W.M.A

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The MOU

- Medical ethics will constitute the major area of cooperation between the ICRC and WMA.
- At the national level, the project encourages initiatives from national medical associations to raise the HCiD issue.
- The ICRC commits to promote, where appropriate, interaction between national medical associations and its delegations as well as with the Red Cross and Red Crescent national societies.

Health care in danger
A matter of life & death

Violence against patients and health-care workers is one of the most crucial yet overlooked humanitarian issues today. The Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement runs a project aiming to improve security and delivery of impartial and efficient health care in armed conflict and other emergencies

ICRC

Health care in danger: the issue

Violence affecting directly:

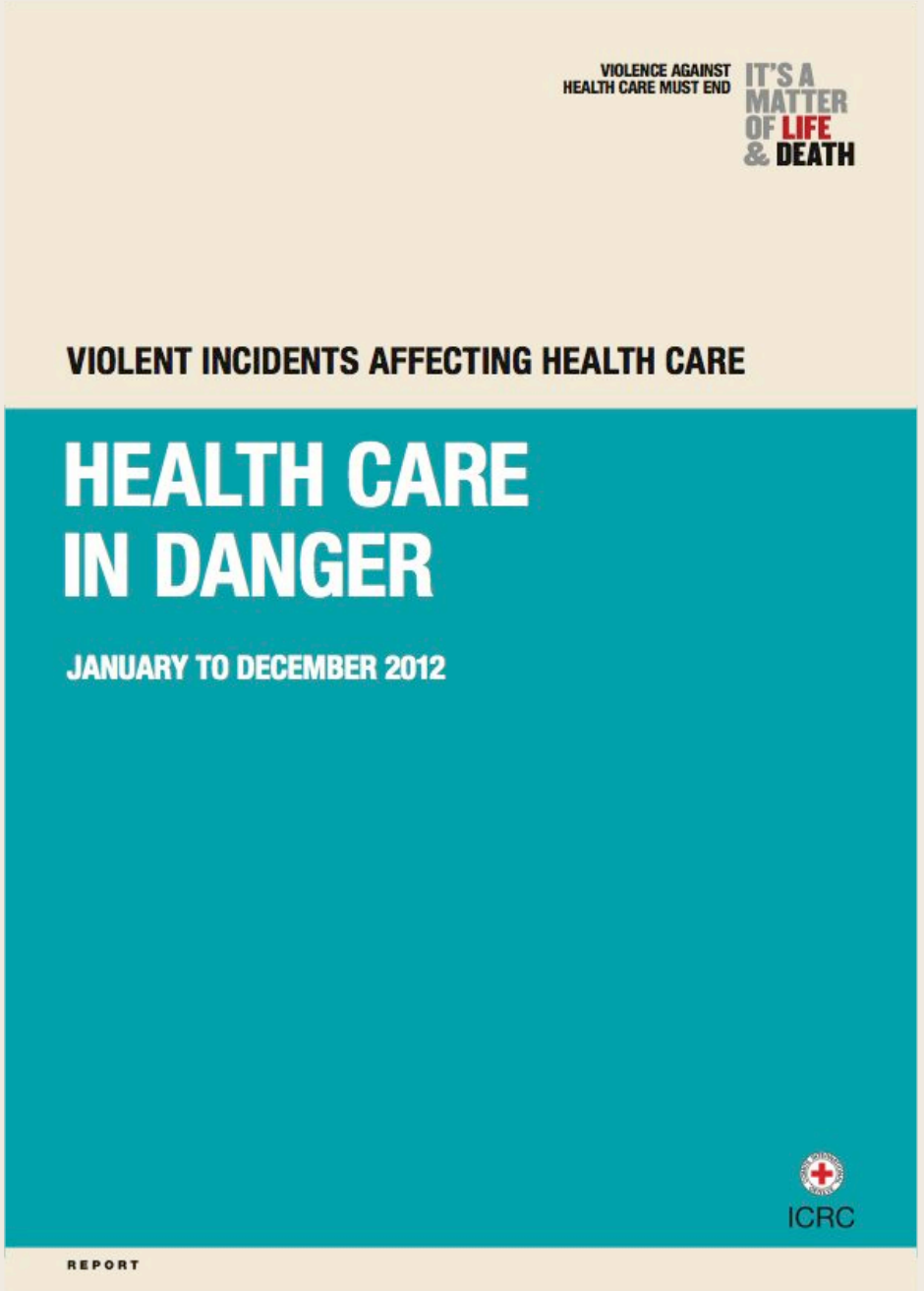
- Patients : wounded and sick;
- Medical and health-personnel;
- Transports : ambulances
- Infrastructures : hospital, clinic, first aid post

