



Every Child · Every Age · Everywhere

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## IPA Statement on Safety and Health of Children during the Major Earthquake in Turkey and Syria

The International Pediatric Association (IPA) is deeply concerned and sympathized with children's safety and health condition caused by the major earthquake of magnitude 7.8 that struck central Turkey and northwest Syria early on Monday morning. It was also reported that the quake was felt in Lebanon, Cyprus, Greece, and Israel. According to Al Jazeera Media Network, the earthquake killed around 1500 people in Turkey and at least 582 people in Syria. Hundreds were also injured as buildings collapsed across the region, triggering searches for survivors in the rubble. The casualty numbers of people affected might increase.

As pediatricians, we are committed to the health and well-being of children everywhere. The child healthcare and health system must be prioritized and supported, and all needs, including sanitation, immunization, and healthy foods in affected areas, must be recognized. In addition, we encourage the local, national, and international bodies to support health needs and provide humanitarian assistance to the Turkey-Syria earthquake. This action is vital to prevent the impact of the devastation from the quake on physical and psychological health, availability of healthy foods, good sanitation, and support for family health.

IPA: working for Every Child, Every Age, Everywhere

Sincerely,

Dr. Enver Hasanoglu  
IPA President

Dr. Naveen Thacker  
IPA President Elect

Dr. Aman Pulungan  
IPA Executive Director