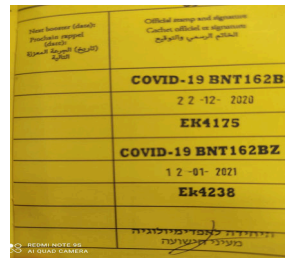




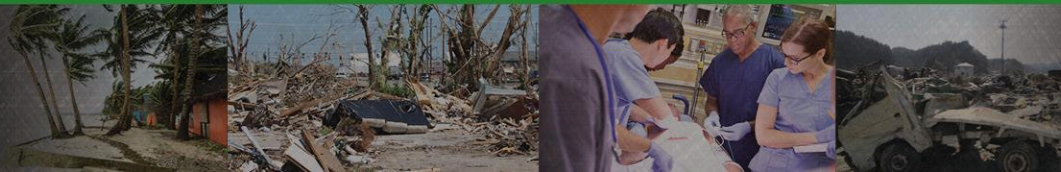
**WADEM**  
WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR DISASTER AND EMERGENCY MEDICINE

# ~~Lend a Hand Shoulder~~ COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Operation in Israel



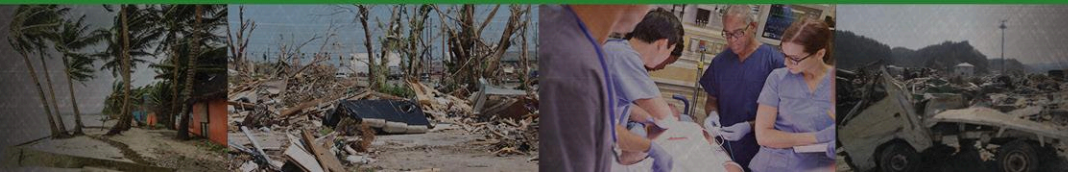
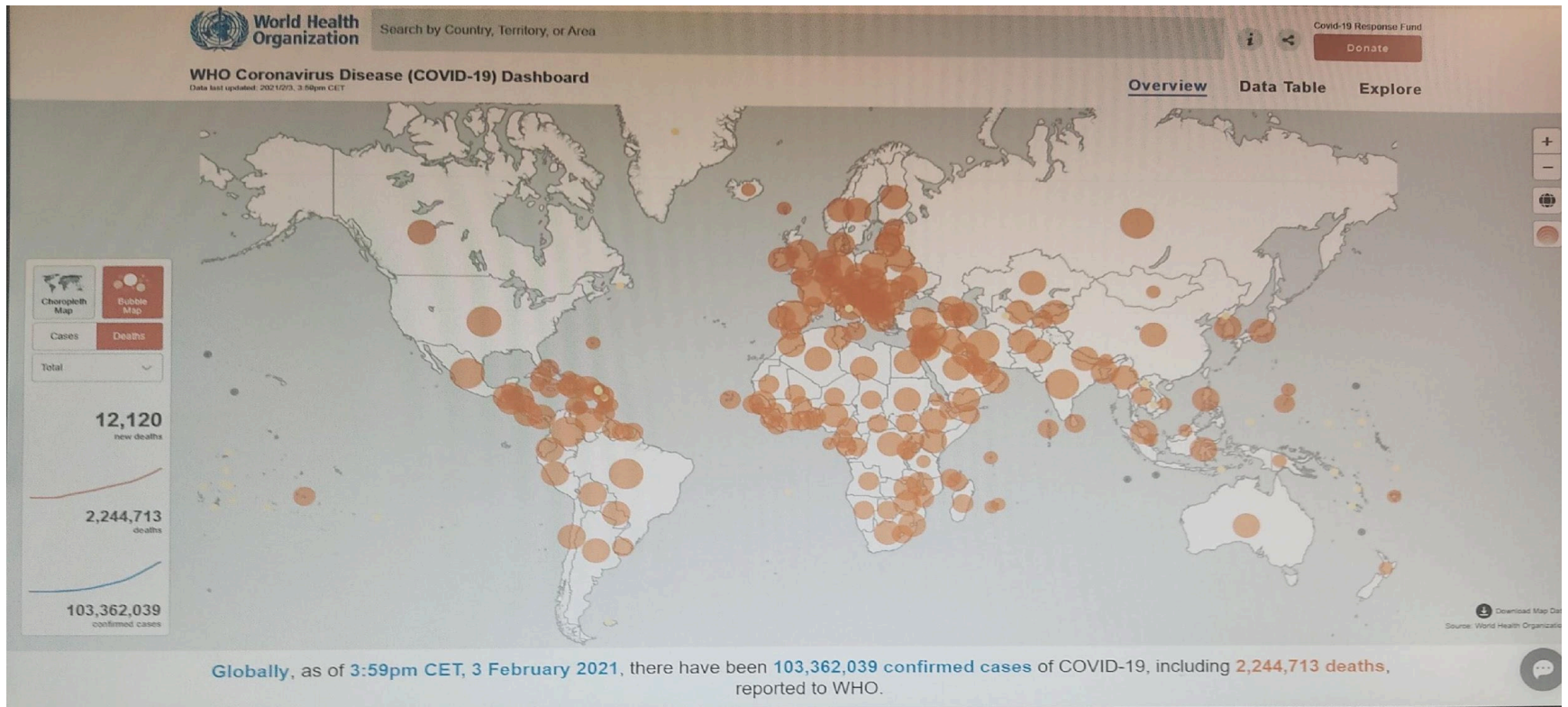
Odeda Benin-Goren, RN, CEN, PhD  
WADEM Nursing SIG Chair

