



OUR
IMPACT
2023

David Nott
FOUNDATION

Welcome from Chief Executive and Co-Founder



At the David Nott Foundation, we strive for a world where access to safe, skilled surgical care is a reality for all. Every day, doctors work tirelessly to care for their communities while contending with the horrors of war. Health systems are under strain and sometimes under attack.

2023 was immensely challenging for many. An earthquake shook northwest Syria and Türkiye. Ukraine faced another year of relentless violence. In Syria's northwest, civilians were the target of intensified bombardment. And in October, conflict between Israel and Gaza erupted, killing thousands and crippling Gaza's healthcare infrastructure.

It's understandable to feel helpless in the face of such horror, but we are proud to help doctors make their communities survivors, not victims, of conflict.

This year, we are immensely proud to have trained 433 surgeons and anaesthetists – that's 1,589 doctors since 2015.

2023 started with two missions to Moldova, a state that has received hundreds of thousands of refugees from Ukraine. We trained surgeons from Yemen, where a civil war has raged since 2014. We trained 23 surgeons in northwest Syria to treat crush injuries inflicted by the earthquake and conflict. We also trained 41 Syrian obstetrics and gynaecology specialists to diagnose and treat cervical cancer.

Our commitment to Ukraine remains unshakeable. In 2023, we ran five courses, training 229 Ukrainian surgeons and anaesthetists. Our Ukraine programme also funded two surgeons to complete paediatric trauma surgical training and we expanded

our reach by collaborating with Ukraine's Ministry of Health, the World Health Organisation (WHO) and UOSSM.

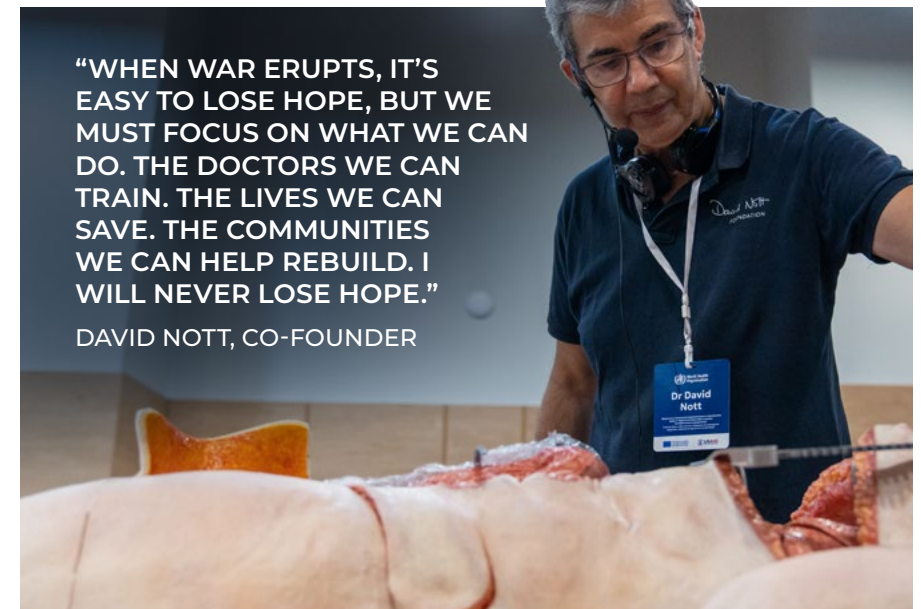
In response to the Israel-Gaza war, we shared our Arabic surgical training videos, invited affected doctors to a social media forum to discuss cases, and with the support of PalMed, rapidly delivered a surgical training course for 29 surgeons and 13 anaesthetists headed for Palestine.

Launching our 5-year strategy centred on three pillars – building capacity, community and awareness – we are expanding our programmatic

activities. In the regions where we work, our flagship Hostile Environment Surgical Training (HEST) course is just one of a suite of services we now offer while continuing to uphold our resolute commitment to localisation.

Our growth and impact would not be possible without the unwavering support of our donors. Thank you, from us and the 1,589 doctors you've helped train.

ELLY NOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND
CO-FOUNDER



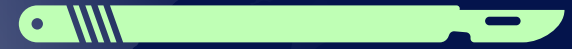
"WHEN WAR ERUPTS, IT'S EASY TO LOSE HOPE, BUT WE MUST FOCUS ON WHAT WE CAN DO. THE DOCTORS WE CAN TRAIN. THE LIVES WE CAN SAVE. THE COMMUNITIES WE CAN HELP REBUILD. I WILL NEVER LOSE HOPE."

