

## A word from the chairman

**Shalom Friends,**

I am pleased to present you with the latest edition of the IMA's "Around the Globe". We hope you enjoy reading about the developments, upcoming events in both Israel and abroad as well as reports from some of our IMA Chapters throughout the world.

This year, some of our chapters will hold regional conferences and we hope that many of you will be able to participate. Upcoming meetings will be held in Los Angeles, Australia and Germany; details are featured in the newsletter.

Regrettably, the Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions (BDS) movement and efforts to delegitimize Israel are growing in scope and influence, a torrent of misinformation about Israel can leave Jews in the Diaspora in a difficult and disturbing position. If antisemitism rears its head within your own medical community, I urge you to turn to us and let the IMA be a resource for you and an advocate for Jewish doctors. You can request a copy of our Public Relations Kit

to combat misinformation about Israel and find a reliable source of information about Israel's medical and humanitarian aid at home, in Gaza, and in areas of crisis throughout the world.

Here at the IMA World Fellowship, we've been welcoming new members from across the world and our board members are continuously forging contacts in Israel and abroad. If your medical community is planning a trip to Israel, we are available to help you arrange a VIP tour of innovative facilities like the rehab center in Tel Hashomer, or a border hospital like Ziv in Tzfat, where thousands of wounded Syrian civilians have been treated over the last three years.

The Israeli Medical Association-World Fellowship values the ongoing cooperation with our friends worldwide and is grateful for our required mission of supporting the medical profession and improving the health of our nation. Please continue to approach us with your news and your ideas, so that we may have the most productive engagement



■ Dr. Zeev Feldman

between doctors in Israel and doctors around the world

As we approach Rosh Hashanah, traditionally the beginning of the Jewish holidays that offer a time of reflection and renewal, the Israeli Medical Association wishes you a New Year filled with health and happiness, and sweet moments for you and your family.

L'shanah Tovah.

> Dr. Zeev Feldman

Chairman,  
IMA World Fellowship



# IMA Domestic News and Activities

## ANNUAL IMA WORLD FELLOWSHIP CEREMONY

» Once again, this year, on June 7th, the Israeli Medical Association World Fellowship hosted a scholarship ceremony attended by IMA leadership, grantees and their families and representatives from hospitals and organizations who have donated funds. The scholarships, in the amount of 16,000 NIS each, were funded by the Israeli Medical Association, the Organization of Clalit physicians, the Organization of State Employee Physicians, Rambam Medical Center, Sheba Medical Center, the Sheba Medical Center Physicians' Committee.

The World Fellowship Grants Committee convened to evaluate prospective candidates. There was a plethora of exceptionally qualified applicants and the committee members, comprised of Dr. Zeev Feldman, Dr. Yaron Sacher, Dr. Ehud Miron and Dr. Yakov Shina took

great care in identifying the most suitable candidates. After much deliberation, scholarships were granted to 12 doctors who have been accepted to fellowship positions worldwide. These physicians serve as emissaries of the State of Israel while abroad and then return to Israel to share their professional knowledge. The grants, presented in memory of deceased physicians, add another dimension to an already meaningful tradition. Invited speakers eulogize the physicians and loved ones are invited to attend.

The 2017 recipients include:

**Dr. Nir Friedman** – Fellowship in Pediatric Emergency Medicine, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada. His scholarship was awarded in memory of Dr. Daniel Simon.

**Dr. Dalit Cayam Rand** – Fellowship in Pediatric Neurology, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada. Her scholarship was awarded in memory of Dr. Nathan Karny.

**Dr. Nir Flint** – Fellowship in Echocardiography Research, Cedars-Sinai Heart Institute, Los Angeles, California. His scholarship was awarded in memory of Prof. Peter Vardi.

**Dr. Eran Shavit** – Fellowship in Wound Healing, Women's College Hospital, Wound Care Center, Toronto, Canada. His scholarship was awarded in memory of Prof. Daniel Vardi.

**Dr. Shahak Yariv** – Fellowship in Mood & Anxiety Division, Temerty Center for Therapeutic Brain Intervention, Center for Addiction and Mental Health,



The son of the late Dr. Daniel Simon delivering remarks

Toronto, Canada. His scholarship was awarded in memory of Dr. Ram Ishay.

**Dr. Shlomzion Aumann** – Fellowship in Hematology, Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center of the University of Miami, Miami Florida. Her scholarship was awarded in memory of Dr. Miriam Zangen.

**Dr. Shani Avnery Kalmanovich** – Fellowship in Therapeutic & Diagnostic Neuroradiology, Hospital Gui de Chauliac, Montpellier, France. Her scholarship was awarded in memory of Dr. Benjamin Kopler.