Sigal Liverant-Taub, MD  
Director, General Medicine Division, Medical Directorate  
Israeli Ministry of Health



## COVID -19 toll

- By the 4<sup>th</sup> of February 2021, about 103 million COVID-19 cases were confirmed worldwide, and about 2.2 million people have died.





## COVID-19 in Israel

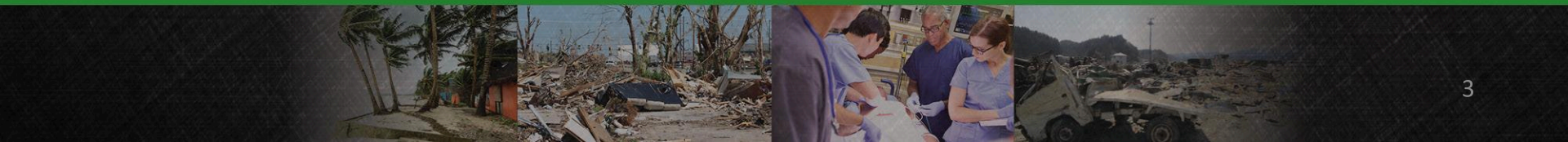
- By the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2021, there were about 84,784 active patients in Israel.
- About 1,800 patients were hospitalized.
- 1,101 patients were in a serious condition:
  - 404 were critical patients
  - 3331 patients were ventilated
  - 37 patients were on ECMO.
- More than 5,020 people have died.
- About 585,000 people are recovered.



image©Davar1.co.il

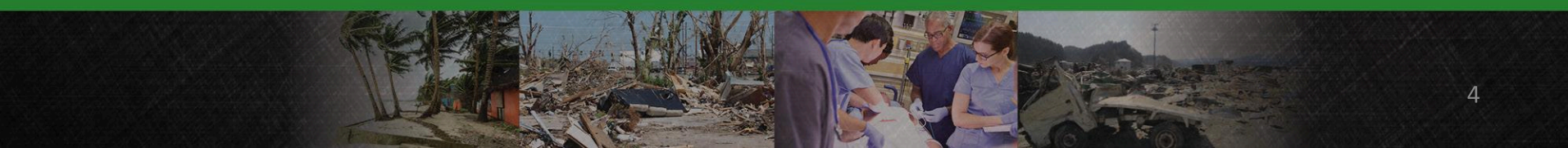
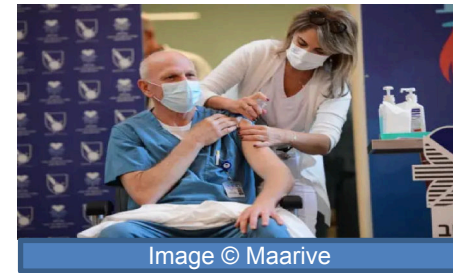


