A World of Compassion

Sanz Medical Center Laniado Hospital
The vision of the Rebbe, who established the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital, is a *kiddush Hashem* (sanctification of G-d’s name). Our building the Tessler School of Nursing is a privilege, and we are blessed for being able to be part of it.

— MR. AND MRS. RUDOLPH TESLER, CHICAGO, U.S.

Rudolph Tessler was witness to the Rabbi Halberstam’s vow and has been a loyal supporter of the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital since its inception. The Tessler School of Nursing bears his family’s name.

Choose Life

Born out of the ashes of the Holocaust, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is the fulfillment of the vow made by the Klausenberger-Sanz Rebbe, Rabbi Yechezkel Yehuda Halberstam, of blessed memory, in memory of his miraculous survival of a gunshot wound on a forced death march in the summer of 1944. Rabbi Halberstam lost his entire family, including his wife and eleven children. His response upon emerging from the flames was to avenge this evil by realizing the commandment “…I have put before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore, choose life…” (Deuteronomy 30:19-20) in the most literal way possible – by building a hospital on the shores of the burgeoning State of Israel. A hospital charged with the holy mission of sanctifying Heaven by saving and promoting life. Where the kaleidoscope of Israel’s population – from birth to old age – can seek help and receive it with compassion, love and respect. Where every child who is born and every patient treated is a living legacy in memory of the millions of lives destroyed by baseless hatred.

Located in the coastal resort city of Netanya, Israel, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital opened its doors in 1975. Guided by the Nine Founding Principles articulated by Rabbi Halberstam, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is committed to nurturing every patient’s emotional and spiritual well-being, recognizing that this is an essential element in the physical healing process. As per Rabbi Halberstam’s tenets, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital seeks to employ medical and nursing staff whose character reflects the Biblical commandment “And you shall love your fellow man as yourself.” (Leviticus 19:18) The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is proud to have a staff made up of Jews, Muslims, Christians and Druze – a veritable rainbow of cultural diversity and tolerance that embodies this important principle every day.

This is the legacy of the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital – healing the world by treating anyone who seeks help in a spirit of kindness, equality and compassion.
“The world is built on compassion”

Founded in 1975, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital embodies the tradition of Olam Chesed Yiboneh by caring for the residents of Netanya and its surrounding communities with compassion and dignity. Drawing its inspiration and strength from a foundation of faith in Jewish tradition, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital makes this tradition come alive daily via its state-of-the-art medical center – an oasis of healing, equality, compassion and respect for humanity.

"עולם, חסד יבוניה"

תרilikim פ”ט: ג

PSALMS 89:3
Healing the World

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The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital came to life on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, in the northern quarter of the coastal resort city of Netanya. The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is located in the heart of the Sanz Hassidic community neighborhood, rebuilt after its destruction in World War II.

The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is known and admired throughout the region for accompanying and supporting families and residents from prenatal care and birth through full geriatric care. Part and parcel of the Netanya landscape, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is at one with this diverse, growing community, as it expands and prospers.
The only hospital and emergency room serving the residents of Netanya and surrounding communities, the Sanz Medical Center- Laniado Hospital meets the healthcare needs of a catchment area of over 3 million people – a multicultural area that includes both Jewish and Arab towns and villages. From its modest beginnings, the hospital has experienced meteoric growth. In 1975, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital opened a four-room outpatient clinic to serve the then small town of Netanya’s 55,000 residents. The first hospital department, obstetrics, followed in the coming year. And today, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital serves the thriving metropolis of Netanya with over 250,000 residents. The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital grew to become a full scale healthcare campus that provides a myriad of essential services in inpatient departments; professional and research institutes; fully-equipped surgical theaters; an emergency and trauma unit; and in a specialized geriatric center – treating over 250,000 patients annually.

The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is also home to a fully accredited nursing school, the Tessler School of Nursing.

Accompanying the community through all stages of life, the S. Daniel Abraham Geriatric Center is a caring and compassionate home to the elderly. It is located in the heart of the Laniado campus where it continues to embody the principle of sanctification of life in everything that it does.

