

MAGEN
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מגן
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בישראל

Israel's National EMS



MDAOnLine

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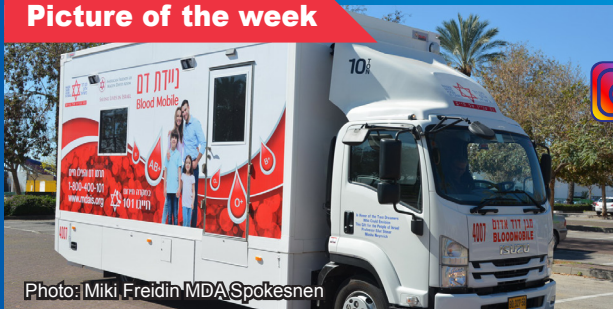


Photo: Miki Freidin MDA Spokesman



7 In the Right Place at the Right Time

On the occasion of the International Blood Donor Day, MDA Blood Services data shows that since the beginning of 2019, 112,790 blood units have been donated. In the same period last year, 111,409 blood units were donated in Israel. All blood units are given by volunteer blood donors.



Do you have an interesting story?

An exciting news?

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Anyone Can Save Lives

Magen David Adom places defibrillators in cities throughout the country

When it comes to cardiac arrest, every minute is critical. How critical? In every 60 seconds that pass without treatment, the patient's chances of survival decrease by 7-10%. The patient's chances of regaining heart activity increase, when the electrical shock is given closer to the event.

Many lives have already been saved by the MDA's defibrillators, which every citizen can operate easily, even without any medical knowledge. The device provides electric shocks as needed, dictates the resuscitation pace, and provides clear operating instructions. At the same time, the defibrillator connects to MDA's Emergency Dispatch Center, and the citizens on site receive additional instructions from the medics and paramedics. All this helps the MDA teams receive details about the patient before their arrival.

On Monday, June 10th, the first defibrillator stand, placed in the middle of a square, was inaugurated. In case of a cardiac emergency the passersby who call MDA will get information about the nearest defibrillator. This will allow resuscitation to begin before the MDA teams arrive and save the patient's life.

The first defibrillator in this initiative was placed at the Rambam Square in Ramat Gan, in cooperation with MDA, the Ministry of Health, the Municipality of Ramat Gan and JCDecaux, which carried out similar initiatives abroad. The hope is to have many more collaborations like this in additional cities throughout the country. This is in order to have as many defibrillator as possible, so that during a medical emergency the medics and paramedics at MDA's Emergency Dispatch Center, when receiving information about the patient's location, can directed the passersby to the closest defibrillator.

In addition to the defibrillators placed in the cities, MDA is adding defibrillators in smaller communities and crowded places, which are not necessarily obligated by law to have one (such as markets, and outdoor malls).

Deputy Health Minister Yaakov Litzman: "The value of saving lives is of most importance, and the Ministry of Health is working towards shortening response times during emergencies by placing life-saving devices that will be available and accessible to the general public. The placement of a resuscitation device in Ramat Gan constitutes the first step of this initiative. We are working towards placing additional resuscitation devices throughout the State of Israel, which will significantly shorten resuscitation response

times".

"Director of first aid and rescue services - Ministry of Health, Miri Cohen: "The placement of a CPR device in the public square is another step in the implementation of the national plan, 'We can all save lives', led by the Ministry of Health, together with Magen David Adom. The national plan was set in place in order to increase the chances of survival in cases of Cardiac arrest. This puts the State of Israel in the forefront of the countries implementing national programs with the intention of save lives".

Ramat Gan Mayor, Carmel Shama Hacohen: "The MDA defibrillator device stationed here is a message to the public, even if only one person's life is saved. There is a great innovation, which in the past could not be done - to keep a valuable device in a public place and yet accessible to the public. We are proud to be the first city in Israel to have a life-saving defibrillator on our streets, and we are already thinking of placements for future devices".

JCDecaux CEO, Mr. Philip Roe: "JCDecaux is proud to provide diverse services to authorities and public bodies around the world and we are proud of the launch of this important initiative in Israel. We thank MDA, the Municipality of Ramat Gan, the Ministry of Health and the many other partners who helped bring this project to light, and we hope that additional Defibrillator devices will be installed in Ramat Gan and in other cities throughout the country, and will help in the saving of lives".

"MDA Director General, Eli Bin: "This is a very special message to the public, with the defibrillator installed here, every person will be able to provide life-saving actions during a medical emergency." Magen David Adom's technology brings medical progress to Ramat Gan, and I hope, in the future, to many other cities. I would like to thank the Ministry of Health, Deputy Health Minister Litzman, the mayor and JCDecaux for their cooperation".