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## Lend a Shoulder Mass Vaccination Operation – the beginning

- Started – December 2020.
- A national committee has decided the criteria and priorities for vaccination.
- Based on the accumulated data, criteria have been updated an ongoing process.
- The principle guidelines for priorities are:
  - safety
  - efficiency
  - effectiveness.
- The first priority was for medical personnel and high-risk population.





## Mass vaccination – as of date 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2021

As of the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2021 about 5.3 million Israeli citizens have been vaccinated (58.35%):

- 3.3 million have been vaccinated with the first dose of vaccine (36.79%).
- 1.9 million have been vaccinated with the second dose of vaccine (21.56%).

Vaccinated population



## Mass Vaccination- “a rolling event”

- At the end of January , due to the increased number of patients, vaccination priorities have been updated:
  - population above 35 years old
  - pregnant women ( from second trimester)
  - teachers
  - high school students ( 16 y/o and above).
- At the beginning of February all population above 16 y/o was encouraged to be vaccinated.

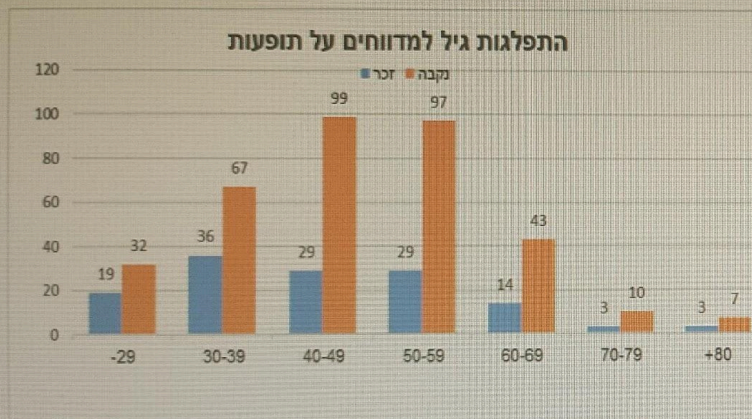




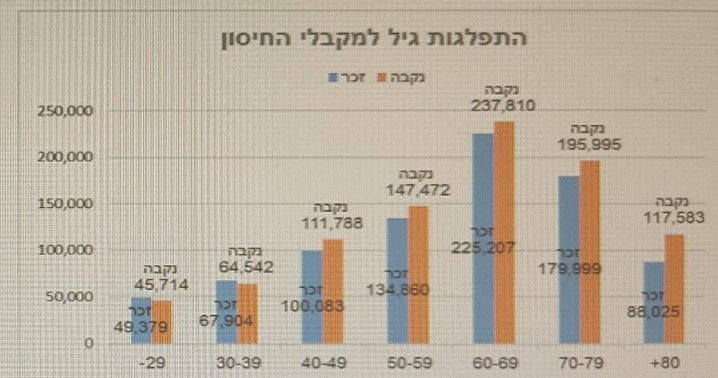
## Vaccination side effects

Distribution of age and gender among vaccinated population and reported side effects.

