

Holy Family Hospital

An Institution of the Order of Malta



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SUCCESS STORY

Miracle Birth Stories of Very Premature Babies

Prepared by Dr Micheline AlQassis Head of Neonatal Department

The month of September made for an exciting and special one for us in the neonatal department. Highlights this month were the discharge of three extreme premature babies, a visit from two prior premature babies thankful of their good health, and a baptism of two other extreme premature babies to top it all off that were also successfully discharged in very good medical condition.

Ritaj and Zein were born at a gestational age of **only 23 weeks** last May. After bearing four months of hospitalization in the neonatal intensive care, their proud parents were determined to bring their babies home.

These two small beautiful babies were born before the legal limit. In Palestine, babies that are born before 25 weeks are considered aborted. The neonatologists in Palestine would not even attempt to revive babies before 24 weeks.

Doctors warned the parents of Ritaj and Zein that there was a slim chance their babies would survive, and if they somehow succeeded to survive they would suffer a multitude of physical problems especially issues with their vital organs and eyes. But even so, their parents were not ready to give up. They came to the Holy Family Hospital (HFH) because they trusted the medical team in doing their best to save the life of their babies.

"I used to close my eyes and imagine what it would be like to hold my own babies in my arms" said Zahra, Ritaj and Zein's mother.

"I sold everything I had in order to have babies" the father told us.

Designed by Mrs. Rawan Hazboun Bazazo TO MAKE A DONATION: BANK ACCOUNT: HOLY FAMILY HOSPITAL ACCOUNT № : 3890000/0 WITH

BANK OF PALESTINE PLC SWIFT CODE: PALSPS 22 P.O.BOX 765 - BETHLEHEM WEST BANK VIA ISRAEL BANK № 89 /BANK BRANCH № 450 IBAN: PS52PALS045003890000333000000 (EUR) IBAN:PS47PALS045003890000013000000 (USD) IBAN:PS32PALS045003890000993000000 (NIS)



I remember that day when I ran to the Labor Room with my resident doctor, Saliba Ghneim, after receiving a call informing us that the babies are coming to the world too soon. "*We will do our best to save their lives if they come out breathing*" I told the parents who looked at me with hopeful eyes.

Giving birth early is not a choice. It is not something you wish for your family to experience or wish upon anyone else.

The babies are trying to breath. They are moving and they have a good heart rate.

"*We will keep them alive*" I said to my resident doctor. When they were born, we immediately intubated them and transferred them to the neonatal intensive care unit.

My nursing staff was all enthusiastic about Ritaj and Zein's discharge. They provided them the best care they could and never gave up, because they believe in miracles. I believe that humans are born with a subconscious realization of the fact that they have a mission in this world. And our mission in the NICU is to save lives regardless the gestational age and legal limit for a sustainable birth.

"The idea that they could have been legally aborted and just left to die, it makes me feel physically ill' Zahra said. I give an extra big thanks to the medical staff each time I hug my babies.

Our strong team of doctors and nurses in the NICU showed that a fighting tiny spirit, with GOD's help and with our love and care, can overcome incredible odds of survival in this world. We are so blessed that Ritaj and Zein could be united with their parents this month. The strength and persistence of a premature baby fighting for life is unwavering, as is your love for them. Hope for a miracle, believe in miracles and hold onto your miracle tightly.



Two weeks later, another extreme premature baby was discharged home in good health. Ayoub was born at gestational age of 25 weeks by urgent caesarean section due to placenta abruptio. His mother already lost two babies due to premature births. It is very emotional to describe her happiness to have her baby home after three months in the NICU. "His brother is waiting for him; he wants to play with him" she said. Now she has two healthy beautiful children.





I have the honour to be the GODMOTHER to one of my premature patient. On the 7th of September, we celebrated the baptism of the extreme twin premature babies, Batoul and Galeb, who were born at gestational age of 25 weeks. Now, they are 16 months old (adjusted age) and are ready to rebirth into Christ and wash away the taint of the original sin. Let's pray to the HOLY SPIRIT to protect them and keep them healthy and blessed.



We are also blessed and happy to see our prior premature babies returning back healthy after a period of time to say hello to the team who stood beside them in their vulnerable period of life. Ali who is now three years old, brought us grapes from his land and also his baby outfit from when he was in NICU!



Yahya came with his mother to say hello, he is now 6 months old a cute blonde and lovely child. He brought biscuits and juice for the medical team in the NICU thankful for a good health.



Visiting professors



Each year, visiting professor program promotes its presence at HFH of distinguished professors and representatives from all over the world.

Ms. Kathryn Macquillan, from Ireland visited our Hospital to maintain the good continuous education, and to allows the paramedical team experience different and innovative teaching methods while offering a relevant contribution to our hospital internationalization process, intensifying and consolidating new and continuing cooperation projects and relationships with other Hospitals and medical service institutions.







Midwife



Educator

KS for bring with US a long time to increase knowled ge (love you)

Kathrine's Role in Holy Family Hospital

Prof. Kathrine

Thomas Katherine for every

It's very nice to be Starter





Councelor God bless

Hany Thanks Lawette for you 000 WE love







Farwell

Thankyou!

This month also we farewell 2 of our resident doctors who will join another medical center to continue their Pediatric specialty.