MDA EMT Delivers Her Own Baby

Magen David Adom (MDA) EMT and Medi-Cycle First Responder Lita Barzan from Kliryat Ata woke one morning with contractions. However, Lita did not think that the birth was imminent as she was in her 7th month of pregnancy. However, 20 minutes later she felt the baby crowning. Her husband, Galor immediately called MDA's 101 Emergency Dispatch Center and went to keep an eye on the couple's 3 older children. Lita, under the guidance of MDA EMT and Dispatcher Moti Rokach began to deliver her own baby. She kept a cool head, and within minutes the baby was born. Upon the arrival of MDA EMTs and Paramedics just moments later, they were left to assess both the mother and baby and evacuate them to the hospital.

"The birth was very quick relatively. Immediately after birth, the baby began to cry. I was fairly calm and tried to calm both my husband and my other children who were in the house," recalled Lita. "I had a hard time believing I was giving birth so long before my due date, and that I assisted my own birth. Immediately when I realized what was going on, I became emotional and I can wholeheartedly say that this was one of the best experiences of my life."

Sarah-El, Lita's oldest daughter: "The birth of

my baby brother was initially stressful and then exciting. I woke up to get ready for school and saw my mother giving birth in a bedroom in our house. This is not something I ever expected to happen. I called my aunt, who is also an EMT with MDA and she calmed me and my siblings. I calmed down once I saw my cute baby brother.





MDA'S "First Seven Minutes" Initiative

Magen David Adom, as Israel's national rescue organization, has accumulated considerable experience in coping mass casualties. The goal of the "First Seven Minutes" initiative, which has been developed and led by MDA's Deputy Director General – Community Dr. Eli Yaffe, is to convey the knowledge and skills of Magen David Adom medics and paramedics to communities around the world.

Over the past year and a half, MDA teams have been active, as part of the initiative, in more than 15 countries and have held special seminars for more than 2,000 participants in Canada, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Greece, the Netherlands and more.

Standing behind the initiative is the idea that, in many cases, saving lives depends on time. Guided by the MDA teams, participants learn how to provide the initial lifesaving medical care in emergency events, such as terror attacks. Among other things, the participants learn how to stop critical bleeds and how to identify which of the injured should get to the hospital first.

The four-hour seminar is conducted by MDA senior medics and paramedics. After the opening lecture and practice drills the team simulates a mass casualty scenario. The seminar is instructed by one to four MDA workers, with the number of participants ranging from 30 to 100. In all, thirty four MDA workers

were trained to instruct this seminar.

MDA paramedic Raphael Herbst, coordinator of the "First Seven Minutes" initiative: "The purpose of the seminars, which are done in cooperation with the World Zionist Congress, is to give people the tools to cope with difficult situations. As part of the training we use as little medical equipment as possible in order to show the participants they can be of help in any situation. It is amazing to see how the community's sense of competence rises every time".

MDA's Deputy Director General – Community Dr. Eli Yaffe: "The goal of this initiative is to teach members of the communities how to act during the first few critical minutes of a mass casualty event. We are teaching citizens what to do until the emergency teams arrive, and how to help once they do".

MDA Director General, Eli Bin: "As Magen David Adom we are saving lives every day throughout the country, and the satisfaction is tremendous. It is exciting to see how, with the unique experience accumulated by MDA medics and paramedics in Israel, we are able to influence and contribute to the saving of lives around the world. The "First Seven Minutes" is one of the initiatives we are most proud of, and it is one of the many examples of MDA's commitment to helping, anyone anywhere, wherever possible".





Towards the Beginning of volunteering in Ambulances

1,500 youth volunteers participated in a special MDA event

1,500 youth volunteers from all over the country are completing the year of learning at Magen David Adom, during which they are qualified as first aid providers. In a special event of Magen David Adom, in preparation for the transition from a young level to an adult level, and shortly before the start of activities in the field, the fifteen hundred volunteers from the young level participated in a day of activity in the Neot Kedumim Park. During the exciting day, the volunteers participated in activities of navigation, learning, enrichment and consolidation. They received shirts from the MDA youth organization and participated in a ceremony in their honor in the presence of the Magen David Adom management.

Yifat Glazman, Deputy Director of the Volunteers Department - Youth said: "Dear volunteers, you have learned to be the best, to be humanitarian activists for the community, to provide medical

care to those who need you, and to save lives. To be human, to be professional and to be caring, to be MDA youth. "

[Dr. Eli Yaffe, MDA Deputy Director General-Community](#) said: "Youth volunteers are completing a year of training, which combined humanitarian activities to prevent accidents and disease. The boys and girls who sit here will soon begin to volunteer in ambulances and save lives, with great responsibility, after extensive training by the instructors' teams, and we wish them great success. "

[MDA Director General, Eli Bin:](#) "It is very exciting to see the Magen David Adom youth here, and I remember myself as a young volunteer at MDA in Tivon, and I remember my great love for volunteering and saving lives. Today, you are part of the Magen David Adom family, and I wish you all the best in the organization. "





MDA UK Legacy Mission 2019

On 5th May, a group of 12 people set off from London on MDA UK's annual Legacy mission to Israel.

