

# HAITI EARTHQUAKE UPDATE



**22nd January 2010** - 10 days after earthquake measuring 7.3

Humanity First's medical team of 14 in Port-au-Prince continues to deal with over 100 serious cases a day. The team has been working long hours in collaboration with local hospitals in the centre of the city. Their service has been advertised by local radio and cases are also being referred by the other medical facilities. It appears that the demand is highest in the morning when it is cooler, and by mid-afternoon, demand slows down. They suggest that there is still probably serious surgical work to do for another 10 days. The local team are also assessing the potential to support medical efforts outside of the city given the scale of resources being deployed by HF.

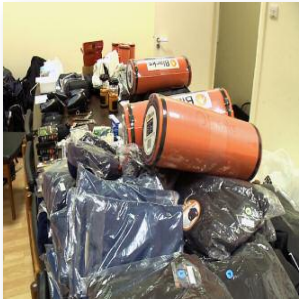
The next teams of more than 20 surgeons, paramedics and logistical personnel from the USA, Canada and the UK have left for Haiti via the Dominican Republic with significant supplies including antibiotics and other drugs, and 5 medical tents which will help to increase capacity for clinical work. We are grateful to some of the logistical carriers such as



**Team meeting in London last night**

American Airlines for allowing our staff to carry extra baggage to cover medical equipment and supplies. The teams traveling from London, Detroit, Toronto, Washington and Miami will be joining forces in Santo Domingo before moving into Haiti. HF is working with the UN's OCHA team to find ways of accelerating deployment of our teams and supplies from the Dominican Republic to Haiti.

Humanity First is also sending specialist Neurosurgeons and Anesthetists amongst the team. There are other groups of Doctors such as a team led by Dr. Geoff Butler going from Canada. Dr. Butler is quoted by *The Windsor Star* as saying: “It’s kind of something I have deemed necessary. I have five kids so I think that in not doing something I’d send a bigger message than I would if I do. The level of need supercedes that of my patients.”



Supplies being packed in London

Significant funds are needed to buy supplies of medicines, fluids and other urgent requirements. Please speak to your local HF rep or visit our website [www.humanityfirst.org](http://www.humanityfirst.org) to donate through your nearest Humanity First operation.

**About Humanity First**

Humanity First is an international charitable trust established to promote and safeguard the preservation of human life and dignity. It is a non-political, non-sectarian international relief and development agency that works with the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people.

Humanity First was established in 1995 and now has registered operations in **29** countries with projects in **6** continents.

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