

Briefing on Current Healthcare Need of Earthquake victims in Pakistan

A unique community based rehabilitation clinic for earthquake victims

The Ibn Sina Foundation was deeply concerned about the humanitarian crisis in Pakistan and had approached Dr. Pavan Grover M.D. to visit the earthquake-affected areas in Pakistan in hopes that he could bring more public awareness to the situation. Dr Grover, in addition to his active medical practice, works as a medical correspondent for the NBC affiliate in Houston, and has been featured on CNN and reported for national Fox news during the Katrina/Rita hurricanes. Pavan was so moved after meeting with Ibn Sina he researched more and felt compelled to close his practice and tour Pakistan at his own expense. He has traveled to many areas that other media have not gone and has interviewed most of the major players in the disaster including the military, United Nations, victims, regional ministers, the local Pakistani press, relief organizations and the doctors working in the field. He has met the children, many now orphans. The families have little and with winter coming, they are not prepared for snow and cold weather. The tents they have been provided will not provide shelter for sustainable life in the winter.

Pavan stated over and over, no matter what Village he toured this last week, the same story surfaces--- the children are at risk and in life threatening danger—very soon He also had an opportunity to interview the Vice President of Pakistan Soomro and Senator Swati, whose district was one of the hardest hit. He has collected most recent information on current needs of earthquake evacuees and will be presenting in-depth analysis of the services required to address the needs of earthquake victims in Pakistan. A Press conference is arranged on Friday December 2, 2005 at Cake Land Café, located at 59 S and Murphy Road at 5:00 pm. He will brief first hand information to Houstonians on the needs of earthquake victims in Pakistan.

The Ibn Sina Foundation was established in 2001 to bridge the growing gap between the health care needs of uninsured, underinsured, underserved, and indigent communities. Founded with a gift from local businessman Nasruddin Rupani, President of World's Gold & Diamonds, Inc. in Houston, the clinic was Mr. Rupani's way of giving back to the local community. The Foundation's mission is to ensure the health of the community by providing integrated preventive and primary care in a clinic setting through the dissemination and application of health related knowledge, thereby enhancing the quality of life for future generations.

Since inception, Ibn Sina Foundation's Community Medical Clinics have provided medical and dental care to over 20,000 patients. In addition, over 3,000 individuals have participated in Ibn Sina's *outreach program* throughout the State of Texas – San Antonio, Bryan/College Station, and Austin. The outreach program provides various screenings, nutrition and healthy lifestyle counseling. Current projections indicate that the Ibn Sina Clinics (combined) will provide services for another 10,000 patients by December 2005. Ibn Sina Houston clinic has extended hour of operation, Houston clinic now opens from 1 to 9 pm Monday through Friday and 9 am to 1 pm on Saturdays. In December 2004, Ibn Sina opened a second medical clinic in Southeast Houston/Clear Lake at 15132 Old Galveston Road, Houston, TX 77598. The clinics are also playing very active role by providing free medical services to Katrina and Rita Evacuees.

Ibn Sina Foundation is also planning to establish community-based rehabilitation center to replace lost limbs of earthquake victims in Pakistan. The Foundation is serious in providing community based health care services in partnering with local not for profit organization.

For more detail please attend Dr. Grover's presentation and news briefing on Friday December 2, 2005 at 5:00 pm.