Age distribution reported on side effects



Vaccine recipients age distribution



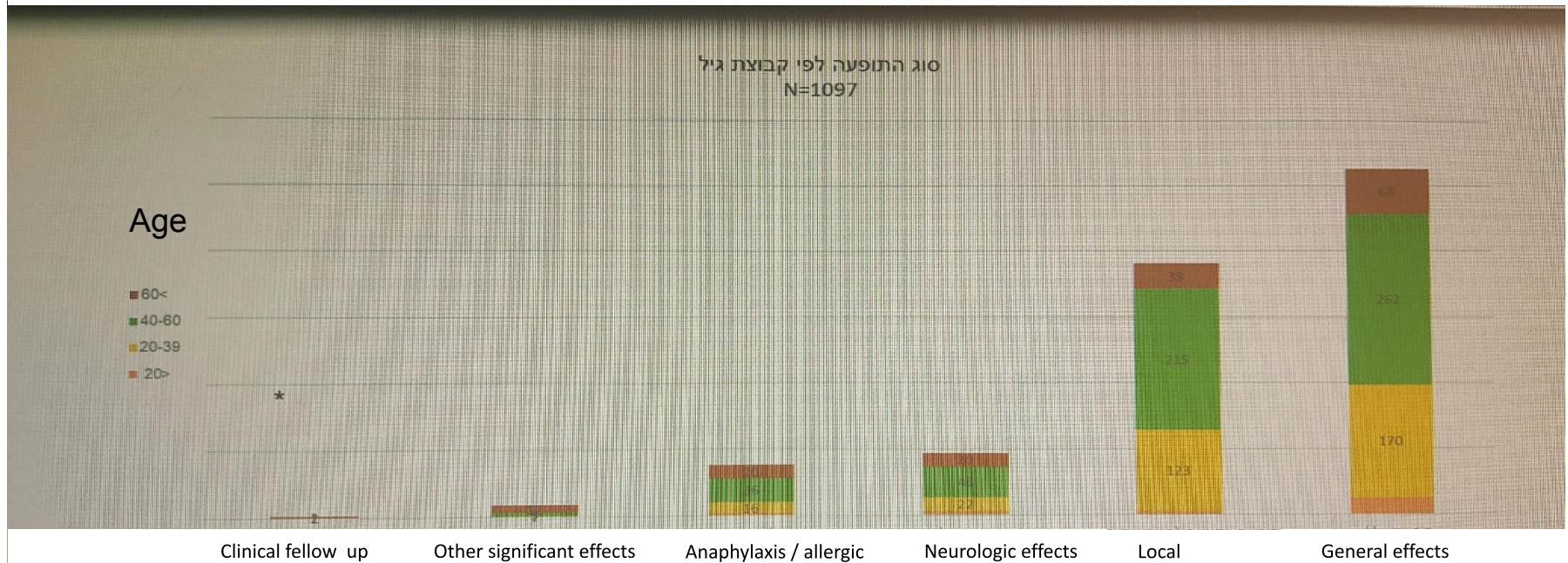
