With funding provided by the Government of Canada, the first Canadian Red Cross Health ERU was developed and deployed to Haiti in 2010, in response to a cholera outbreak. Since the first deployment, numerous lessons have been integrated resulting in a full revision of its original kits and modules to increase the tool’s flexibility and adaptability.
Inside an Emergency Field Hospital: Expert Medical Care and Services.

**PHARMACY**
Medical logisticians ensure a supply chain of medications to cover up to 200 outpatient treatments per day and 300 major surgeries in a month.

**TRIAGE & ADMISSION**
People arriving at the field hospital are rapidly assessed and admitted.

**X-RAY & LAB**
Technicians perform x-rays and test blood samples from injured and sick patients.

**OPERATION THEATRE**
Surgeons perform lifesaving operations and emergency caesarean sections.

**MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH UNIT**
Doctors and nurses provide specialized care to mothers and newborns before and after delivery.

**BASE CAMP**
Accommodation for 25 to 50 field hospital staff, including beds and meals.

ERU team members are highly qualified and experienced professionals within their field of expertise. Most common profiles that are requested for an ERU are:

- Doctors (general practitioner, emergency room, paediatrician, OBGYN)
- Surgeons
- Anaesthesiologists
- Midwives
- Nurses (emergency room, med/surgical, paediatric, operating room)
- X-ray and laboratory technicians
- Logisticians and pharmacists
- Psychosocial support professionals
- Public health professionals
- Communications professionals
- Administrators (finance, human resources)
- Technicians (electrical, water and sanitation, shelter, general trades)

Applicants should be:

- Fluent in English and preferably additional languages: French, Spanish, and/or Arabic
- Certified in Canada or the USA for their medical field of practice
- Able to leave for four to six weeks on short notice
- Able to live and work in hardship and/or low-resource environments
- Capable of decision making in conditions of uncertainty
- Professional and able to build cooperative relations with key stakeholders
- Able to work in multicultural teams
- Able to complete and maintain a thorough medical screening and receive medical clearance prior to departure in the field
- Capable of managing stress and coping in situations of crises and insecurity

The strength of the Red Cross Movement is its presence in communities all around the world. When emergencies occur, local Red Cross Red Crescent volunteers are always the first to respond. ERUs were created to respond to needs that are beyond the local, national and regional capacities.

Knowledge, experience and standards are key elements of the ERU system. The ERU system was born out of the 150 years of first-hand disaster response experience of the Red Cross Movement.

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