Ansam's Story□



Mosab's story □



Mosab is 20 years old from Hebron and has worked at his cousin's butcher shop from the age of 16. In September 2017, Mosab was diagnosed with throat cancer

Mosab recalls the moment he was told he had cancer: "Honestly, I thought I will die soon. In my mind cancer was equivalent to death. Because three years ago, my very good friend died from cancer and his father was an oncologist. So imagine, if he wasn't able to save his own son I was sure that no doctor could save me."

After his diagnosis, Mosab and his mother travelled to Jordan to the King Hussein Cancer Center, because they thought that treatment in Jordan would be preferable. They stayed for two weeks and Mosab underwent further investigations. The family paid 12,000 Dinars for the tests, after which the family had no more money left. Mosab left Jordan depressed. He felt he couldn't eat, sleep or see anyone.

Doctors in Hebron urged Mosab to consider treatment at Augusta Victoria Hospital, stating that the hospital is of an excellent standard and free of charge since the Palestinian Authority covers the treatment costs of cancer patients. The hospital in Hebron initiated an urgent referral to Augusta Victoria, and Israeli authorities responded the next day with a one day permit for Mosab and his mother. At Augusta Victoria, the doctors reviewed the investigation results from Jordan and recommended him to start treatment the next day.

Augusta Victoria Hospital then applied for an urgent 3-month Israeli permit which was rejected, claiming that Mosab was misusing the permit system and faking his illness to get a permit to enter Israel. When the family informed the doctor at Augusta Victoria, the doctor went to the Coordination Office and managed to secure a 3-month permit for Mosab and his mother.

Mosab is undergoing eight chemotherapy cycles and 35 radiation sessions. He has to be in the hospital 5 days a week from morning until afternoon, and will have his last session in April.Mosab's permit expires this month and he is anxious about the possibility of another denial. "I can't wait to get this over with. I feel so bad for my Mum, who has to leave my one year old brother at home and stay with me all the time in hospital. I see her crying. Her suffering doubles my pain, I just want to see her happy again ."

Mosab appreciates the efforts and the kindness of the hospital staff: "I became friends with most of the nurses and doctors around me. Some of them join me for coffee after my radiation sessions. Sometimes I sleep at the hospital if I have multiple chemotherapy cycles. Of course I'd rather be home, but I also started to like the hospital. My main support is my friends. They visit me often and I feel that they care about me. This gives me strength.

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