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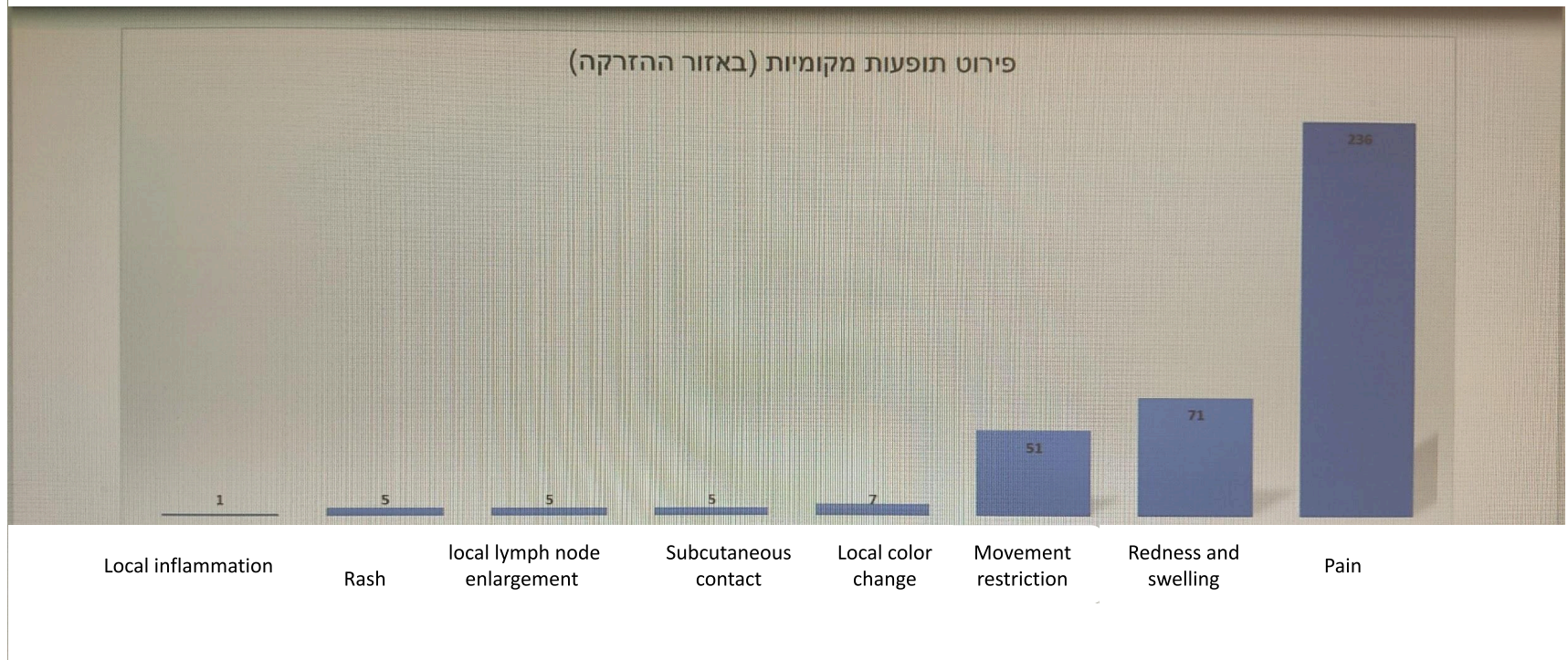
## Side effects

