





# SUPPORT PROJECT FOR EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT OF PYONGYANG MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL

ICRC Mission in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea



The project brief elaborates on the short- and long-term support that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Red Cross Society (DPRK RCS) provides to the Emergency Department at Pyongyang Medical College Hospital (PMCH) of Kim IL Sung University, with the aim to strengthen and sustain the hospital's capacity in delivering emergency services.

## PARTNERS

-  The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH)
-  Pyongyang Medical College Hospital
-  The Democratic People's Republic of Korea Red Cross Society
-  The International Committee of the Red Cross

## Background

The Pyongyang Medical College Hospital is one of the three first-level central hospitals in Pyongyang. It has a capacity of 1,200 beds, serving about one million population. With 33 medical departments and 1,200 employees, the hospital provides services to 700,000 patients per year, of whom 2.4% are in-patients admissions. The national healthcare system in the DPRK offers comprehensive free medical service to all citizens.

The PMCH has the easiest access via transport hubs and is a major teaching hospital. Therefore, it receives severe and complex medical cases.



ICRC and partners' quarterly project management review meeting.

## Project Scope

The project, which started in January 2019, intends to improve the emergency healthcare to all the patients attending the Emergency Department (ED), by creating a functional ED prototype with skillful staff and with reference to international benchmarks. All patients with serious or life-threatening needs should be treated with the right expertise, processes and resources to maximize the prospects of survival, recovery and functionality.

The long-term vision is to provide a model which the MoPH can replicate in other similar set-ups in the country.

This project, with a multi-year timeframe, will ensure the desired changes in the emergency department, and helps develop a culture to implement an emergency model of care up to international standards.

## Services & Programmes to be Implemented

### Emergency Services

- Optimize the services of the Emergency Department by refining patient flow process to guarantee timely access to the services. Develop defined evidence-based criteria to recognize and attend to patients who need emergency services.
- Develop/review and implement clinical guidelines and protocols of relevance to emergency medicine with a streamlined monitoring and evaluation criteria to improve and standardize the existing healthcare services delivery.

### Donation of Resources

Support the Emergency Department at the hospital with the necessary emergency-related equipment, medicines, supplies and training equipment according to national and international standards.

### Tailored Capacity Building Program

- Implement continuous thematic, practical and on-the-job trainings on emergency medical care to the Emergency Department staff (doctors/nurses).
- Provide training on Emergency Room Trauma Course for relevant PMCH staff (doctors/ nurses) and staff from other hospitals.
- Conduct tailored on-the-job trainings according to the Training Needs Analysis.

## ICRC in the DPRK

The ICRC has been present in the DPRK since 2002. Its mission is based in Pyongyang. The focus of its activities is on physical rehabilitation, health, peri-urban water supply and sanitation, training of safe disposal of explosive remnants of the Korean War, emergency preparedness, promotion of Geneva Conventions and capacity-building of the National Society.

Activities are carried out in cooperation with its primary partner, the DPRK Red Cross Society, as well as with government departments concerned. The ICRC maintains eight international staff permanently based in Pyongyang. The DPRK Red Cross seconds some 20 staff to the ICRC mission.

### International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Mission in the DPRK

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