

# Psyco-Social support for MPN Patients in times of national crisis

## Flute of Light - Israel



Flute of Light  
Home of Blood Cancer Patients in Israel

### INTRODUCTION & AIMS

- The complex security situation in Israel since October 2023 affected the physical and mental state of MPN patients.
- More than 120,000 citizens, including MPN patients, were forced to leave their homes and move to hotels in safer areas.
- Patients were unable to see their doctors and health care professionals in the evacuated areas.
- Patients had problems receiving drugs.
- The tension of war together with the uncertainty of treatment continuity brought more requests for Psycho-social support.

### METHODOLOGY

- With the collaboration of the Israeli Hematology association, every evacuated patient could be treated at any hospital and meet with a doctor close to their current location.
- We supported the decision to deliver medications to the patients' new location or, alternatively, receive them at the nearest pharmacy.
- Our volunteers brought medications to patients who could not obtain them by other means.
- We started a personal contact program where our mentors called patients daily to check if they were Ok or needed any help.
- We started non-medical webinar sessions – Support through empowering activities, such as coping with tension and fears, home exercise, therapeutic writing, etc.
- The need for our Psycho-Social support programs has increased including: Mentors connection, medical coaching, complimentary treatments support, individual psychological treatment.
- The number of MPN patients joining our Facebook and Whatsapp group has increased with much more group interaction and communication.

### RESULTS

Over the past year, we connected, financed, and provided:



Here are some of the comments we received:

"All doctors should tell MPN patients about this wonderful group - it's really important!!"

"The conversations with my mentor are of critical importance, no less than the medicines and the doctors"

"My mentor brought the color back to my face"

"I was blessed with a professional and empathetic coach. She undoubtedly helped me by providing practical tools to deal with the difficulties of day-to-day life"

### CONCLUSIONS

- Patients need personal attention - especially during times of general distress.
- There is a need to adjust the patients organization activities to the new reality based on patients needs
- Team effort and collaboration with other stakeholders are needed in order to succeed.