Types of side effects classifications out of 1.7 million vaccinated people according to age.



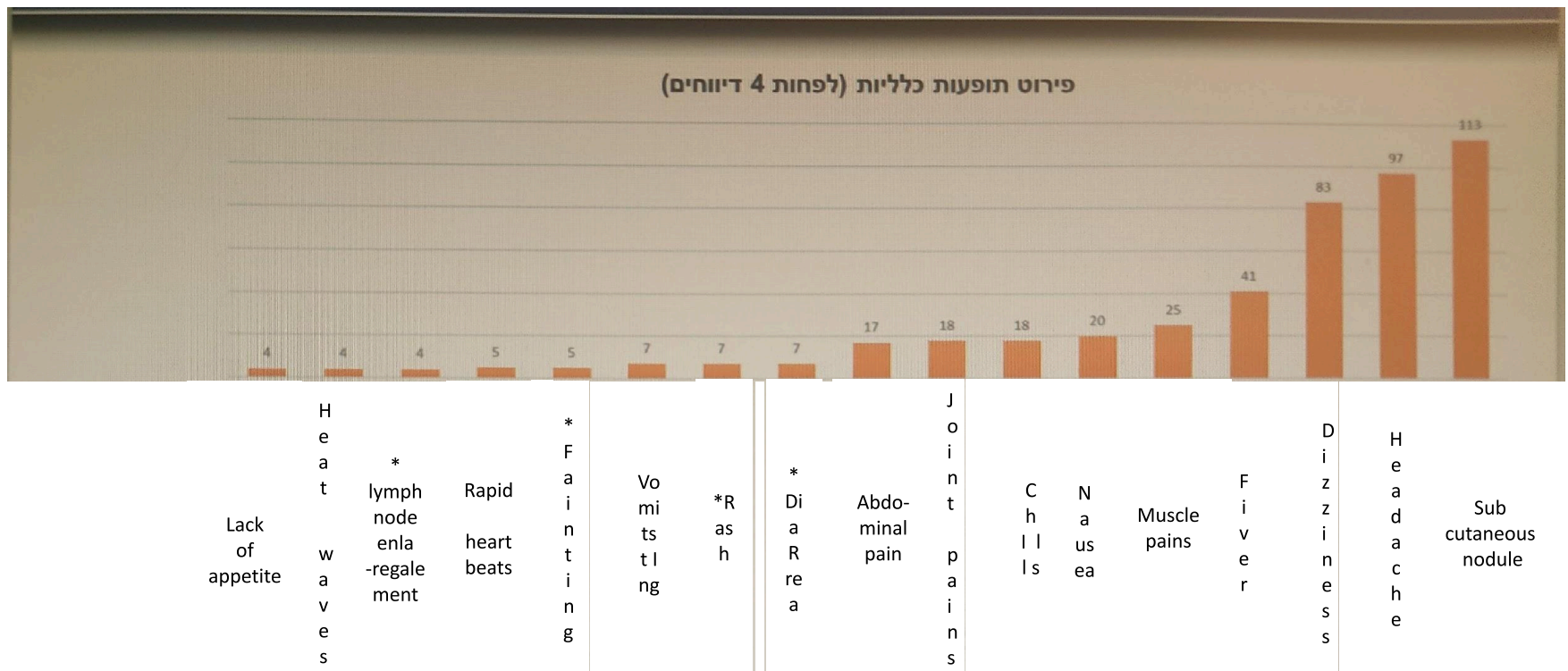


Local side effects ( N=381) out of 1.7 million vaccinated people.



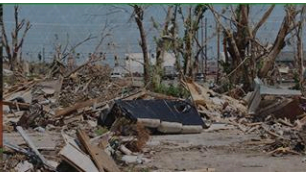
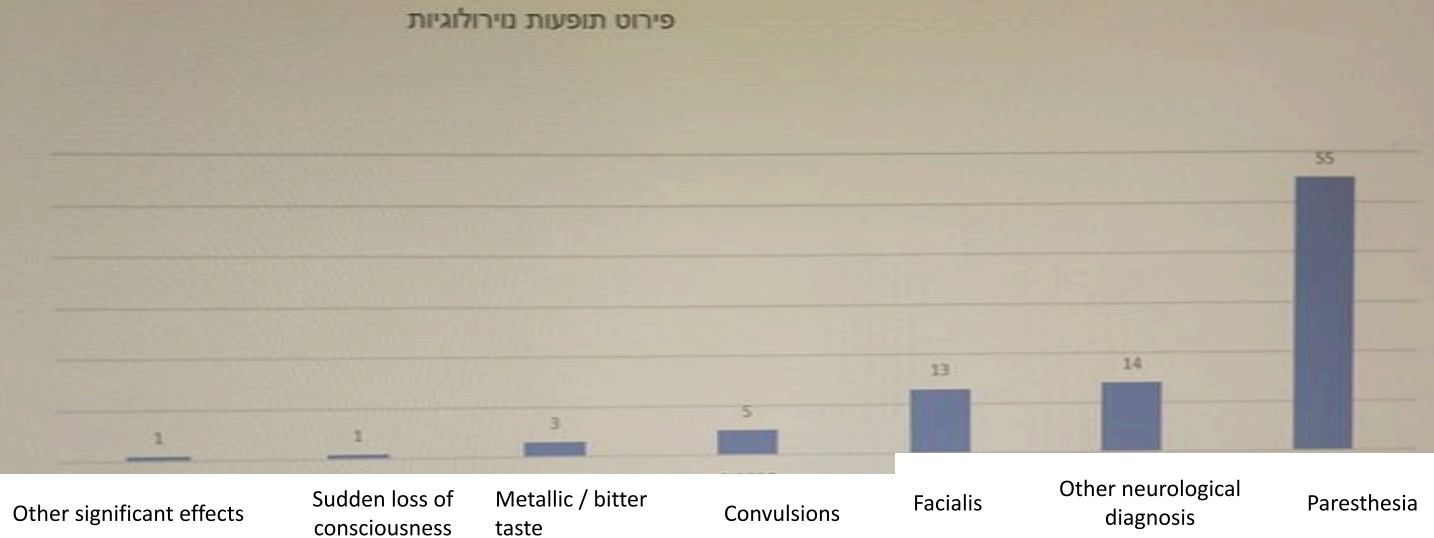