ACTIVITY REPORT

"Hope is a powerful motivation for Charity"

Monthly Deliveries

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
JAN	0	148	250	224	240	230	221	258	249	274	249	271	313	278	306
FEB	4	130	239	221	218	228	239	221	228	227	224	257	264	271	296
MAR	46	168	231	231	217	313	236	265	260	278	260	287	286	277	318
APR	68	180	274	240	216	322	280	298	286	265	301	267	277	268	295
MAY	85	188	288	238	237	366	284	304	285	229	250	240	297	304	365
JUN	85	202	294	258	219	277	275	333	292	261	278	302	311	313	363
JUL	84	188	329	235	243	276	328	307	286	306	279	314	379	379	427
AUG	71	199	309	235	256	264	280	286	292	296	289	319	351	340	403
SEP	109	167	275	234	280	233	261	295	263	291	267	281	327	329	386
OCT	116	193	223	257	295	255	297	270	251	281	274	258	286	309	
NOV	97	203	165	213	257	224	247	237	224	249	271	251	224	278	
DEC	104	198	175	207	268	238	265	236	243	209	242	265	253	307	
TOTAL	869	2164	3052	2793	2946	3226	3213	3310	3159	3166	3184	3312	3568	3653	3095
DI		0 (1		4.1											

Baby of the Month





TOTAL DELIVERIES SINCE 1990 75,539



Prepared By Mrs. Ahlam Fawadleh

ETAILED STATISTICS "Because the poorest deserve the best"

2017	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
ob/gyn consult. HFH	1074	1043	1254	1103	1239	1359	1472	1443	1301				11288
Outreach ob/gyn consultations	241	209	279	182	244	107	262	271	243				2038
Outreach Ped. Consultations	152	153	166	114	123	180	131	171	163				1353
Ped. Consultations	211	216	225	285	249	232	309	288	276				2291
Hearing Screaning	299	277	315	274	359	323	406	405	342				3000
Diabetic Consultation	68	37	50	51	60	70	52	58	38				484
Mammography	13	13	22	7	4	10	9	10	5				93
over 45 Well Women Health Clinic	70	79	90	71	93	54	76	75	91				699
private cons. o/g	649	693	806	647	741	633	779	786	732				6466
private cons. ped	86	137	90	61	80	73	71	49	60				707
Cardiology	60	52	60	49	63	44	58	0	0				386
Private cons. Rheumatology / Osteoporo-	99	112	108	102	140	78	129	110					
sis	<u> </u>	112		_	140				133				1011
T.Consultations	3022	3021	3465	2946	3395	3155	3754	3666	3384				29808
TTL.Op.Del.File	5	6	4	8	1	2	4	5	4				39
												1	
Deliveries 3rd cl	261	253	281	241	306	316	373	349	325				2705
Deliveries 2nd cl	15	20	7	18	17	16	13	14	14				134
Deliveries 1st cl	7	11	6	14	11	8	16	11	16				100
Del2nd cl.private	8	4	12	11	15	9	6		12				87
Del1st cl.private	15	8	12	11	16	13	19	19	19				132
TTL Deliveries	306	296	318	295	365	362	427	403	386				3158
incl. C/S sections	79	64	77	76	81	92	77	88	76				710
incl. DelUNRWA	108	112	110	129	129	137	168	146	157				1196
dont acc. P.N.A.	-	5	2	3	2	2	7	4	2				27
gyn.oper. 3rd class	41	28	34	36	42	28	28	42	36				315
gyn.oper. 2nd class	2	4	6			20	0		-				15
gyn.oper. 1st class	-	-	0	1	0	0	0		1				2
gyn.oper2nd class private	13	17	19	- 11	13	7	9		11				116
gyn.oper. 1st class private	-	1	2	11	15	, 1	0	10	-				4
TTL Gyn.Oper.	56	50	61	48	55	37	37	60	48				452
incl.op.UNRWA	20	16	25	40 15	24	12	18		14				165
incl.minor g.oper.	42	20	42	34	34	28	26	48	33				307
incl.major g.oper.	14	30	19	14	21	9	11	12	15				145
	14	50	19	14	21	7	11	12	15		l		145
days ob/gn 3rd cl	603	556	606	585	693	669	766	741	690				5909
days ob/gn 2nd cl	59	67	72	68	73	57	48	69	63				576
days ob/gn 1st cl	42	42	36	53	54	41	66	53	66				453
TOTAL days ob/gn	704	665	714	706	820	767	880	863	819				6938
Admissions Obst.	375	353	384	350	435	423	487	471	454				3732
Admissions Gyn.	56	50	61	48	58	39	49	60	54				475
TTL Admiss. Ob/gn	431	403	445	398	493	462	536	531	508				4207
incl. Ad. UNRWA	150	157	170	138	181	167	227	198	183				1571
	r								1			1	
days neo level 1	153	117	178	138	176	154	165	214	174				1469
days neo level 2	129	49	122	95	64	82	122	104	85				852
days neo level 3	74	135	110		229	144	163	110					1254
TTL days Neonatal	356	301	410		469	380	450	428	359				3575
Adm.Neo.level 1	15	13	20		10	18	13	17	18				135
Adm.Neo.level 2	15	8	7	9	6	6	12	8	10				81
Adm.Neo.level 3	9	17	7		15	11	11	11	13				108
TTL Admiss. Neon.	39	38	34	34	31	35	36	36	41				324
incl. Ad.UNRWA	12	12	10		13	16	12	20	15				121
dont Ad.P.N.A.	9	7	7	10	10		7	5	6				69
T.OCCUP.%O/G	54.07	56.55	54.84	56.03	62.98	60.87	67.59	66.28	65.00				60.51
T.OCCUP.%Neo.L1+L2+L3	63.80	59.72	73.48	78.15	84.05	70.37	80.65	76.70	66.48				72.75