DAVID NOTT, CO-FOUNDER



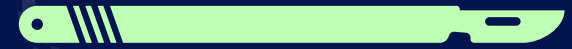
1,589

doctors trained across 51 courses since 2015

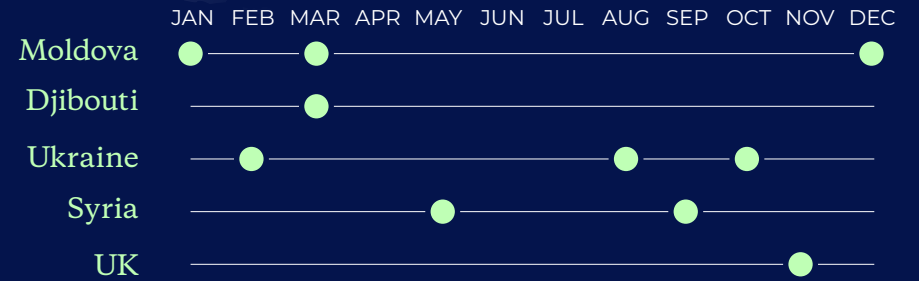


433

doctors trained in 2023



This year, we've trained in:



Commitment to Ukraine

Another year has passed, yet war continues to rage across Ukraine, leaving scores of people with life-altering injuries. We have made a commitment to train every frontline surgeon in Ukraine, nurturing a powerful surgical force across the country.

This year, we trained 229 Ukrainian surgeons and anaesthetists in Zaporizhzhia, Lviv, Kyiv and Dnipro. To do this, we worked to identify doctors who would benefit the most from training with Ukraine's Ministry of Health, UOSSM and, for the first time in Ukraine, the World Health Organisation.



“CIVILIANS ARE NOW PATIENTS WITH GUNSHOT WOUNDS AND AMPUTATIONS. SOME WHO HAVEN'T RECEIVED MEDICAL CARE FOR A MONTH AND A HALF OR CHILDREN WITH SEVERED LIMBS. GIVEN THIS, I HAD TO COME TO THIS TRAINING.”

ORTHOPAEDIC AND TRAUMA SURGEON, UKRAINE



Hostile Environment Surgical Training course in Moldova, March 2023

Uniting for quake survivors

Due to decades of conflict, healthcare is under-resourced, under-staffed and under pressure in Syria. In the wake of a devastating earthquake further fracturing northwest Syria's stability, we teamed up with Action for Humanity to deliver a joint surgery and training mission.

In five days, 23 Syrian doctors learned a range of surgical techniques to treat and rehabilitate earthquake-inflicted wounds. For the first time, local trainers delivered our course almost entirely in Arabic. Nine surgeons were also upskilled to become future trainers, continuing our connection with a community that has lasted a decade and reflecting our commitment to localisation.

At the same time as our teaching, Action for Humanity's surgical team provided care for over 60 earthquake survivors.

"GOING BACK TO SYRIA – TRAINING THE DOCTORS THERE AND SEEING THOSE WE'VE TAUGHT BEFORE WAS SOMETHING ELSE. IT PUT TEARS INTO OUR EYES."

MEDICAL DIRECTOR
AND FACULTY LEAD, DR
AMMAR DARWISH



Action in the Middle East

We were devastated by the escalation of violence in Israel and Palestine. As soon as attacks began in October 2023, we contacted local partners to gain a comprehensive picture of doctors' needs and the injuries they face on the ground.

In action:



We shared our Arabic and English surgical training videos with local doctors and medical professional networks through our partners



We invited local doctors to an online chat forum to share patient cases and gain advice from peers, no matter the hour



With support from PalMed, we rapidly organised a HEST UK surgical training course for 42 doctors headed for the Middle East



"WHEN WAR EXPLODES, AN ALL-ENCOMPASSING NEED TO HELP COMES OVER ME. I CAN THINK ABOUT – OR FOCUS ON – NOTHING ELSE. TRAINING DOCTORS ON THEIR WAY TO THE MIDDLE EAST IS THE LEAST WE CAN DO UNTIL WE ARE ABLE TO TRAIN DOCTORS IN-COUNTRY."

DAVID NOTT, CO-FOUNDER

Our latest innovations

Saving a life in surgery is a team effort. With this in mind, in response to requests, we developed an anaesthetics course. Expansion of our offering beyond our HEST course marks a pivotal moment in our growth and will help save more lives in frontline operating theatres.

In our commitment to world-leading training, faculty trainer Dr Rachael Craven designed our anaesthetics course to feature state-of-the-art teaching equipment, such as airway simulators. We also purchased a cervical screening model, used by faculty trainer Dr Saladin Sawan to upskill 41 gynaecologists in Idlib, Syria.

As we continue to respond to the needs of communities impacted by war and catastrophe, we are designing a new and improved version of our human war wound simulator model, Heston. Heston 2.0 represents a significant leap forward for us – showcasing a wider range of trauma injuries and allowing us to deliver two HEST courses at once.

“THE FOUNDATION HAVE EXPANDED THEIR COURSE TO HAVE EVEN GREATER IMPACT IN CONFLICT. THEIR COMMITMENT TO GLOBAL HEALTHCARE IS EXEMPLIFIED BY THEIR LATEST ANAESTHESIA TRAINING IN MOLDOVA AND UKRAINE. THIS IS THE START OF SOMETHING SPECIAL.”

