

WG 6 (Forensic Pathology)

Collaboration Dynamics in the Identification and Mortuary Affairs Center

Hadas Azizi.

Unit for Identification and Investigation of Death Circumstances, Medical Corps, Israel Defense Force, "BIMA" Program, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Hebrew University.

This lecture will explore the intricate collaboration efforts within Unit 6017, the Unit for Identification and Investigation of Mortality Circumstances, which have been crucial for the effective execution of IDF casualty identification processes throughout the various stages of the Iron Swords War.

The presentation will begin by examining the coordination required for the identification of casualties from October 7th. Key collaborative efforts included coordination with the Missing Persons Unit, the ITAN Unit, the IDF Rabbinical Corps, the Israel Police, as well as the Israel Dental Association.

Next, the lecture will discuss the processes involved in the identification tasks at the Shura and Zipporit mortuary facilities. These tasks required a highly coordinated workflow with multiple entities, including the IDF Rabbinical Corps, the Israel Police, the Operations Directorate, the National Institute of Forensic Medicine, the Casualties Branch, and the Operational Medicine Branch. In scenarios of complex cases or high-intensity casualty influxes, ongoing synchronization and fine-tuning of collaborative frameworks were essential to ensure precise and high-quality identification.

The lecture will also cover additional collaboration efforts, including the partnership with the IDF Spokesperson's Unit, which was instrumental in conveying the horrific massacre to the world. In addition, collaboration with mental health professionals focused on ensuring the resilience and well-being of the unit's personnel.

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Forensic Examination Team Organization in Iron Swords

Maria Krichmar.

Medical Corps, IDF.

The Iron Swords War presented unprecedented challenges in the organization and operation of forensic examination teams tasked with the dignified and accurate handling of fallen soldiers. This lecture will delve into the logistical, ethical, and operational hurdles encountered during the forensic external examination and postmortem computed tomography (CT) interpretation of Israel Defense Forces (IDF) casualties. Attendees will gain insights into the multidisciplinary coordination required, the integration of advanced imaging technologies, and the protocols established to ensure both medical precision and respect for the deceased. By reflecting on these experiences, the session aims to provide valuable lessons for medical officers involved in military and disaster forensic operations.