

Open Letter From Dr. Alexander Kirichenko, Allegheny Health Network:

Dear Sir or Madam:

Many of you have heard of the recent events taking place in Eastern Europe, with Russia ultimately crippling Ukraine economically and politically by the takeover of Crimea, along with Russian-backed military conflict with daily clashes in South-Eastern Ukraine. The worldwide condemnation of these events has offered significant support; however, there is little medical aid being provided to both military and civilian victims of these conflicts. Throughout my recent trip to Ukraine, I witnessed the dismal conditions of the severely under-supplied hospitals with frequent cutoffs of electricity, disruption in water flow and heating. In the areas affected by war small community hospitals and clinics have become front line trauma centers, desperately attempting to aid the influx of wounded military and civilian victims. **It is in this time of crisis that I turn to you to request medical aid to the Ukrainian hospitals at the front line of the conflict.**

There is major shortage of the following basic items:

1. Broad spectrum antibiotics (both for oral and parenteral use), anti-nausea and anti-diarrheal agents, ibuprofen, pepto-bismol, colace, pediatric multivitamins.
2. Medical gloves, suture/staple kits, alcohol/iodine swabs, assorted gauze bandages, band aids, assorted disposable needles and syringes, burn dressings;
3. Hemorrhage control: tourniquets, Emergency Trauma Bandages, hemostatic agents, s.a. Celox;
4. Airway management: large bore catheters for needle chest decompression, chest seal dressings, nasopharyngeal and oropharyngeal airway support, naso-gastric tubes;
5. Fluid resuscitation: IV fluids and tubing, large bore IV catheters;
6. OR furniture: cabinets, instrument Mayo stands, basin stands, overbed tables, IV poles, table pads, etc.

It is okay to collect expired but still operational items (except medications and items for oral and parenteral use).

In addition, **we are collecting monetary donations to cover container shipment to Ukraine and to purchase medical equipment**, such as a portable X-ray machine for the operating rooms. There are front-line hospitals where surgeons explore shrapnel wounds in the absence of image guidance – such an X-ray machine which would be dramatically helpful.

Collected aid and purchased equipment will be donated directly to the Ukrainian hospitals through *The Ukrainian Community of Western Pennsylvania (UCOWPA)* with delivery supervision by the *International Rehabilitation Center "Maidan Hospital"*. We will receive photographs from the recipient hospitals about the donated items.

The Ukrainian Community of Western Pennsylvania is a public charity exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, so **your donations are tax-deductible to the full extent provided by law.**

Ways to donate:

Donate Online

Donate by Check made payable to UCOWPA indicating "Maidan Hospital" on the memo line and mail it to

UCOWPA P.O. Box 13465, Pittsburgh, PA, 15243-3465 [receipt acknowledgement will be provided via e-mail, thus, please provide us with your clearly printed e-mail address].

Thank you for your generosity that will make a huge difference in the lives of many wounded Ukrainians.

Sincerely,
Alexander Kirichenko, MD, Ph.D
Allegheny Health Network
Pittsburgh, PA

Read more about "Maidan Hospital" [here](#).
For more information about this project, visit our blog [here](#).