



Department of Cardiovascular Medicine

October 11, 2023

Colleagues,

We are stunned, saddened, and dismayed by the terror attack on Israel by Hamas, in which over a thousand men, women, children and infants were killed, kidnapped, and assaulted, in their homes, at a music festival for peace, in their private lives. The cruelty and inhumanity are appalling. We condemn this hateful attack, the needless suffering it engenders to people of many nations, and hope for an end to violence. We are also saddened that this act of terror by Hamas will lead to significant suffering by many in Gaza who are not complicit in these attacks.

We know that these events take a toll on our own community, as many of our colleagues and members of the communities we serve have friends and family in the region or are otherwise distressed by these events. We stand with you. Cardiovascular Medicine and Surgery have many direct, close ties to Israel: many of the leaders in cardiovascular medicine and surgery in Israel trained with us; we have stood side by side and performed cardiovascular procedures and surgeries, and shared patients in the US and in Israel; we have had annual meetings and exchanges and collaborated in research, education, and patient care.

Our Mayo community is comprised of people from diverse backgrounds, country of origin, and faiths. Our unity, shared humanity, empathy, and commitment to higher purpose are our strengths. Many around us are shaken -- reach out and offer support. If you need assistance, or someone to speak with, support is available. Contact [Office for Staff Services](#) (Consultants), [Employee Assistance](#) and/or any of the [Mayo Employee Resource Groups \(MERG\)](#).