The mission highlighted Israel's national Emergency Medical and Blood Services organization, its work and what it needs to continue being the great service that it is to the people of Israel.

Throughout this whole trip, every person gained an in-depth view of what how Magen

David Adom means to Israel and how they are saving lives so regularly in more ways than one. Being involved with Magen David Adom legacies really is something very special and important. It makes a life changing impact on the people of Israel.

To find out more about what the mission did in Israel [click here](#).





Against All Odds

Gabriel Lavie, who was critically wounded in the stabbing attack at the Damascus Gate, has been discharged from the hospital

On Friday morning, about two weeks ago, Gabriel Lavie was on his way home after praying at the Western Wall. A terrorist, came from behind, stabbing him many times in all parts of his body, and causing critical injuries. MDA Mobile Intensive Care Unit lead by Paramedics Ilana Abrams and Haim Wals, together with MDA medics Shlomi Tadgi, Hovav Elchanan and Zviki Rubinfine provided Gabriel with life-saving medical treatments, that included; stopping the bleeding, bandaging where needed, and the use of special drugs. He was evacuated to Shaare Zedek Hospital, where he was rushed to surgery and treated in the intensive care unit at the hospital. Last week, before he was discharged from the hospital, Gabriel Lavi and his wife met the MDA team, and thanked them for the medical treatment and quick evacuation, that saved Gabriel's life.

"I would like to thank the MDA medics and paramedics, the medical team at Shaare Zedek Hospital, my friends and family, and, of course, the

prayers of the Jewish people.

MDA Paramedic, Ilana Abrams: "When we showed up, Gabriel's injuries were critical. Together with the MDA first responders who live in the Old City, we fought for Gabriel's life. In order for the hospitals medical team to be waiting in the trauma room and preparing for a blood transfusion and surgery, we contacted them during the evacuation. The full cooperation between the different medical teams enabled continuous life-saving care, from the moment we arrived and until he entered the operating room. Arriving at the hospital today and seeing Gabriel, who only two weeks ago was suffering from critical injuries, standing up and walking, is very moving".

Dr. Alon Schwartz - Shaare Zedek Hospital: "Less than two weeks after Gabriel was evacuated to the hospital, hanging between life and death, we are very excited to be here on the day he is finally able to returns to normal life. We would like to commend the MDA paramedics, whos excellent work and quickly evacuated saved his life".





In the Right Place at the Right Time

“If the MDA Medics and Paramedics were not in the Hall Next Door, My Husband Might Not have been Alive Today”

A 71 year old man, from the north of Israel, celebrated his grandson's Bar Mitzvah in Be'er Sheva. As he spoke at the event, he began to feel ill and collapsed soon after. Several of the guests called for help, and their cries were heard by four of the guests in the adjacent hall – three MDA paramedics and a senior medic - who were attending a friend event who also happened to be an MDA volunteers. Within a few seconds the MDA Paramedics, Alon Rizkhan, Barak Cohen and Eyal Okashi, and a senior MDA medic, Gil Bissamot, arrived.

MDA paramedic Alon Rizkhan: “We were celebrating in the hall next door when suddenly there were cries, we realized that something was wrong and ran to see an elderly man who had collapsed and was unconscious and without a pulse. We started with basic resuscitation, while Paramedic Barak Cohen, an MDA first responder, ran to his car to bring CPR equipment he had with him. He returned in less than two minutes, and with the MDA defibrillator we continued the resuscitation

with electric shocks. A few minutes later, the man's heart began beating again and he began to wake up. MDA MICU arrived and evacuated him to hospital for further treatment in a completely stable condition”.

The man's wife said: “His behavior was perfectly normal, he was dancing and praying, and as he spoke, he felt Short of breath and a few moments later he collapsed. We have three children and fifteen grandchildren, and we are all grateful to the MDA medics and paramedics. If they were not accidentally in the next hall, he may not have been alive today”.

MDA Paramedic, Barak Cohen: “During my many years at Magen David Adom, I treated hundreds of patients who needed CPR, but this was not an ordinary incident. Everything happened very quickly, but we had no doubt that we would put everything aside and do everything in our power to save the man's life. It's hard to explain the satisfaction we felt when we returned to our friend event, knowing we just saved a life”.