FACULTY LEAD FOR ANAESTHESIA, DR IAN NESBITT



Deepening relationships

This year, we nourished relationships with our networks. We now have 28 Friends of David Nott Foundation (FDNF) University Societies across the UK and Europe and a new Trainees of David Nott Foundation (TDNF) Society for surgical trainees starting humanitarian careers.

To deepen engagement with future surgical leaders, we held our very first FDNF and TDNF Conference in Manchester. 54 students and trainees came together for surgical workshops using our cutting-edge teaching tools, lectures from our CEO, trainers and local partners, and an opportunity to network with our team.

We also held an outstanding Faculty Day for over 40 existing and prospective

trainers at London's Frontline Club. Together, we discussed our ambitious strategy, new teaching technologies and how we can better meet the needs of frontline doctors.



A global footprint

Effective partnerships are key to ensuring we deliver for the doctors who need us most.

To develop new relationships and grow our global footprint, we joined humanitarian leaders at the AIDEX Conference in Geneva and participated in panels at MedGlobal's Annual Conference in Chicago. Our Co-Founder David Nott was honoured with a MedGlobal Lifetime Achievement Award, in recognition of his contribution to frontline surgery.

Our CEO, Elly Nott, also spoke on a panel at an engagement meeting organised by the Syria Ukraine Network in Kyiv where she emphasised the importance of supporting locally-led humanitarian action.



"THE MEETING AIMED TO STIMULATE NEW WAYS OF THINKING ABOUT JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN SYRIA AND UKRAINE.

ACTIVE CITIZENS MAKE FOR VIBRANT, OPEN SOCIETIES BUT POLITICAL WILL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS NEEDED TO CREATE AND SECURE THE SPACE FOR THEM TO THRIVE."

CEO AND CO-FOUNDER,
ELLY NOTT



Persisting crises in Yemen

Yemeni surgeons commonly face injuries inflicted by war, such as gunshot wounds or landmine injuries requiring amputations. Car accidents are also common on uneven roads, leading to serious crush wounds.

Our faculty, including Dr Shabnam Parkar who completed our Train the Trainers course in 2022, upskilled 15 Yemeni doctors in Djibouti, giving them the skills needed to better treat the injuries they see daily.

Participants shared they were more confident and could "face any emergency case because of their training."

"IT WAS LOVELY TO SEE THEM PRESENTING CASES ON THEIR PHONES AND SHARING IDEAS OF HOW THEY APPROACH SURGERY. THE COURSE CREATED A PLATFORM FOR YEMENI DOCTORS TO CONNECT AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER, NO MATTER THE REGION THEY LIVED AND WORKED."

FACULTY TRAINER DR
SHABNAM PARKAR



“This will help me save more lives”

Dr Igor Belkin, a surgeon from Zaporizhzhia, watched our translated war surgery videos as he sought to better treat devastating wounds inflicted by war. He then attended our course in Zaporizhzhia.

He shared: “I was very pleased to attend this course and meet David personally. I got very concise, practical information

and was able to learn how to provide assistance in areas of medicine I don't specialise in.

Now, I can do thoracotomies. This is a far better method for both surgeons and anaesthetists to approach trauma injuries. I also learned how to use external fixations to secure bones and now perform fasciotomies on patients needing urgent pressure release in the limbs.”



Tackling cervical cancer in Syria

In an effort to combat the silent epidemic of cervical cancer in northwest Syria, Dr Saladin Sawan, a gynaecological oncology surgeon and our Faculty Lead for Syria, led a surgical mission in Idlib. His training of 41 local doctors in cervical cancer screening and treatment will help ensure Syria's women receive better gynaecological care.

Ongoing conflict continues to fracture northwest Syria's health system and a need for training continues.

Our support for medical professionals in Syria stands strong and we will be back to upskill more doctors in 2024.

“IN OUR TRAINING, WE STRIVE FOR THE DOCTORS TO USE OUR TEACHING TOOLS TO TEST, TRY, PLAY, MAKE MISTAKES. OUR DOCTORS BECOME MORE CONFIDENT AND PATIENTS AS A RESULT WILL BE SAFER.”

FACULTY LEAD FOR SYRIA,
DR SALADIN SAWAN



WHAT'S COMING UP IN 2024

We will:

LOCALISE OUR IMPACT



To make our programmes truly sustainable, we will support local faculty to deliver our content and support local surgical expertise. We will do this through Train the Trainers courses, scholarships for frontline doctors and mentorship.

TRAIN MORE DOCTORS THAN EVER BEFORE



To meet the world's ever-growing humanitarian need, we aim to expand and deepen our support and services for doctors.

COMMENCE TEACHING SURGICAL NURSES



Recognising the vital importance of frontline nurses, we are developing a surgical nursing course to further increase likelihood of success in the operating theatre.

EXPAND OUR GLOBAL REACH



We are launching the Foundation in the United States and at global aid conferences to reach new supporters, grow our faculty and expand our networks.