General side effects (N=475 ) out of 1.7 million vaccinated people.

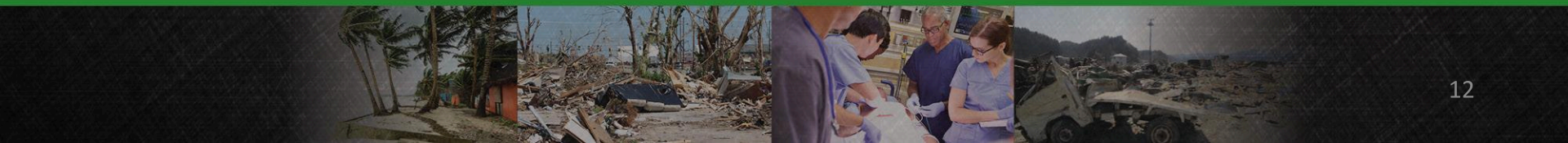
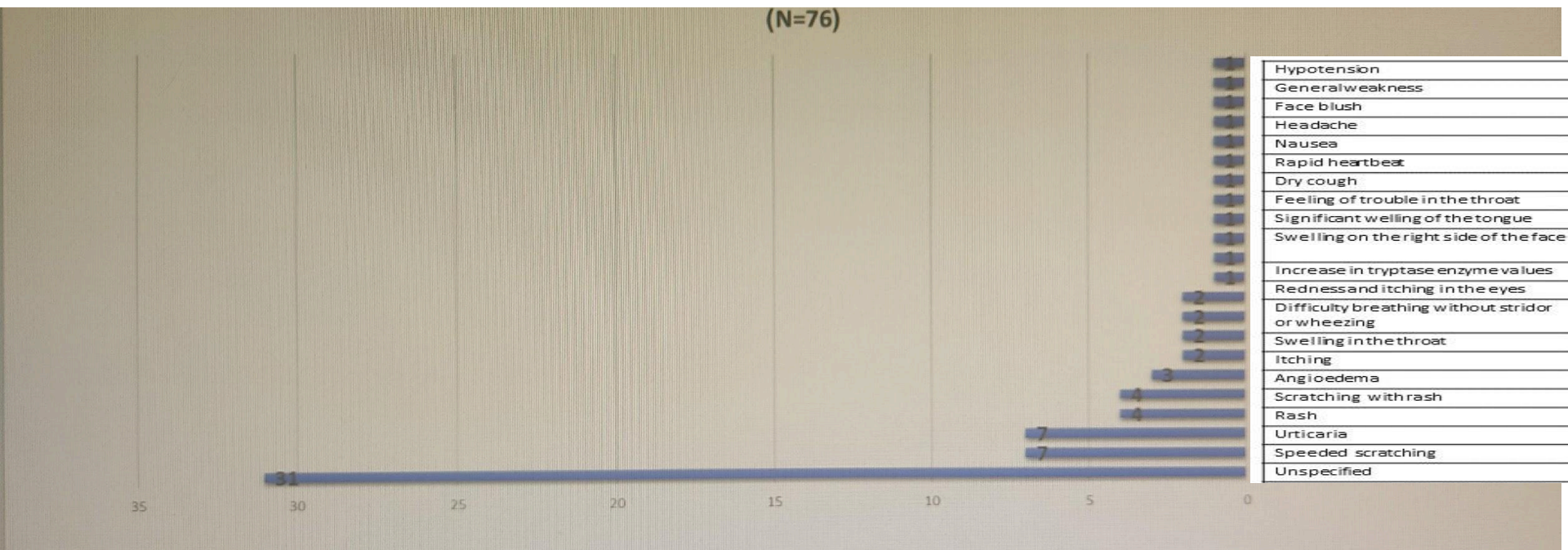




Neurological side effects (N= 92) out of 1.7 million vaccinated people.



