
February 15, 2023

RE: Earthquake in Türkiye & Syria: A Statement from COA President and COA Global Surgery Committee

Dear COA Members, Allied Health Organizations, and Supporting Partners,

With an ever-increasing concern, the Canadian Orthopaedic Association (COA) is closely following the devastating impacts on the people of Türkiye and Syria following the 7.8 magnitude earthquake last week.

The destruction across both countries is astounding; the profoundly heartbreaking loss of life in addition to the tens of thousands who are estimated to have sustained serious injuries. As a result, much-needed rehabilitation and orthopaedic supplies to support are needed, among many other resources and supplies.

As the national Association representing orthopaedic care across Canada, we are fully committed to reducing human suffering from injury or trauma, not just across Canada but worldwide. We encourage all COA Members to offer support where they can to assist those in Türkiye and Syria to care for the injured.

With many members inquiring about how they can help, we encourage you to visit the official [Government of Canada \(Global Affairs\) website](#), where you can donate directly to the [Red Cross](#). On behalf of its members, the COA Executive Committee has made a direct contribution to the [Earthquake in Türkiye & Syria Appeal](#), with the hope that a small gesture can provide some relief to those in need.

The Association's leadership and Board continue to keep the people of Türkiye and Syria in our thoughts and prayers, specifically our colleagues in medicine with the Turkish Orthopaedic Association and colleagues within the [Syrian American Medical Society Foundation](#), who are also accepting donations for relief efforts.

We sincerely appreciate any support you can individually provide to ease the suffering at this time. Should you have any resources to share with the COA community, please do not hesitate to [reach out](#), and we will ensure it is communicated in a timely manner to membership and our network of partners and Associations.

Sincerely,



Dr. Laurie Hiemstra, President, Canadian Orthopaedic Association



Dr. Supriya Singh, Chair, Canadian Orthopaedic Association Global Surgery Committee