

Launch of a National Registry for Congenital Hematological Disorders in Palestine: the Haemo-PAL initiative

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Dear Editor,

We are pleased to announce the establishment of the first national registry for congenital hematological disorders in Palestine, an initiative designed to improve the diagnosis and management of patients affected by hemophilia, other inherited coagulation disorders, thalassemia, and related hemoglobinopathies.

The registry was developed within the framework of the Haemo-PAL project, coordinated by the National Blood Center (Centro Nazionale Sangue, CNS) of the National Institute of Health (Istituto Superiore di Sanità, ISS) and funded by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS). The initiative is implemented in partnership with the Palestinian Ministry of Health, which has continued its work despite the severe humanitarian crisis affecting the region.

The registry was officially inaugurated in Ramallah in the presence of the Palestinian Minister of Health, Dr. Maged Abu Ramadan, and AICS Jerusalem Director, Mirko Tricoli, together with representatives of major Palestinian patient associations (Palestinian Bleeding Disorders Society, Thalassemia Palestinian Friends Society, and Palestinian Avenir Children Foundation) and Italian partner foundations (Fondazione EMO and Fondazione For ANEMIA).

The launch followed a two-day residential training course in Ramallah on the use of this digital data collection tool, which will contribute to the National Health Information System and serve as a valuable resource for clinical care, health planning, and research. Training was provided by Prof. Alessandro Gringeri (Fondazione EMO) and Prof. Gian Luca Forni (Fondazione For ANEMIA), with participation from clinicians across the major Palestinian governorates (Ramallah, Jenin, Nablus, Hebron). The registry and the associated network of hematology centers aim to ensure broad national coverage and standardized care delivery in a context challenged by political instability and territorial fragmentation.

This milestone reflects a climate of strong professional collaboration and human solidarity, where shared expertise and humanitarian commitment have been key to success. As noted by Prof. Luciana Teofili, Director of the National Blood Center:

“We are proud of this achievement by Haemo-PAL, which, through effective collaboration between Palestinian and Italian partners, has built a bridge grounded in the experience of the Italian National Health System and the generosity of our blood donors, providing tangible support to those in need.”

The Haemo-PAL project, launched in 2021 aims to strengthen diagnostic, therapeutic, and educational capacities in Palestinian healthcare facilities. To date, the project has delivered over 18,000 vials of plasma-derived medicinal products exceeding national needs in Italy, established the national registry for congenital hematological disorders and trained 60 Palestinian healthcare professionals, both in-person and remotely.

Haemo-PAL represents a model of collaborative international cooperation among Italian health institutions, regional partners (Emilia-Romagna, Marche, Tuscany, and Umbria regions), and Palestinian institutions, with the support and funding of AICS.

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