Allergic reactions ( N=76) out of 1.7 vaccinated people.





## The way we do it

- The "Lend a Shoulder" operation is cooperatively between the MOH through:
- MOH command and control center.
- Sub-centers dedicated to specific domains:
  - Hospitals and Nursing Homes
  - HMOs
  - Magen David Adom (MDA) the Israeli Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
  - Home Front Command (HFC) of the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF)
  - Welfare and other community services.



## Logistic Command and control

- Only one deep-freeze storage for the whole state.
- One distributor of the vaccines to the different sites.

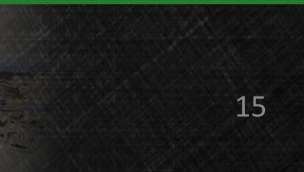




## Challenges

### Staff:

- Secure staff.
- Emotional support to keep team resilience and avoid burnout.
- workforce reinforcement and training for this specific operation.



## Challenges

### Logistics:

- Only one deep-freeze storage.
- One supplier distributes the vaccines to the different sites, controlled by the logistic command center.
- Short duration of the vaccines expiry date.
- Some difficulty vaccinate confined populations due to the need for special storage and mobilization.
- Lack of communication between sub- center/ endpoint users/ distributor.

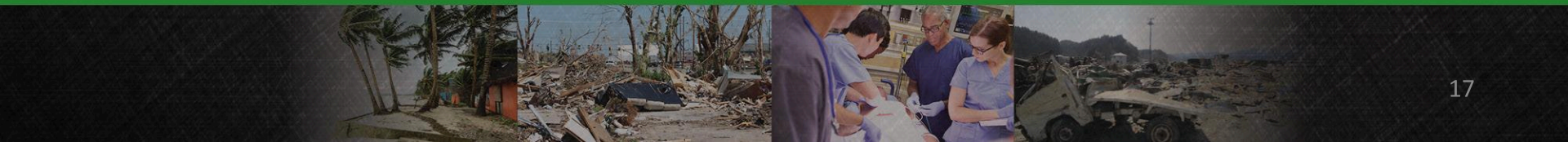
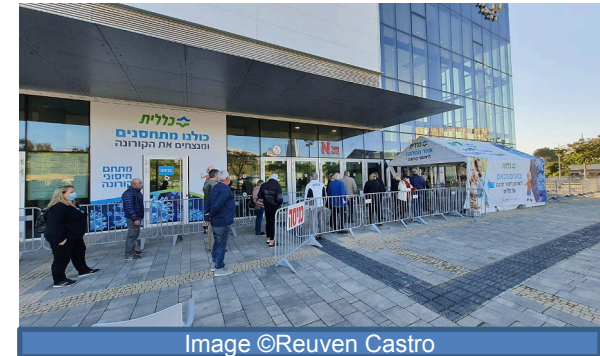




## Challenges

### Public:

- Secure public on vaccination sites ( social distance).
- Fake news / Risk communication.
- Government loss of public trust.
- Need to be attentive to cultural diversity to gain public trust.
- Encouraging the public who have not yet been vaccinated to get vaccinated.



## Summary

- Performing a mass vaccination is a major challenge to professional teams as well as the whole society.
- To increase public awareness and cooperation.
- To enforce regulations and at the same time to be sensitive and understand cultural differences.
- According to manufacturers' and MOH reports, it look like the side effects are not different from side effects of other vaccines that are provided regularly.

