



Report for EOA Meeting, Copenhagen, October 2017

Association Name -NGO: Palestinian Ostomy Association - Gaza Strip

Establish Year: 2000 that over 17 years later the organization would have grown into the leading patient support group for people with ileostomies , colostomies and Urostomies in the Gaza strip.

Palestinian Ostomy Association ... Non-stop Giving:

It is a charitable civil association that takes care and serves the ostomy patients in Gaza Strip. It is also considered the only specialized party in this field. The association services are varied to include health care and psychological and social rehabilitation for the patients. The association role is not limited to these services but also it affords part of the medical needs for the patients, especially the colo-bags and colo-bases for nominal prices. These needs are expensive and represent a great financial burden on the patients in the hard economical conditions that our Palestinian people live.

The deteriorated conditions that the Palestinian people lives are obvious for everyone. These conditions afflicted all aspects of life specially the health sector that suffers from deficiency and lack of capacities as a result of the lack (unavailability) of many medical materials and equipment.

In addition, there are a large number of the patients suffering from colon cancer, War injuries and children born with their anus plugged up (occluded) as a result of congenital deformities. These people also subjected to surgeries to make alternative exertion hole in the vents (abdomen) paries.

The total number of the Ostomy patients (410), distributed in all governorates of Gaza strip and this number is increasing. Our aim is to help people who have had their colon removed return to a full and active life as soon as possible after surgery, , deal with the practicalities of everyday living, inspire them to achieve their goals and give them the confidence to live life to the full. Information, advice and assistance to existing, new and potential members is provided by member association throughout the Palestine -Gaza strip

Important relationships : POA is member of organizations

- **Friends of Ostomates to ostomy patients(FOW) Ms Ruth salinger, Mrs. Carol and Mr. Mickey Heideman** , FOW-USA is one volunteer group working to provide ostomates around the world with the supplies . We have received ostomy supplies, FOW shipped supplies ,POA arranged to have them shipped to POA through WHO.
- **American Near East Refugee Aid (ANERA) Dr.Mostafa Elghosain Program Manager - Gaza strip office and Dr. Ahmed Elnagar** , Donates to Palestinian ,POA received medical supplies (Drugs , simple Medical Supplies and hygiene kits.)

European Ostomy Associations (EOA) President Ria Smeijers, ,Henning granslev COPA, Maria Hass -Contact Office in Germany, invitation 15th EOA Congress ,5 – 8 October 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark , to learn news about appliances, ostomy care and experience from other persons with ostomy.

- **World Health Organization (WHO) :** Our excellent working relationship with **POA Dr. Ikrami ALshantti – CEO** and other organizations as World Health Organization (WHO) **The head of WHO's Gaza office, Dr. Mahmoud Daher , Mr. Mahmoud Al Halabi - projects and logistics assistant, Mr. Mufid Tiro - Supply Officer- Jerusalem office** and Ministry of health that help POA take approval and green light of customs to start shipping process and entry Ostomy -medical supplies from FOW –USA to GAZA STRIP- PALESTINE.
- **ARAB FOUND FOR ECONOMIC , SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT** , Donor, Project Title: Offering Health& Rehabilitation Services for the Ostomy Patients in 2014/2015

Activities : National Annual General Meetings each 3year, one local groups holding meetings and events to support members each 2 month, contact with ministry of Health in Gaza strip.

The Palestinian Society For Cancer and Ministry of health Update ostomy patient data and co-operate with POA every month.

POA contact with patients in hospital or at their homes or provide valuable assistance by telephone, Facebook, home visit and e-mail.

The young ostomate group organized one meetings in 2017.

POA Covering five geographic regions in Gaza Strip The patients are increasing yearly from 20-30 cases but in this year increase no 80 cases 2016 and most of the cases suffer from bad economical conditions that caused the family to suffer in getting the special medications. So, the patients will be exposed to repeated infections that double the health problem. Both psychiatrist and social worker will arrange filed visits for the patients in order to offer them the psychological and social support and to help them in solving the problems they face and surround the family.

**We have produced new leaflets, each two times a year and Newsletter Fall 2015
FOW- USA - <https://www.fowusa.org/newsletters/>**

Our future

Establishment of a new offices in different area in Gaza strip , POA continues to develop programmers and strategies to support members and anyone who meets the objects of the charity. its aims and objectives in supporting those with an ileostomy or colo- urostoies, their families, friends and careers

POA hope EOA to help and cooperate with POA. we are suffering from a lack in these needs (ostomy supplies)in Gaza Strip.

Dr.Ikrami A.I. ALshantti

Chief Executive Officer

September 2017