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“Take heed, and guard your life diligently...” Deuteronomy 4:15

“נִשְׁמַרְתֶּם מְאֹד, لنפשותיכם... “בראשית” 3:15"
The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital cares for and treats everyone – no matter how long or costly the required treatment may be or where the patient is from. Every human life is precious, and we do everything in our power to sanctify life – every day and for every single person who comes through our doors asking for help.

DR. CLAUDE PICARD, M.D., Director of the Orthopedic Department, Laniado Hospital
The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is characterized by a unique spirit of caring that sets it apart from other medical centers. This reflects the vision of its founder, who believed that a hospital must strive for excellence not only in science and research, but in the realm of mutual respect and kindness as well. The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is more than a place where doctors and patients meet to practice the art of healing; it is a living expression of being kindness and compassion throughout all stages of life. Mutual respect and kindness can be felt in every corridor and ward of the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital campus. Doctors and nurses smile and greet patients, and family members are treated with warmth and respect as they are an integral part of the patients’ recovery and rehabilitation. The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is a medical facility with a “heart and soul.” As taught in Rabbi Halberstam’s Founding Principles: “The hospital atmosphere shall be permeated with a spirit of peacefulness, tranquility, love and devotion. ... Every effort shall be made to employ physicians and paramedical staff who excel in their professional medical fields and possess personality traits and characteristics guided by the Biblical commandment: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

“Every effort will be made to relieve the pain and suffering of patients, and improve their emotional well-being and elevate their spirits. These are essential to overcoming illness and a full recovery.”

EXCERPT FROM RABBI YEKUTIEL YEHUDA HALBERSTAM’S FOUNDING PRINCIPLES
“Thanks to the ‘angels’ of the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital, I am still here. While I was undergoing intense chemotherapy treatment and had to be in isolation, I was treated professionally by people who understood what it was like to have the earth fall away beneath your feet. I felt that they were the source of my healing. I will always be grateful to the doctors, nurses and all the support staff for helping me through this difficult time.”

RAYA SHALEV, NETANYA, ISRAEL, treated in the Laniado Oncology Department
The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital means state-of-the-art treatment and educational facilities, attracting many of Israel's leading medical specialists to its professional ranks.
Delivering services in nearly all medical and surgical specialties and sub-specialties, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital attracts some of the finest healthcare professionals in their fields. Equipped with the most advanced diagnostic, treatment and research capabilities, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital provides world-class medical care and services.

- The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital Goldhammer Heart Institute adheres to the highest professional standards, using state-of-the-art equipment to care for patients that come to the Institute from all over the region. The Institute includes an 18-bed ICU, an intermediate step down unit with 18 beds, a cardiology in-patient ward, a cardiac catheterization laboratory performing over 750 procedures per year, as well as echocardiogram and outpatient clinics.

- The Oncology Departments are the ultimate examples of excellence – while never compromising on the credo of patient-centric care. No effort is spared to ease suffering and offer appropriate cares. The most up-to-date treatment protocols are available, and the dynamic research oriented teams leave no stone unturned in pursuing aggressive treatments and procedures.

- The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital established Israel’s first Diabetes Center, the Gabriel Cabra Bildirici Diabetes Center. Offering a multidisciplinary, centralized, holistic approach to diabetes care, it operates an innovative network of “Diabetes Coordinators” on every ward of the general hospital.

- The Betty Retter Mother and Baby Medical Center is one of the most sought after venues for expectant mothers, expertly handling hundreds of births a month. Known throughout Israel for its especially sensitive approach, the Center enables each and every patient to enjoy a unique birth experience. Scores of expectant others come to the Center from locations as far as the Galilee, Jerusalem and even Beersheba.
Excellence

“The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is an excellent institution where they know how to do their work properly. The residents of the area can rest assured that they will get the best treatment possible.”

PROF. AVI YISRAELI, Director General, Israel Ministry of Health

The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital’s ultra-modern Neonatology Department and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit enjoys a well-deserved reputation for its excellent neonatal care. Complex surgical procedures are performed by leading neonatal surgeons when necessary, and the Department is equipped with the most state-of-the-art equipment available to help even the tiniest, most delicate newborns survive and thrive.

Considered one of the most successful IVF units in Israel, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital IVF Unit offers promise and hope to families struggling with fertility issues. Countless couples have been blessed with the joy of parenthood, enabling them to experience the incomparable miracle of birth.

