Italy proposed and established an emergency procedure and is accepting emergency cases within 24 hours, regardless of the type of pathology. In this context, since the nearest hospitals equipped to handle such specialized emergency care are in Ancona, these hospitals handled the largest number of emergency cases (50).

Patient statistics and the organizational problems in coordinating the various international entities (UNHCR, IOM, UNPROFOR, The International Red Cross, Italian organizations, etc.) will be presented.

055.
International Medical Corps Program in Bosnia, 1993–1995

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Responding to the continuing deterioration of medical care within Bosnia, the International Medical Corps (IMC) established an emergency medic and an emergency physician training program centered in Zenica, Bosnia. Candidates were recruited from 11 villages in central Bosnia. Medic candidates

received an intensive three-week course geared toward recognition and initial management of traumatic and nontraumatic emergencies. Physicians participated in an intensive series of five procedure-oriented, one-week modules including airway/advanced trauma life support, orthopedics, pediatric emergencies, cardiac/advanced cardiac life support, and medical emergencies. A total of 110 paramedics and 66 physicians completed the course. These medics and physicians treated 7,200 patients per month. Trained medics staffed six, four-wheel-drive Land Rover vehicles retrofitted by IMC as ambulances. These vehicles served as initial response units and medical transfer vehicles. The abilities of the Zenica Hospitals to respond to emergencies improved with the establishment of an IMC-created, comprehensive emergency department and IMC-sponsored, two-year, emergency-medicine residency training program. The emergency department treats 1,000 patients per month. The first residency training program class consisted of four physicians and 18 nurses. The IMC's activities extended beyond the initial treatment with the establishment of a child mental-health program and an immunization program. The child mental-health program helped in the integration and adjustment of 300 Bosnian children who were internal Bosnian refugees displaced to Zenica. Under the immunization program, approximately 6,000 Bosnian children received vaccinations every month.

104.
The Medicolegal Investigation of War Crimes in the Former Yugoslavia

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Physicians and forensic scientists have specialized skills that can assist international commissions and tribunals in their investigation of violations of human rights and humanitarian law. Since 1992, medical and forensic teams assembled by Physicians for Human Rights (PHR), have traveled to the former Yugoslavia to investigate reports of widespread mass killings, rape, and violations of medical neutrality. These investigations have used the knowledge and skills of archaeologists, forensic anthropologists, forensic pathologists epidemiologist, and other health professionals and scientists to gather physical evidence, primarily from individual and mass graves of war crimes. Testimonial and quantitative evidence also has been collected on military attacks against civilian medical personnel and facilities and the blocking of medical and humanitarian supplies to civilian populations. Evidence gathered during these investigations has been turned over to the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague.