



EMT staff, volunteers and newly hired national clinicians participate in a training session on trauma management in the acute patient.

FAST FACTS

- On August 14, a devastating earthquake struck Haiti, leaving more than 650,000 people in need of emergency humanitarian assistance.
- 230,000 children are at risk of dropping out of school due to damaged and destroyed schools in Haiti's southwest.
- As of October 3, International Medical Corps had provided more than 2,500 medical consultations and distributed more than 16,000 liters of potable water to residents and healthcare providers.

On August 14, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti's Tiburon Peninsula, causing at least 2,248 deaths and injuring more than 12,760 people. Now, nearly seven weeks after the earthquake, the humanitarian community has begun to move from emergency response to recovery. As health facilities have experienced a decrease in acuity of care among earthquake-affected populations, non-event health concerns have come to the forefront of care. According to UNICEF, nearly 70% of all schools in the peninsula were damaged or destroyed during the earthquake, delaying the start of school by over a month. More than 230,000 children are at risk of dropping out of school if classrooms do not reopen. With over 136,000 families affected by the earthquake, many have experienced sudden income and home insecurity. These conditions, compounded by lack of schools, leave children vulnerable to sexual exploitation and abuse, violence, forced migration and gang recruitment. As health facilities see fewer patients with earthquake-related conditions, it is anticipated that demands for mental health services and outreach programs will increase.

International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps' [Emergency Medical Team \(EMT\) Type 1 Fixed medical facility](#) was deployed to Haiti in late August to address the urgent health needs of the earthquake-affected populations Aquin, Sud. The EMT Type 1 Fixed is a self-sufficient outpatient health facility that is fully equipped to serve a minimum of 100 patients per day. In Haiti, the EMT was deployed in partnership with the Haitian Resource Development Foundation (HRDF), a nonprofit organization with the mission of supporting projects and programs that provide measurable results for at-risk populations and ensure greater economic vitality in Haitian villages.

As of October 3, staff and volunteers at the EMT had provided 2,546 medical consultations to area residents, with 99 consultations directly related to the earthquake and 292 indirectly related to the event.

International Medical Corps continues to operate its EMT five days per week. Services provided include acute stabilization, treatment for communicable and non-communicable diseases, women's healthcare (including limited antenatal and postnatal services), pediatrics and geriatric care. Chief complaints of patients include symptoms related to chronic conditions, including hypertension, diabetes, H.pylori, and post-trauma wound care management. The composition of the clinic staff has transitioned from an entirely international, volunteer-based team to an almost

completely local Haitian team with international clinical support. As local healthcare capacity improves, the facility now averages 75 to 80 patients per day. Local hospital capacity is currently approximately 70% below baseline functional capacity. Clinical training and education for area medical staff is being incorporated into site practice, and is being extended into the larger health community network. This week, International Medical Corps delivered training to physicians and nurses, focusing on trauma and sepsis management. Next week, training will extend to staff at the nearby hospital, with a focus on the detection of danger signs in labor and delivery, management of preeclampsia, management of post-partum bleeding and neonatal resuscitation.

Health efforts now extend from direct clinical services to community health promotion, which is provided through sessions delivered to all patients waiting for consultation. We also are expanding primary care referral systems. Last week, International Medical Corps established referral to the Clinic Bethel at Fonds-des-Nègres—23 kilometers from Aquin—providing free screening, treatment and clinical management to suspected and confirmed TB and HIV patients. This week, the team will focus its efforts on further integrating into the local referral system and primary care construct of the Aquin district.



This deployment of International Medical Corps' EMT consists of two consultation tents, each of which can accommodate up to six separate patient consultations areas at a time.

Last week, International Medical Corps' gender-based violence (GBV) team completed a three-day training session on GBV guiding principles and core concepts. Response officers also have initiated training on case management and psychosocial first aid. This week, case management services will be activated in a private and confidential space near the Center for Women and Girls, which is preparing to offer sexual and reproductive health information sessions and group activities. At the weekly GBV sub-cluster meeting, local partners demonstrated an interest in case management training. The sub-cluster invited International Medical Corps to present an overview of case management to 25 NGOs and Ministry of Health staff members. Coordination meetings with local and national partners are ongoing, to map availability of services and establish a referral pathway.

The mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) team began its training series last week and completed four separate training sessions for International Medical Corps' MHPSS and GBV staff, as well as representatives from the Ministries of Health and Education. The training focused on psychological first aid and stress management, mental health case identification and referral, and the overall principles of well-being. Next week, the MHPSS team will broadcast awareness messages via radio on World Mental Health Day, focusing on "mental health in an unequal world." Staff will conduct additional outreach sessions at the EMT, targeting adolescent and adult groups, and providing psychological first aid training for the community. The MHPSS team continues to routinely offer psychological support to EMT patients.



The WASH team installed a tap stand with six taps, to provide water both to patients at the EMT and to community members.

The water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) team continues to promote hygiene to patients, caregivers and bystanders each morning at the clinic. This past week, hygiene promotion messages focused on latrine cleaning and maintenance, household water treatment, handwashing and waste management. Next week, the WASH team will conduct a community assessment to determine additional needs-based opportunities for services.