



*A staff member treats a patient in the EMT during its last days of operation before demobilization*

## FAST FACTS

- On August 14, a devastating earthquake struck Haiti, leaving more than 650,000 people in need of emergency humanitarian assistance.
- As of November 21, International Medical Corps had provided more than 5,600 medical consultations.
- Our staff members have reached nearly 5,000 community members with hygiene promotion and 2,000 community members with GBV and MHPSS activities.

On August 14, a 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti's Tiburon Peninsula, causing 2,248 deaths and injuring more than 12,760 people. Three months after the earthquake, the remaining Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) of the organizations that responded to the earthquake in August are nearing the end of operations. As the acuity of health needs presenting at the EMTs has decreased, the need for primary healthcare remain high. In an effort to shift care back to the local health system, organizations still providing earthquake-response activities are focusing on building capacity at the local level. Though the immediate needs created by the earthquake have subsided, the various challenges related to security risks and fuel scarcity continue to create an operational context that is an emergency in and of itself. In addition, banks have been forced to close as a result of the conditions, further thwarting existing means of acquiring transportation, food and livelihoods.

## International Medical Corps Response

International Medical Corps deployed its [Emergency Medical Team \(EMT\) Type 1 Fixed medical facility](#) to Aquin, in southwest Haiti, in late August to address the urgent health needs of earthquake-affected populations. The EMT, which is a self-sufficient outpatient health facility that is fully equipped to serve a minimum of 100 patients per day, was deployed in Haiti in partnership with the Haitian Resource Development Foundation (HRDF), a nonprofit organization with the mission of supporting projects and programs that provide measurable results for at-risk populations and that ensure greater economic vitality in Haitian villages.

After nearly 12 weeks of operation, International Medical Corps completed its final day of EMT health services last week. Before demobilization of the medical field units, the EMT provided 5,649 medical consultations to area residents, with 105 consultations directly related to the earthquake and 307 indirectly related to the event.

As part of International Medical Corps' transition strategy, we will provide support to Aquin hospital to facilitate care in the local health system. Beginning this week, International Medical Corps will support the hospital through surge staffing, capacity building and training, and by providing pharmaceuticals and medical equipment. Surge staffing support will include a midwife, two doctors, three nurses and a pharmacy technician. Activities will include the refurbishment of the warehouse and pharmacy at the hospital, and the distribution of supplies and commodities to both Aquin Hospital and Ministry of Public Health and Population (MSPP).

From November 6 to 13, the gender-based violence (GBV) team conducted gender-segregated community outreach in communes around Aquin, focusing on core concepts and how to support GBV survivors and refer for services after

disclosure. The Center for Women and Girls has become a safe place in the community, particularly for adolescent girls to come after school and on Saturdays to participate in group psychosocial activities and learn about menstrual hygiene. The center also continues to host group activities, including cooking classes and fruit preservation classes for women. GBV response officers are continuing to provide case management services, including crisis counseling, safety planning and referrals for other services. This week, the center plans to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women with mural painting, film screening, outdoor games and the distribution of dignity kits. GBV activities will continue to be implemented in Aquin after the demobilization of the EMT.

The mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) team has continued to integrate into the community, opening a mental health center in Aquin on November 12. The center will be used to host group activities, sessions and training on MHPSS-related concepts. At the EMT, MHPSS-related awareness-raising activities continued focusing on themes of stress management and combating the gender stereotype of psychological distress as a sign of weakness. MHPSS activities will continue to be implemented after the demobilization of the EMT.

The water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) team's community hygiene promoters continue to visit communities around Aquin with hygiene promotion messages focused on handwashing, personal hygiene, food hygiene and environmental hygiene. As part of the transition strategy, the WASH team provided training for the hygiene, sanitation and waste workers at the Aquin Hospital, and equipped the hospital with more-appropriate waste management equipment. The WASH team also completed the rehabilitation of an incinerator at the hospital.

In preparation for demobilization and disinfection of the EMT, the WASH team received occupational health training from International Medical Corps' health team, which instructed WASH team members on the various occupational hazards and injuries that may be encountered on the job site, as well as precautionary measures and actions to take if help is needed.

We continue to run a small occupational clinic onsite for team members requiring healthcare during the decommissioning process.



*Women's Center members participate in a class to transform breadfruit into flour for bread and cakemaking.*

Haiti Earthquake EMT Type I Response				
<b>Health services delivered</b>	Health consultations: 5,649		GBV consultations: 47	Psychosocial support consultations: 472
<b>Medical volunteers deployed</b>	Doctors: 6	Nurses: 15	Nurse Midwives: 3	Pharmacists: 5
<b>Persons trained</b>	Health: 139	Gender-based violence: 264	Psychological first aid: 111	Waste management: 19
<b>Community members reached</b>	Health talks for patients and family: 2,870	GBV activities for women and girls: 354	MHPSS sensitization outreach: 1,517	WASH hygiene promotion: 4,591