

January 18, 2010

To the POSNA Membership:

We are all deeply saddened by the recent catastrophe in Haiti, and POSNA wishes to summarize some opportunities to help the countless individuals injured in the earthquake. While the information available is limited at this early stage, we have identified organizations that you can contact and volunteer your expertise. Members may also discuss within their institutions whether provisions can be made to accept transfer of patients for more chronic care if the situation arises. We will plan to send other emails as more information becomes available.

1. Partners in Health (<http://standwithhaiti.org/haiti/news-entry/update-on-volunteer-request/>)
If you are a medical professional with orthopedic surgical or trauma, and are interested in providing direct patient care, please send the following information in this format to healthvolunteer@pih.org
 - Your occupation, any specialization, and years of experience (e.g. MD, trauma surgeon, 10 years)
 - Date when you are available to go and length of time you can stay
 - Where you are based/where you would travel from
 - If you speak Haitian Creole or French
 - Details of emergency/post-catastrophe experience
 - Details of overseas experience
 -You can also Email their volunteer coordinator at volunteer@pih.org
2. POSNA members Edward Fink and John Lovejoy are serving in Milot, Haiti, at Hopital Sacre Coeur. Information on donations can be found at www.crudem.org. Volunteers are needed! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Dr. Lovejoy at JLovejoy@cnmc.org. Edward will continue to provide updates on the situation in Haiti which we will distribute weekly to the membership.
3. CURE International. Scott Nelson has been in Haiti serving at HOPITAL COMUNAUTE HAITIENNE in Pap, and will likely need some help. We are asking all interested volunteer pediatric orthopaedic surgeons to call CURE headquarters at 717-730-6706 and speak to either Erin Card or Heather Hunter.
4. The AAOS has taken an active stance and we are sure that most of you may have received an email from them. To summarize: If you wish to volunteer or to donate to the relief efforts, see the Jan. 14, 2010, update http://www.aaos.org/news/whatsnew/haiti_011410.asp for information needed to connect you with a relief organization, for the answers to frequently asked questions, and links to a number of aid organizations. E-mail the information to Haiti@aaos.org. If you have a special contact at the U.S. State Department

or USAID, e-mail that information as soon as possible to David Lovett (Lovett@aaos.org). The AAOS office of government relations will contact you and discuss specific steps you can take to help obtain clearance for orthopaedic organizations such as SIGN. Keep abreast of orthopaedic activities and relief efforts at www.aaos.org/haiti. If you yourself are going or planning to go to Haiti, or if you know anyone who has deployed or plans to go, please communicate this information to Lynne Dowling (Dowling@aaos.org) of our International Department, who will compile it in a central location. The AAOS is also looking for individuals to spend a month on a hospital ship lying outside the port of Port au Prince. If interested please contact Lynne at dowling@aaos.org

5. Donations may be also made to the following organizations:
 - a. American Red Cross www.redcross.org
 - b. Americares www.americares.org
 - c. B'nai B'rith International www.bnaibrith.org
 - d. CARE www.care.org
 - e. Catholic Charities USA www.catholiccharitiesusa.org
 - f. CURE International www.helpcurenow.org/haitirelief
 - g. Doctors without Borders www.doctorswithoutborders.org
 - h. Operation Blessing www.ob.org
 - i. Operation Rainbow www.OperationRainbow.org
 - j. Operation USA www.opusa.org
 - k. Oxfam www.oxfam.org
 - l. Salvation Army www.salvationarmyusa.org
 - m. SICOT hq@sicot.org
 - n. SIGN www.sign-post.org
 - o. UNICEF www.unicefusa.org
 - p. World Food Program www.wfp.org

6. FINALLY - All of the institutions which have provided orthopedic care to the children of Haiti have been severely crippled. Once this initial wave of "so-called life saving activity has slowed down; there will be the need to rebuild essentially from scratch these institutions. Thus the work in Haiti has just begun and there will be a need for POSNA members to become involved for the long term.

Thank you,

John Dormans, MD
President

David Spiegel, MD
Chair, COUR Committee

The POSNA Presidential Line and the POSNA COUR Committee