

## Assistance in restoring the work of an oncology clinic in Ukraine

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### Background and context

Our organization - Medisens Clinic ® - Ukrainian limited liability company "Medical Center "KPD-Medclinic" was created in 2017, specializes in providing highly qualified care to cancer patients. Unfortunately, the building and medical equipment of our clinic were seriously damaged after a full-scale military invasion of the territory of Ukraine on February 24, 2022. Many team members had to leave the country due to hostilities, and we tragically lost our lead economist to a rocket attack.

We asked for help to cover the costs of reconstruction of the premises, medical equipment, ventilation systems, windows and doors. We received a grant from UICC in July 2022, for which we are eternally grateful.

### Aim

Our main goal is to maintain a team of highly qualified specialists in order to be as helpful as possible to our patients, especially during times of war in the country.

### Strategy/tactics

Kharkiv is a front-line city. Frequent lack of electricity, internet and mobile communications greatly complicates communication. It is incredibly difficult to find workers, transport companies, and decide on logistics.

### Programme/Policy

One of our exceptional teams is the gynaecological oncology team led by Professor Serhii Kartashov. The gynaecological oncology team diagnoses and treats a variety of cancers, including cervical, uterine, ovarian, sarcomas, fallopian tubes, vulva, and trophoblastic tumors. In addition, they lead scientific and clinical work in the field of reconstructive plastic surgery for vulvar cancer, epigenetic disorders in ovarian cancer and plastic surgery of the uterus after conservative myomectomy with subsequent reproduction.

### Process

Despite the challenges we have faced, we remain committed to supporting our patients. We provide consultations, referrals to specialized facilities and experts, and explore alternative logistics methods for patients. We began to cooperate with city hospitals in a safer region - the Poltava region and offer surgical care to patients from all regions of Ukraine, including from dangerous conflict zones. A small medical office of the Medisense clinic was opened in the Poltava region, where patients come for face-to-face consultations. In Kharkiv, we rent an operating room and equipment to continue work. In the absence of electricity, we operate thanks to connected generators.

### Outcomes

The received grant funds were used according to the stated criteria: cleaning the area, preparing for repair and restoration work, protecting window and door openings with wooden structures, transporting surviving equipment, renting a warehouse, guarding the remaining equipment in the building, salary.

### What was learned

During the project, we conducted 656 consultations, 136 patients with oncological and pre-oncological pathology received surgical treatment.

Our main achievement is that, despite the shelling, blackouts, and lack of Internet, we do not stop our medical mission, we continue to work and give hope to cancer patients.

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