**Dr. Michael Gabrielly** – Fellowship in Severe Pulmonary Hypertension, Public Hospital of Paris, Paris, France. His scholarship was awarded in memory of Dr. Uzi Eshkenazi.

**Dr. Erez Hasnis** – Fellowship in Advanced Molecular and Cellular Biological Techniques, Sanford-Burnham-Prebys Medical Research Institute La Jolla, California. His scholarship was awarded in memory of Professor Gideon Alroy.

**Dr. Fadi Zu'bi** – Fellowship in Pediatric Urology, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada. His scholarship was

awarded in memory of Dr. Gideon Manelis.

**Dr. Eran Zilberberg** – Fellowship in TRIO Fertility, University of Toronto Postgraduate Department of Medicine, Toronto, Canada. His scholarship was awarded in memory of Dr. Ram Yishai  
**Dr. Tal Shapira Rotenberg** – Fellowship in Breast Cancer Unit, Royal Marsden Hospital, London, England. Her scholarship was awarded in memory of Dr. Ron Shapiro.



■ This year's recipients of the IMA-World Fellowship Scholarships



■ R to L Professor Leonid Eidelman, Dr. Zeev Feldman and Avinoam Sharon who accepted the scholarship on behalf of his son-in-law Dr. Nir Friedman



■ Raviv Ishay speaking about his father, the late Dr. Ram Ishay



## Doctors resign from Hadassah children's cancer unit amid management crisis

» Six senior doctors from Jerusalem's only ward treating children with leukemia and other severe blood diseases have resigned over a dispute with hospital management. The unit, within Hadassah Medical Center, treated children with blood cancers such as leukemia and lymphoma, as well as severe non-malignant blood diseases. Department head Prof. Michael Weintraub and five other doctors, who together encompassed the department's senior medical staff, announced their resignation due to a running conflict with Hadassah Medical Center CEO Zeev Rothstein. The resignations took effect on June 5th, after a labor court backed the doctors' right to resign.

The crisis was set off by a management plan that emerged last fall to take a child bone marrow transplant expert, Dr. Paulina Stefansky, from the unit without consulting Prof. Weintraub, and to put her in charge of an adult transplant unit in another building.

The idea was to use available beds in the adult unit to treat non-Israeli pediatric "medical tourists" from the West Bank and East Jerusalem (Palestinians) and countries of the former Soviet Union, who would pay high fees for transplants that would help replenish Hadassah's depleted coffers. The existing team from the children's unit, already overstretched, would care for them, along with the Israeli patients in the children's department. Most of the children treated at the unit before the crisis erupted have moved to hospitals in other cities at the recommendation of the doctors who resigned.

The crisis was accompanied by a petition to the Israeli Supreme Court by the parents of the patients in the

“The crisis was accompanied by a petition to the Israeli Supreme Court by the parents of the patients in the hemato-oncology unit at Hadassah

hemato-oncology unit at Hadassah, in coordination with the six resigning physicians, seeking to allow the physicians to transfer to Shaarei Tzedek hospital and allow the hospital to open its own inpatient ward. The Ministry of Health opposed this proposal, claiming there was no justification for opening an additional department. The Court then ordered mediation, which raised the possibility of allowing two to three of the physicians to work in the hemato-oncology clinic at Shaarei Tzedek, until the end of the year. This option was

rejected and the mediation proved unfruitful. The Court was left with no choice but to issue a decision, in which it rejected the parents' request to open a new department at Shaarei Tzedek.

On July 4th, IMA's Bureau of Ethics held a meeting to discuss the crisis within Hadassah's hemato-oncological department, recalling the ruling of the Labor Court which recognized and defined the doctors' resignation as legitimate. During the meeting, it was concluded that because the doctors declared their intentions six months in advance and submitted letters of resignation three months in advance, they shouldn't be regarded as deserting their jobs.

The public debate was brimming with passion and to that end, a broader discussion focusing on the roots of the issue will be scheduled.



■ Entrance to the hemato-oncology unit at Hadassah Medical Center

## Shared Challenges Among Amazing Women in Medicine, by Hadas Levmore, Science and Innovation Officer, British Embassy, Israel

» The Science and Innovation Network and British Embassy in Israel had the opportunity to hold a “Women in Medicine” event in honour of a special guest from the UK: Prof. Parveen Kumar, this year’s “Henry Cohen” laureate. This prize is awarded to outstanding health professionals by the Jewish Medical Association in the UK who brings them to Israel, the “start-up nation”, to meet with exceptional figures in its health system and to tour the land.

Prof. Kumar, who has a special interest in the theme of women in medicine, is the first woman to be awarded this prize.

