

# Questions

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## Dr. S. Zurbrigg

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## Dr. SZ

- Soon after she was off to Baghdad with the Gulf War peace team and after being evacuated to Amman before the outbreak of hostilities she went back in with the International Study team to look at the effect of the war on people of Iraq. Post-war she continued to travel to Iraq, witnessing destruction of health care and civilian infrastructure, talking to colleagues and exchanging ideas and meeting with patients dying of diseases, (water-borne gastroenteritis, childhood leukemias and diabetics unable to afford insulin) all preventable or easily treated in the West and in Iraq prior to the War.

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## Dr. SZ cont'd

- On her return from each trip, Dr. Z continued to write and lecture in the West on her experiences. With the start of the second Gulf War, Dr. Zurbrigg was part of the Medact Study, *Collateral Damage* to estimate the cost of war. She later helped found Iraq Body Count to measure casualties and continues to lecture and write articles about effect of war and sanctions.

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Physicians for Global Survival (Canada)

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# IRAQ EYEWITNESS

**ADAM: that a million people have died.** I am looking at the statistics and the reports that are coming in from the United Nations and the UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees) and I am saying to myself, how can it be that a million people have died? I am saying to myself, how can it be that a million people have died? I am saying to myself, how can it be that a million people have died?

**Dr. Ahmed Ghazi:** "I am saying to myself, how can it be that a million people have died? I am saying to myself, how can it be that a million people have died? I am saying to myself, how can it be that a million people have died?"

**Dr. Hani Alwan:** "I am saying to myself, how can it be that a million people have died? I am saying to myself, how can it be that a million people have died? I am saying to myself, how can it be that a million people have died?"

Dr. Ahmed Ghazi  
Public Health  
Physician, Canada

Dr. Hani Alwan  
Physician, Canada

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## SANCTIONS: A PUBLIC HEALTH CATASTROPH FOR THE PEOPLE OF IRAQ

The United Nations has declared that Iraq is in violation of the UN Security Council Resolution 660. With the security council's decision, Iraq is in violation of the UN Security Council Resolution 660. With the security council's decision, Iraq is in violation of the UN Security Council Resolution 660.

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| Year | Deaths (Estimated) |
|------|--------------------|
| 1990 | 100,000            |
| 1991 | 200,000            |
| 1992 | 150,000            |
| 1993 | 120,000            |
| 1994 | 100,000            |

The graph shows the death toll in Iraq from 1990 to 1994. The death toll rose sharply in 1990, peaked in 1991, and then declined but remained high through 1994.

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| Time Frame                           |         |           |          |         |           |                  |           |          |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------|----------|---------|-----------|------------------|-----------|----------|
| Gulf War I - Post War Rehabilitation |         |           | Saddam   |         |           | Gulf War II 2003 |           |          |
| Prevention Stage                     | Primary | Secondary | Tertiary | Primary | Secondary | Primary          | Secondary | Tertiary |
|                                      |         |           |          |         |           |                  |           |          |
|                                      |         |           |          |         |           |                  |           |          |
|                                      |         |           |          |         |           |                  |           |          |

### Dr. J.C.

- American Emergency Physician Dr. J. Carter has decided to go to Palestine to help with mental health in the region. Working with the Institute of Community and Public Health at Bir Zeit University he has helped with the conduct of a study on mental health of Palestinian adolescents-particularly looking at trauma, coping and resiliency and physical and mental health of children at risk. He will be part of another study to be undertaken on the effect of Occupation on cardiovascular disease in adult males, which is expected to be published in reputable medical journal. Dr. Carter has spoken to Jewish and other groups about his Palestinian experiences, the effects of the separation wall.

### Dr. JC continued

- Some are concerned that there is no direct peacebuilding component to Dr. Carter's work. Others doctors doing cooperative work getting Israelis, Palestinians, Jordanians and Egyptians to work together on Diabetes mellitus, Hearing loss and Lead toxicity. They see little value in this work as Peace through Health work. They also doubt that Dr. Carter will win the Nobel Peace Prize. What do you Norwegians think?

### Dr. Virginia Maria

- World renowned immunologist and expert in Norwegian Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, Dr. Virginia Maria has a heart of gold. When she saw the effects of the recent Tsunami, her heart melted and she dropped everything to 'save' the people of Sri Lanka. Noticing the conflict between Hindus and Muslims with massacres in villages in Eastern Sri Lanka surrounding Batticaloa she saw the time as ripe to bring her medical expertise and to give them Christianity to break the stalemate.

### Dr. VM cont'd

- Going with her son Bubble Boy, injured in an accident which damaged his immune system and therefore requiring 24 hour care, Dr. Maria is forced to spend time in Colombo at a five star hotel and unfortunately is barely able to set foot in Batt. What do you think of this Peace through Health venture to bring health and spiritual peace to the people of Sri Lanka?

### Dr. N A.

- As part of the Nobel Prize winning group International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, Dr. A went to Rome in November. In this small meeting of Nobel Laureates, Dr. A made a speech on multiethnicity, human rights and peace and was part of press conference on small arms and their effect on health. The group's declaration was presented at a press conference covered by the Italian press. Dr. A looks forward to next years meeting with now old friends, enjoying nice, simple dinners next year.



### Dr. Che Melf

- Occupational Health physician Dr. Che Melf, works in downtown Oslo dealing with workers who have been disabled from work accidents, contaminants due to poor environmental practices. He is renowned throughout Oslo for sustainable living. Dr. Melf works 22 hour days in the summer (when there is daylight), cycling to work. In the winter he cross country skis to work from his rural organic farm. Biogas from Melf's sheep and pigs heat up half of Oslo; he uses surplus waste fed through a series of beds to denitrify them before effluent is discharged in the North Sea; the waste fertilizes plants.

### Che and Teresa cont'd

- in turn are fed to the animals; he uses sheep for warmth in the winter. Melf continues to fight (non-violently) against pesticide use and promoting a vegetarian diet.
- When she is not volunteering in the local soup kitchen and at the local AIDS hospice, his slightly older wife, **Teresa** treats refugees for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder at their green office. She also advocates against poverty and illiteracy. The couple make sure that their environmental impact is at a minimum reducing energy consumption and waste and teaching the three Rs reduce, reuse and recycle.