In addition, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital is at the forefront of professional education. From its modest beginning in 1977 with 18 students, today the Tessler School of Nursing graduates dozens of well-trained Registered Nurses every year. These graduates consistently receive excellent results in national certification exams, and are sought after by major hospitals, HMOs and medical facilities throughout the country. They are known for outstanding professional skills and compassionate care. The Tessler School of Nursing operates a popular program for international students from all over the world.

The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital offers the full breadth of medical care—in these and other specialized centers, institutes and departments:

- The Goldhamer Heart Institute
- The Neiman Children’s Pavilion
- The Korall Children’s Medical Center
- The S. Daniel Abraham Operating Theater Wing
- The Betty Ratter Mother and Baby Medical Center
- The Pola Ann, David and Wendy Kooperman Maternity Department
- The Dyna & Fala Weinstock Pediatric Emergency Center
- The Gabriel Cabrera Bildersteyn Diabetes Center
- The Leon & Sabina Weinreb Institute for Rehabilitation
- The Tessler School of Nursing
- The S. Daniel Abraham Geriatric Center

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Commitment

“...We partner with our patients, and are with them every step of the way. From acute, life-threatening situations to ongoing programs and follow-up to ensure improved cardiac health. We are committed to giving our patients the best care that modern medicine has to offer. ”

DR. RON JOSEPH LEOR-LIBRACH, M.D., Ph.D., Director of the Goldhamer Heart Institute
When a woman, who suffered from a manageable case of chronic leukemia, was brought to the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital emergency room when she suddenly stopped breathing, Dr. Shlomo Bulvik, Director of the Hematology Department, was called in. He suspected West Nile Virus, since there was an outbreak of the disease in Israel at the time among the elderly and infirm. Thinking that perhaps the patient’s immune system was compromised, he suggested they boost it with immunoglobulin to help her fight off the virus, if in fact she had it. Despite the fact that immunoglobulin is a very costly endeavor, Dr. Bulvik persevered in the hope that it would boost her immune system and allow the patient to fight off whatever had triggered the cessation of breathing. At the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital, doctors never give up without a fight.

By the next day, the patient was awake and was breathing easily. Soon after, the results of the lab tests taken on admission were delivered, and confirmed that she did have West Nile Virus. The tests also revealed that the patient’s immunoglobulin levels were normal. Apparently it was not the immunoglobulin that did the trick. Or was it?

The patient recovered and was discharged. Dr. Tzvi Shimoni, Director of the Infectious Disease Unit and Internal Medicine B Department, set out for the laboratory together with Dr. Bulvik to research and determine whether the immunoglobulin was the cause for such a dramatic recovery from West Nile Virus. He sent five samples of Israeli immunoglobulin to colleagues abroad for further advanced analysis. Thinking that the samples were from patients, Bulvik’s colleague notified him that all five “patients” had West Nile Virus. That meant that the Israeli-made samples of immunoglobulin must contain antibodies that fight West Nile Virus. Apparently this is because most Israelis develop antibodies to the disease since it is fairly common in the region, though only a miniscule number of people suffer symptoms and get an active case of the disease.

Call it serendipity. Or call it good science. But by any name, the discovery of a viable and easy to administer cure for West Nile Virus has made it into the textbooks and has been patented. This simple injection of immunoglobulin originating from Israel proved to be an effective cure in many cases – both in Israel and abroad. This kind of original research in the exciting field of infectious diseases and in other fields of medicine continues, thanks to the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital’s excellent laboratory facilities and supportive research infrastructure.
Life

“...We chose the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital because of that extra special care and respect we knew we would receive here ... and that made our birth even more special. We don’t even live in the immediate area, and could have chosen to deliver at one of the major medical centers in the Tel Aviv region closer to home. But it was worth it, and the birth of our first child was so much more special here at Laniado Hospital.”

DANA WEINBERGER, TEL AVIV, ISRAEL, with her newborn baby boy born in Laniado Hospital
Terrorism Strikes at Netanya’s Park Hotel as the Passover Seder Begins

March 27, 2002: the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital treats over 140 wounded in a suicide bomb attack targeted at the Park Hotel’s 250 guests, as they sat with their families to celebrate the Passover Seder.