Fourteen women, Israeli health professionals of the highest calibre, gathered in her honour for lunch at the Ambassador’s Residence. This group of exceptional women consists of the most influential and brilliant within senior management in the Israeli health system

as well as a wide range of expertise. There were top administrators from the Ministry of Health, chairs of ethics committees, hospital department heads, a newly elected medical school dean and even a university president, all from different medical disciplines: genetics, family medicine, woman’s medicine (not to be confused with gynaecology), psychiatry, anaesthesia, haematology and more. Many of them are the only women in Israel who hold these positions.

It was interesting to hear what obstacles some of them, but not all, encountered while building their careers. The most common challenge described was raising a family while pursuing their ambitions. Another challenge was the attitude in the 80’s towards women who wanted to become doctors, although already then 50% of med students were female. One was asked to bring her husband along to

her residency interview to get his permission. Another story we heard showed how men in senior positions may be unaware of these issues, which is another problem.

The UK and Israel have similar statistics regarding women in medicine (over 50%) and women in senior medical management (only 10-15%). Prizes are seldom awarded to women in academia. These figures must be changed! All agreed that the way to do this is by making sure that to every senior position and to every award call at least 50% of the applicants should be women. Women should not be picked based on their gender, but increasing female application rates will ensure that many more will be picked based on their outstanding credentials and capabilities.



■ Israeli health professionals shown with (front row) Ambassador David Quarrey; Professor Parveen Kumar and Dr. David Katz

## The Israeli Medical Association World Fellowship International Conference

» The Israeli Medical Association World Fellowship held its 21st international conference in conjunction with the IMA Scientific Societies, in Haifa, Israel 3rd-7th May 2016.

Close to 100 delegates representing countries from all corners of the globe, attended this biennale event. The theme of the conference was Doctors and Medicine in 2030.

The extensive and thought provoking



■ Dr. Zeev Feldman welcoming participants

academic deliberations presented by

local and international speakers, provided immediate take home value to the attending physicians.

The Four day program enabled an in-depth discussion on health issues, including: Neurosurgery in the 21st Century; The Israeli Medical Humanitarian Response to the Syrian War Casualties; Harnessing Nature to Treat Autoimmunity; Advanced Technologies in Rehabilitation; Genetics in 2030; Ethical Aspects and presentations of the scientific societies.

The social events were a wonderful platform to showcase the city of Haifa and were enjoyed by all, conference delegates and spouses alike. Participants enjoyed a walking tour of the Bahai Gardens, a behind the scenes foray of Rambam Hospital and a concert featuring the legendary Israeli entertainers Nurit Galron and Shlomi



■ State-of-the-art Israeli medical devices on display at the conference

Shaban.

The Dan Carmel hotel was home to the five day conference, and also a special exhibition on 'Tomorrow's Medical Technology'.

From all accounts the conference was a resounding success and preparations for the next 2019 IMA World Fellowship Conference will be underway shortly. We look forward to seeing you there!

## IMA Hosts Taglit - Birthright Israel

» Taglit -Birthright Israel began with a bold idea—offering a free, life-changing trip to Israel to young Jewish adults between the ages of 18 and 26 and, in doing so, transforming the Jewish future.

Their mission is to give every Jewish young adult around the world, especially the unaffiliated, the opportunity to visit Israel. Born out of a concern that assimilation was leading Diaspora Jewry away from engagement with Jewish life and the State of Israel, the program that began as an experiment has been extraordinarily successful; it is enhancing the vibrancy of Jewish life in countries around the globe

Since its inception in December 1999, 600,000 participants took part in

Birthright Israel. A significant number of Taglit participants – about 3,000 every year – are from the Former Soviet Union.

IMA had the privilege of hosting a Taglit group comprised of 40 doctors and medical students from Russia. While in Israel they explored the Jewish Homeland, their journey included a special program featuring innovative medical facility visits, emergency medical simulations, and opportunities to network with Israeli physicians of all backgrounds. Their first stop was a visit to IMA.

On August 15th, they met with Dr. Yoram Blachar, former president of the IMA and the WMA, Dr. Alex Levin, vice-president of the IMA and Dr. Shimshon Erdman, IMA World Fellowship



■ L to R Dr. Alex Levin and Dr. Shimshon Erdman

committee member and head of the IMA retirement committee. Dr. Levin provided an overview, in Russian, of the Israeli medical system and the scope of IMA's activities. Both Dr. Blachar and Dr. Erdman briefly spoke and wished the group success as they embark on their career in medicine. The group was highly engaged and had many questions about practicing medicine in Israel.



# Medical Achievements

printed by courtesy of ISRAEL21c [www.israel21c.org](http://www.israel21c.org)

## Palestinian official donates playroom to a Haifa hospital

» Every year, an estimated 1,200 children and adults residents of the Palestinian Authority (PA) territories come to Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa for medical treatment.

A few months ago, “M,” a senior

figure in the PA who wishes to conceal his identity, was treated for cancer at Rambam. While hospitalized, he met many patients and their families from the PA areas, and began to take particular interest in the unique needs of hospitalized children.

To read the full story, [click here](#).



■ The Rambam Medical Center in Haifa. Photo by Moshe Shai/Flash90

## Rare heart surgery performed in utero to save sick baby

» In a risky and delicate procedure performed for the first time in Israel this week, an interdisciplinary team of Hadassah Medical Center physicians fixed a severe heart defect in a 28-week-old fetus in the womb.

The medical team widened the baby's aorta using a balloon technique similar to adult catheterization.

“In the process of catheterization, under epidural anesthesia for the mother and anesthesia for the fetus as well — because we do not want him to feel pain — we inserted a very delicate needle through the mother's abdominal wall, directly to the left ventricle of the fetal heart,” said Dr. Yuval Gielchinsky, head of fetal medicine at Hadassah's Ein Kerem campus.

To read the full story, [click here](#).



■ Hadassah Medical Center physicians performing in-utero heart surgery on July 4, 2017. Photo: courtesy

## Sniffing out diseases with the Nanose

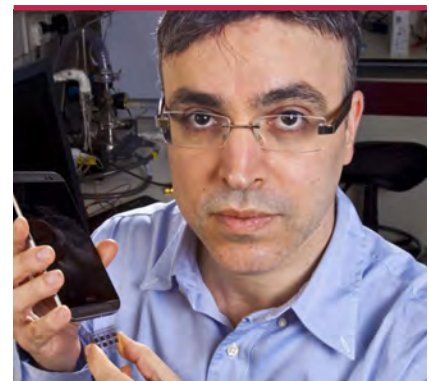
» If there is such a thing as a science superstar, it might be Hossam Haick, Professor of Chemical Engineering and Nanotechnology, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology.

Born and raised in Nazareth, he left Israel after receiving his Ph.D. to study in the United States for a few years, then returned to the Technion, where

he is currently a professor of chemical engineering and nanotechnology.

Haick has been working on what he calls the Nanose since 2007. This remarkable device is designed to “sniff out” cancer and other diseases, including Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, gastric ailments, and more.

To read the full story, [click here](#).



■ Professor Hossam Haick. Photo courtesy the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology

# Humanitarian Aid

## Medical Mission to Sierra Leone



Israeli dialysis experts arrive in Freetown to continue training local medical staff following MASHAV's donation of dialysis unit.

The medical team, comprised of a surgeon, a dialysis expert and a dialysis technician, arrived in Sierra Leone to continue training the local medical and technical teams on operating and maintaining the dialysis unit.

**“ MASHAV donated the unit in 2012 and training of the local medical teams commenced in Israel.**

operational and able to provide treatment for 7 patients simultaneously. MASHAV will dispatch in the next coming days about 120 medical kits needed for daily dialysis treatments.

MASHAV donated the unit in 2012 and training of the local medical teams commenced in Israel. However, when the Ebola crisis hit the country, the set up phase came to a halt. In late 2016, MASHAV was finally able to complete the project. The dialysis unit is fully



■ Training local dialysis medical teams in Sierra Leone.





## Emergency Supplies to Sri Lanka



The government of Israel provided immediate disaster relief in wake of the recent floods and landslides which have affected hundreds of thousands in Sri Lanka.

Israeli Ambassador Daniel Carmon delivered much needed power generators, drinking water, high power light sources and

additional emergency supplies. The generators, which were in high demand, were immediately taken to the affected areas.

Ambassador Carmon presented Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Ravi Karanayake with a letter from Israel's President Reuven Rivlin expressing Israel's solidarity with the people of Sri Lanka.



■ Emergency relief arrives in Sri Lanka.



## Humanitarian Assistance to Peru



**The State of Israel responded to the request of assistance made by Peru following the devastating floods which hit the country.**

Unusual heavy rains powered by El Niño conditions have recently drenched parts of Peru with 10 times more rainfall than normal, causing rivers to overflow, and mudslides to destroy roads and farms, displacing thousands of people. It is considered the worst flooding hitting the country in 20 years.

The Israeli Embassy in Peru immediately answered the request of assistance of the Peruvian Government. Israel's Ambassador to Peru, Raphael Zinger, accompanied by the Embassy's staff and members of the local Shalom Club, organized and delivered much needed food rations and potable water to the communities of Choisca District who were severely

affected by the disaster.