On the Frontline of Israel’s Reality

Sadly, Israel’s harsh reality entails a constant battle against forces that seek its destruction. The war against terrorism is part of daily life in Israel – threatening the safety and security of its citizens. Over the last several years, the city of Netanya has been among the hardest hit terrorist targets. Yet each and every time terrorism has struck, the staff from the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital Emergency & Trauma Unit has been there to comfort, heal, and treat the wounded. The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital has been awarded several citations for its outstanding responsiveness and dedication, and staff members are invited to speak about and share their experience at medical centers across the globe. The infamous Seder night Passover attack best symbolizes how much terrible devastation can be wrought by terrorists. It represents the ability of a medical facility, like the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital, to quickly organize and treat an unprecedented and unanticipated number of seriously wounded victims in record time. It truly places the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital Emergency & Trauma Unit on the frontline of the war against terrorism.

March 27, 2002: the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital leapt into high gear when a suicide bomber wrought death and destruction at the Park Hotel on Passover Eve, just as the guests – and Jewish families all over the world – sat together to celebrate the Passover Seder on March 27, 2002. Thirty innocent men, women and children lay dead and countless were wounded. The staff of the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital left their own families and Passover celebrations, and rushed to the hospital to attend to the wounded, and the small Emergency and Trauma Unit worked well beyond its capacity. As then Israel Minister of Health Nissim Dahan said on a visit to the hospital shortly after the attack: “The work done that night at the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital saved the lives of countless of the critically injured.” Over recent years Netanya itself has fallen victim to well over a dozen terrorist attacks, placing the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital on the frontline of the war against terrorism, and extending its overburdened emergency and trauma resources beyond its limits.
The Second Lebanon War of 2006 highlighted the need for better preparedness on the home front. Within missile range from Lebanon and only 12 kilometers (9 miles) from the Green Line, Netanya is a primary target for both conventional and unconventional acts of war. The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital must prepare today for these frightening scenarios. A new underground “hospital within a hospital,” safe from biological, chemical and conventional warfare, is being equipped to roll into action – prepared to accept casualties from a large-scale attack or disaster.

All of Israel yearns for peace, and hopes and prays that these facilities will never be put to use. But it is mandatory to be prepared. The residents of Netanya and its surrounding communities have come to rely on the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital in their time of need. And true to its legacy, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital must never let them down.

Always Ready
Always Prepared

“...whoever saves a one life, it is considered as if he saved the entire world.”

SANHEDRIN 4:5
Invest Today for a Healthier Tomorrow
The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital looks toward the future with great optimism and a strong belief in its mission. At the same time, the harsh geopolitical realities coupled with the miraculous growth in Netanya and its surrounding village and towns, make expansion of the medical center so many rely on imperative.
The Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital has immediate plans call for laying the foundation of a new multi-storey building. An underground “hospital within a hospital” will stand ready and available in case of natural disasters and to protect civilians and soldiers in case of war or terrorist attack. The underground facility will be fully equipped to handle all types of disasters, including unconventional warfare, such as biological or chemical attack.

The ground floor will accommodate an expanded Emergency & Trauma Center with ambulance access to meet both the day-to-day medical emergencies of the community and handle mass casualties.

And the building will house an additional six floors with specialized sections for orthopedics and internal medicine and a new dialysis center. The upper-most floors will contain new outpatient clinics, research and laboratory facilities, conference and meeting rooms and a real-time, modern medical and general computerized library.

The new structure will showcase an audio-visual Holocaust Memorial exhibit alongside a Sephardic Heritage Center open to visitors and patients. These exhibits will honor the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital’s unique multicultural history, as well as pay tribute to its present place in the cultural melting pot that is modern Israel.

We invite you to partner with us in making the vision of the new structure a reality on the ground, fulfilling the ultimate vision of its founder and the many generous donors who have supported the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital over the years.

“...the earth is full of the Lord’s loving kindness.”

PSALMS 33:5
With your help, the Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital can continue on its mission to offer excellent medical care for all in need, and to accompany and serve the community of greater Netanya throughout the journey of life in sickness and in health – with respect, compassion and dignity.
Sanz Medical Center-Laniado Hospital, Netanya
www.laniado.org.il