A group of Israeli NGO IsraAID comprised of five psychosocial experts and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene experts, also arrived in Peru to provide training to teachers, social workers, service providers and other community leaders to enhance their capacity to respond to the needs of children and members of the community in the aftermath of the traumatic natural disaster.

Later on, MASHAV sent to Peru a medical team comprised of renowned experts in epidemiology and emergency medicine and public health: Professor Itamar Grotto and Dr. Kobi Habib, who met with the professional teams of Peru's Ministry of Health to share their experience in public health and the prevention of health emergencies in the aftermath of natural disasters.



Humanitarian aid arrives to alleviate dire situation





# International Activities

## The European Forum of Medical Associations Annual Meeting

» The Israeli Medical Association hosted this year's European Forum of Medical Association (EFMA) annual meeting. The forum took place in Herzliya, Israel on June 28th-30th. During the opening ceremony, Adv. Leah Wapner, IMA Secretary General who is also the Secretary General of EFMA, welcomed the participants to the



■ Delegates of the 2017 EFMA Annual Meeting, Herzliya

Annual Forum and updated them on the activities of EFMA.

The theme of this year's conference was Digital Health. There were sessions about Medical Tourism, Access to Medicine, Cyber Threats, Big Data and The Medical Profession and Computers of the Next Generation. In attendance were European medical professional organizations working at the national level from over 11 countries. The participants found the sessions illuminating and educational. Representatives from Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Russia, Austria, Poland and Israel provided a captivating array of country reports. Conference participants and their partners enjoyed a welcome reception at the Daniel Herzliya overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. The

post conference social program treated visitors to a walk through the historic town of Akko, a traditional Druze lunch in the village of Ussifiya and stopover in the coastal city of Haifa, home to the beautiful Bahai Gardens.

EFMA was established in 1984 to facilitate dialogue between the European office of the World Health Organisation in Copenhagen and national medical associations in Europe. It is an independent organization that aims to improve the quality of healthcare across Europe and formulate consensus on health policies. The first meeting took place in 1986 and meetings have been taking place annually ever since. The Israeli Medical Association is an active member and is committed to its continual success.

## Fourth International Conference on Jewish Medical Ethics Infertility - Fate or Challenge?

» Building on the success of its previous conferences, Jewish Medical Ethics Conferences in Switzerland (JMEC) spearheaded its fourth conference at the Chlosterhof Hotel situated in the charming and picturesque town of Stein am Rhein in northern Switzerland.

The event, which took place from May 25-28, was chaired by notable physicians including Dr. Zeev Feldman, who serves as chairman of the IMA

World Fellowship.

The scientific committee of JMEC worked closely with the University of Zurich to create an enriched scientific program. Infertility has become a burning issue in modern society. Novel developments in Assisted Reproduction Techniques, Pre-Implant Diagnosis and Fertility Preservation have given rise to new ethical and moral dilemmas. This conference exposed the problems of infertility and its medical response,

with plans to create a forum focusing on the ramifications of these medical advancements. The speakers addressed some of the most acute ethical, societal and legal aspects, with a special emphasis on Jewish medical ethics. Participants deepened their knowledge base and met with experts and stakeholders who are at the crossroads of medicine, economics and ethics.



**Speakers included:**

National Council Doris Fiala  
 Dr. Yonath Flörsheim  
 Dr. Beni Gesundheit  
 Dr. Raffael Guggenheim  
 Dr. Michael Häberle, Gynart  
 Dr. Felix Häberlin,

Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Halperin  
 Prof. Bruno Imthurn  
 Rabbi Meir Levinger  
 Dr. Julian Mausbach  
 Dr. Raphael Patcas  
 Dr. David Pelcovits  
 Rabbi Prof. Avraham Steinberg

Rabbi Dr. Akiva Tatz,  
 Prof. Michael von Wolff  
 Prof. Gideon Weitzman  
 Rabbi Dr. Laibl Wolf  
 Prof. Ari Zimran

## American Medical Association Annual Meeting

» IMA President, Professor Leonid Eidelman, and IMA Secretary, General Adv. Leah Wapner, both attended the 2017 Annual Meeting of the AMA House of Delegates (HOD) on June 10-14, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago in Chicago, Illinois. There were a plethora of stimulating sessions including: Advancing patient-provider communication: Improving care, decreasing risk, and increasing joy at work; Emails, texts and social media: What physicians need to know and Health system consolidation: How big is big enough (or too big)?

In addition, David O. Barbe, M.D., M.H.A., a family physician from Mountain Grove, Mo., was sworn in as the 172<sup>nd</sup> president of the AMA. In leading the nation's largest physician organization, Dr. Barbe will focus his tenure on advancing the AMA's strategy to improve health outcomes for Americans living with pre-diabetes and hypertension; accelerate change in medical education and prepare students for today's health care system; and enhance physician satisfaction and practice sustainability.



■ David O. Barbe, 172nd president of the AMA

## Canadian Medical Association Annual Meeting

» For 150 years, the Canadian Medical Association has united Canada's medical profession in discussions on the issues that matter to physicians and their patients.

This August, members representing every part of the profession gathered in Québec City at the Québec City

Convention Centre to chart a course for the future of Canadian health care. CMA's annual business meeting is also held at the same time and is open to all members.

While there, Professor Leonid Eidelman, the IMA's president and Adv. Leah Wapner, the IMA's Secretary

General, learned about the CMA's advocacy efforts and participated in sessions on innovation in medicine, medical aid in dying and other key issues.

This year, sessions also focused on Canada's opioid crisis, medical professionalism and more.

## The Iberoamerican Medical Conference

» Panama was the location for this year's Iberoamerican Medical Conference. It is a modern, beautiful city with all the amenities one would expect from a world-famous business and tourism hub.

IMA President, Professor Leonid Eidelman, and IMA World Fellowship Committee Member, Dr. Shimshon Erdman, attended the meeting, which took place from July 19th-22nd. Delegates from 16 countries attended the conference, which was hosted by the Colegio Médico de Panamá.

This was a hugely successful conference and a large part of its success was due to the professionalism, enthusiasm and commitment of the organizers.

More than 60 participants attended

stimulating workshops and plenaries focusing on reproductive medicine, child, adolescent health and injury prevention. The president of the Colegio Médico de Panamá, Dr. Alfredo Macharaviaya, and president of the Asociación Médica Nacional en Panamá, Dr. Lili Espino Weng, were consummate hosts who made every effort to ensure the success of the program.

During the conference, Professor Eidelman delivered remarks in Spanish about his candidacy for president of the World Medical Association. His remarks were received with enthusiasm and sincere support.

He shared the following:

"Over time, I have come to realize that the WMA is one of the most important organizations for physicians worldwide,

with unique strengths to meet the challenges of our medical profession, a touchstone in global healthcare and medical ethics policy.

The WMA highlights different issues within the medical field. My specific agenda will focus on the issue of physician burnout and resilience. Unfortunately, the medical profession worldwide is facing a pandemic of physician burnout, for multiple reasons. I believe this is an area which requires more awareness for the good of the profession and the entire healthcare system.

It would be a great honor for me to serve as President of this highly respected organization and to this end I seek your support".



■ from L to R: Dr. Shimshon Erdman, Dr. Lili Espino de Weng and Professor Leonid Eidelman



■ Delegates from over 15 countries

## INTERVIEW with Tanya Cardash

**Full Name:** Dr. Tanya Cardash  
**Occupation:** Deputy Medical Director – Maccabi –  
 Jerusalem and Shfela region and Family Practitioner

**Date of Aliyah:** August 1999  
**Originally from:** London, UK  
**Made aliyah with:** Husband

### Background/General Information

**Could you tell us a little bit about your education and past work experiences?**

I studied medicine in University College London Medical School and did my house jobs/internship in London before making Aliya and beginning a specialty in Family Medicine in Maccabi. After completing my specialization in 2005 I started splitting my time between clinics and managerial positions in Maccabi. In 2012, I completed a Masters in Health Administration at Ben Gurion University, Beer-Sheva and in 2017 I completed a second specialization in Medical Management.

Today I combine my managerial position with my clinical work and have great satisfaction from both roles.

**How did you decide to make Aliyah?**

I belonged to Bnei Akiva a Zionist youth movement initially as a member and then as a counselor. My family were also Zionists and today my parents and brother and his family all live in Israel.

**What were your reasons for making Aliyah?**

I strongly believed, and still do, that Israel is the best place to raise a Jewish family and it was lifelong dream to be a doctor in Israel.

### The Aliyah Process

**Could you briefly describe the process of making Aliyah?**

When we made Aliya there were no support groups such as Nefesh benefesh and we were very much alone. We definitely made some mistakes along the way. On arrival in Israel we spent 4 months in the mercaz klita in Raanana until our firstborn daughter was born. Then we spent a few months with my parents in Netanya before moving to Ramat Bet Shemesh. After 7 years in Ramat Bet Shemesh we felt the community was changing and we moved to Modiin where we still live

today. I recall the first year following Aliya as a very difficult year – you feel very unsettled as you have left all that is familiar behind and you haven't yet developed roots in Israel. After the first year things definitely improved and we have never looked back since.

### Life in Israel

**Where do you live and work in Israel? Can you describe your job?**

I live with my husband and four children, aged 8 till 17, in Modiin. I work as a family doctor with my clinic literally being at the end of my street and I am also the deputy medical director for the



■ Tanya Cardash



Jerusalem-Shfela region in Maccabi. My job is highly rewarding and my responsibilities include managing the Health Performance Indices for my region, recruiting new primary care doctors and overseeing the education of the trainees in family medicine.

In addition I work with Nefesh Benefesh, an organization that assists new and prospective olim, giving advice and lectures on “Navigating the Israeli Health System”

### What do you enjoy most about life in Israel?

I love the freedom that my children have and the warm relationships that I have developed with work colleagues and patients. The Modiin community enables me to combine raising my family in an Israeli society and live

alongside other olim who can relate to my upbringing in the UK.

### What are some of the challenges you have faced?

Initially learning to speak Hebrew was a challenge as was Israeli bureaucracy. It took me almost a year to get my medical license transferred to an Israeli license so I could start working as a doctor in Israel. Over the years other challenges have arisen but none so great that they could not be dealt with.

### Compare working in the UK to working in Israel.

I worked in the UK for a very short time following specialization, but there is no doubt that in the UK my colleagues were far more formal and the patients were far more respectful of the doctors.

After 18 years in Israel I do still find it hard that Sunday is a working day.

### Describe any professional culture shocks you’ve experienced in Israel.

I think the lack of formality in Israel was a shock for me on many levels, for example in the UK I remember that the ward was locked once ward rounds had begun, of course at the precise time they were scheduled for, and any staff members who were late were excluded from taking part. I also recall when I was working in the Emergency Room in Shaarei Zedek and was in the middle of examining a patient a relative of another patient waiting to be seen burst into the cubicle demanding attention for his relative.



■ The Cardash Family

## Chapter Tidbits



### AUSTRALIA

#### » VICTORIAN BRANCH

We held our 2016 annual general meeting at the Justin Art House Museum. We were very grateful to our generous hosts Charles and Leah Justin who shared with us their passion for architecture and contemporary art. We would encourage visitors to Melbourne to book a visit and tour of their home.

The AJMF continues to provide support for Israeli Medical Fellows undertaking further training in Australia and recently hosted a social function at a private home so that members

could meet the five Israeli physicians who are currently working here. We also provide scholarships to Australian medical students undertaking their elective training in an Israeli Hospital. The students report back to us on their experiences and their stories make for interesting reading in our newsletter.

Following the success of our AJMF weekend conferences over the last few



■ picture of the Justin Art House Museum



■ Annual General Meeting Dr Miriam Kuttner (centre) with our hosts, Charles and Leah Justin

years, we are now planning for our 18th National Conference, which will be held during our summer school holiday period 2-7 January, 2018 in Queensland.

*Dr Miriam Kuttner*  
President AJMF (VIC)  
[www.ajmf.org.au](http://www.ajmf.org.au)



### CANADA

#### » The Canadian Branch of the

World Federation of the Israel Medical Association was first developed in 1945 and continues to thrive and grow. Our organization is dedicated to fostering collegial, professional and social relationships among our colleagues in Canada, Israel and other

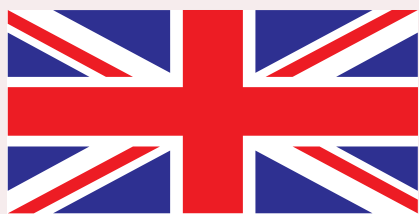


■ Dr. Rose Geist, Chair, Canadian Chapter of the IMA

chapters around the world. We provide scholarships for medical students who wish to study in Israel and host dinner meetings with a focus on Jewish Medical Ethics with guests from the

International Medical Community. Moreover, we liaise with our colleagues in Israel and are an active chapter in the World Federation of the Israel Medical Association and provide information for Medical Residents and Fellows from Israel studying in Canada.

During the upcoming high holidays we will host Israeli doctors that were accepted as fellows at a variety of hospitals in Canada. We trust that they will become involved with our activities during their stint



## UK



On Monday 6th March 2017, the Jewish Medical Association UK hosted a reception for a team of visiting Israeli colorectal surgeons. The visit was organized by Prof. Alex Deutsch and led by Dr. Reuven Weil from the Rabin Medical Centre. The visit was supported by the Israel, Britain and the Commonwealth Association – John Furman Fund; and by the David Yanir Foundation for the Advancement of

### Colorectal Surgery in Israel.

The members of the team included:

Dr. Alexander Barenboim (Sourasky Medical Centre, Tel Aviv)

Dr. Yonatan Demma (Hadassah Hospital, Jerusalem)

Dr. Ofer Eldar (Hasharon Medical Centre, Petach Tikva)

Dr. Dmitry Fadeev (Shaarei Zedek Hospital, Jerusalem)

Dr. Bassel Haj (Bnai-Zion Medical Centre, Haifa)

Dr. Aviel Meoded (Poria Medical Centre, Poria)

Dr. Benjamin Raskin (Sheba Medical Centre, Ramat Gan)

Dr. Gal Westrich (Sheba Medical Centre, Ramat Gan)

While in the UK they were guests of Richard Cohen (University College London Hospital), Joseph Nunoo-Mensah (Kings College Hospital) and Andrew Williams (St Thomas's Hospital).

Following the reception there was a discussion symposium chaired by Prof. Irving Taylor on the topic of "Crohn's Disease 2017" A Crohn's case study was presented by the visiting Israeli surgeons, and genetic, medical and surgical aspects were discussed, with an overview from Prof. Deutsch.





## The 24<sup>th</sup> International Conference of

The Israel Society of Anesthesiologists jointly with

The Israel Society of Critical Care Medicine

Anesthesia in the Modern Era: Anytime, Anywhere



November 7-8, 2017, Tel – Aviv



# SAVE THE DATE

[www.icisa2017meeting.com](http://www.icisa2017meeting.com)



**AUSTRALASIAN JEWISH  
MEDICAL FEDERATION**

## 18th National Conference

The Watermark Hotel and Spa is located in the heart of Surfers Paradise, adjacent to the Skypoint Observation Deck and across the road from Gold Coast Synagogue.

FURTHER INFO: [WWW.AJMF.ORG.AU](http://WWW.AJMF.ORG.AU)



**Tues 2 - Sun 7 January 2018**

**Watermark Hotel & Spa  
Gold Coast, Queensland**



AMERICAN ISRAELI  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

*When in need look to your community*  
**Call today 1-888-991 1212**

*Save  
the  
Date*

**American Israeli Medical  
Association  
10<sup>th</sup> Annual BioMedTech Summit**

**Sunday, October 15th, 2017, 3PM-7PM  
in Los Angeles CA**

***We are now accepting inquiries for exhibitors,  
sponsors and lectures.***

**Please contact us at  
E-mail: [info@a2zhealth.com](mailto:info@a2zhealth.com)  
Phone: 1 (818)717-1127**

## 4. International Conference of Jewish Physicians

Jewish Tradition and  
Israeli High-Tech

17.-19.11.2017

Düsseldorf

Germany

[www.bvjm.de](http://www.bvjm.de)

The Association of Jewish Physicians in Germany and the Israeli Medical Association will jointly host an international medical conference.

Several prestigious speakers will cover different medical topics.

One particular goal is to connect between Jewish physicians from Germany and Israel.

We would be honored to welcome you in Düsseldorf.

Patronage:  
Hermann Gröhe  
Federal Minister of Health

and Dr. Josef Schuster  
President of the Central Council of Jews  
in Germany

Prof. Dr. Rotem Lanzmann  
BVJM Chairman  
[lanzman@bvjm.de](mailto:lanzman@bvjm.de)



## Israeli Medical Association Journal - IMAJ

We are happy to inform you that the Israeli Medical Association Journal (IMAJ) is available online for all IMA World Fellowship members. IMAJ publishes original articles and reviews, editorials, case reports and other feature columns. Unique is IMAJ's coverage of specific regional issues - infectious and parasitic diseases, effects of the local environment on morbidity and mortality, Jewish genetic diseases, epidemiology of subpopulations - relevant to medical practice in distant countries with similar biopsychosocial problems.

> [www.ima.org.il/imag](http://www.ima.org.il/imag)



## Personal Connections

In this section you will have the opportunity to extend personal messages, either for professional or personal purposes.

You may wish to find a placement, a place to stay or seek other advice or services from any of our IMA World Fellowship members around the globe or offer yourself as a friendly face to other physicians.

If so, please send your message to [international@ima.org.il](mailto:international@ima.org.il) for our next edition.

## Ima Around The Globe

### "IMA around the Globe"

is published by the International Relations Department

#### Editorial Board

Adv. Malke Borow  
Ms. Annie Eisen  
Ms. Michelle Glekin

#### Contact details

Chairman IMA - World fellowship:

Dr. Zeev Feldman  
[zeev@ima.org.il](mailto:zeev@ima.org.il)

Email: [international@ima.org.il](mailto:international@ima.org.il)

Tel: 972 3 6100444

Address: 2 Twin Towers, 11th floor,  
35 Jabotinsky St., P.O.Box 3566,  
Ramat Gan, 52136, Israel