It concerns everyone:

Public Services and Private Sector

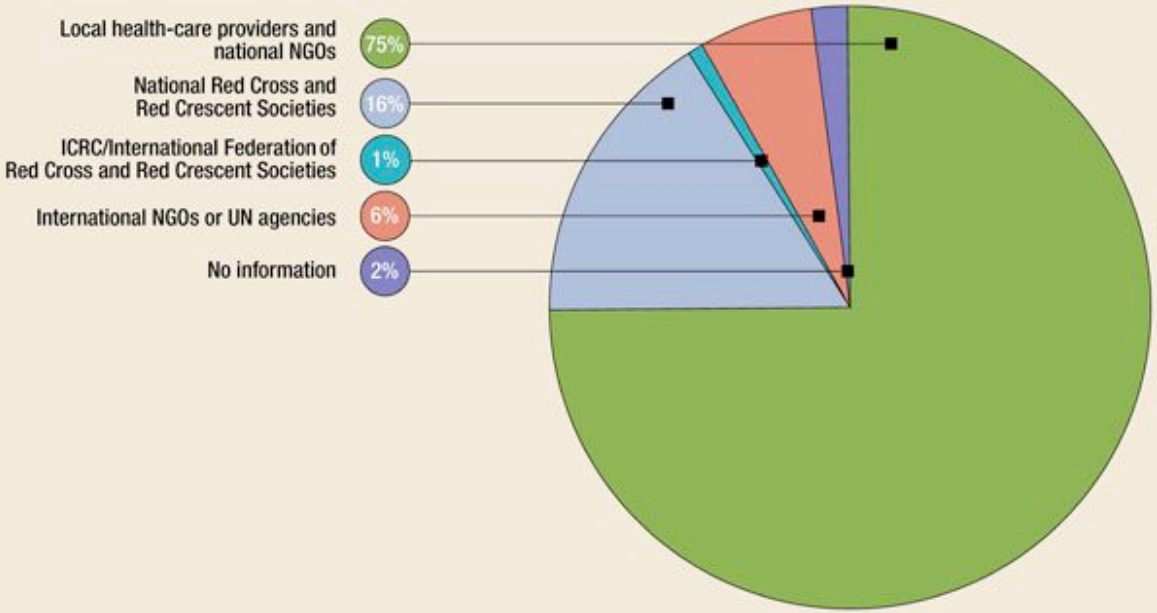
RC/RC movement

NGOs



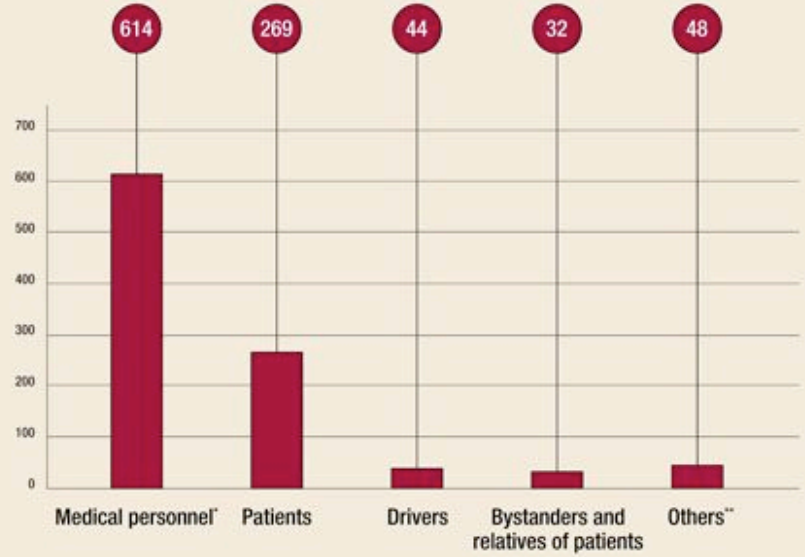
2012 Study
Violent incident affecting Health Care
in 22 countries

HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS AFFECTED BY VIOLENT INCIDENTS



Total number of incidents by category of health-care provider affected – 921

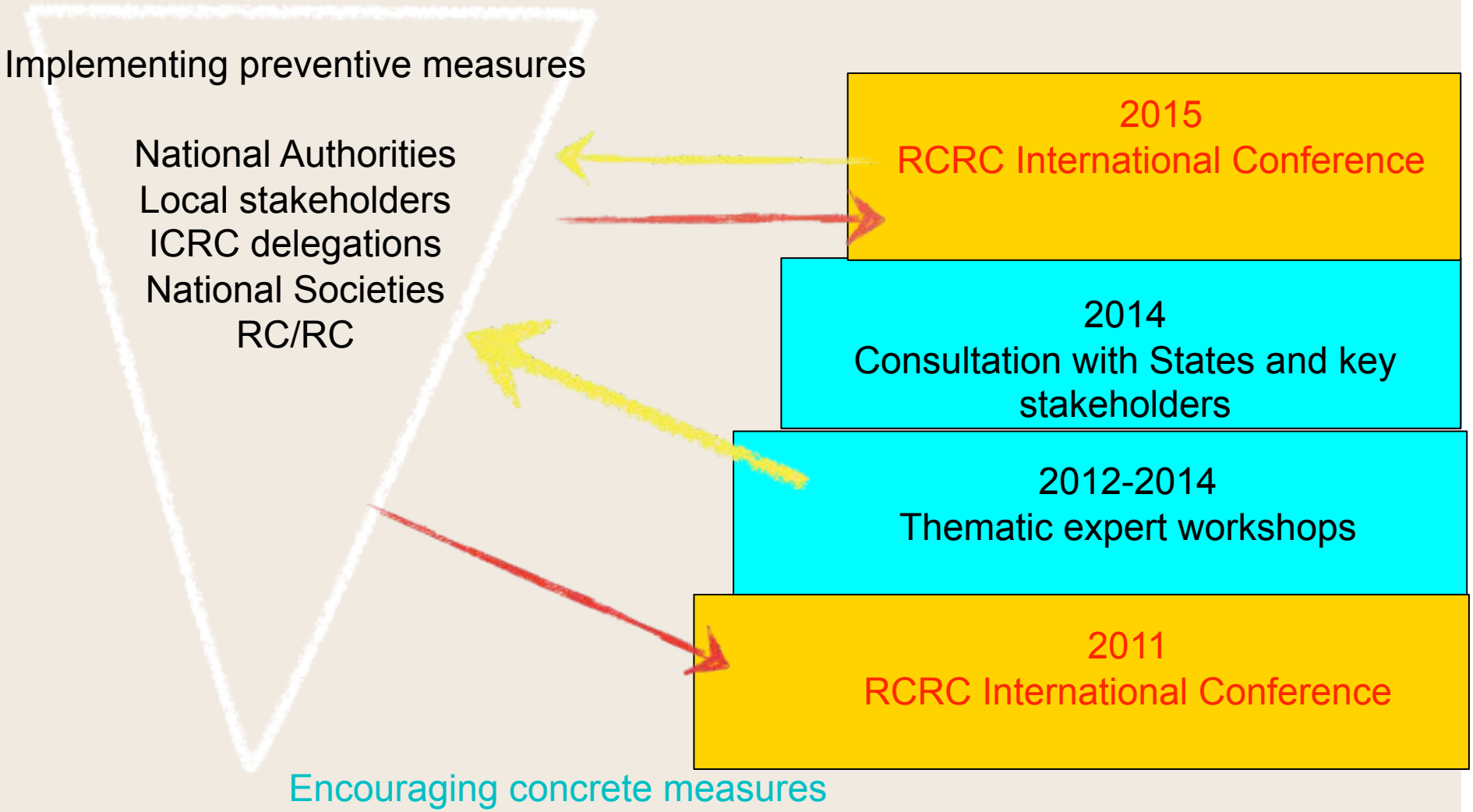
VICTIMS OF VIOLENT INCIDENTS AFFECTING HEALTH CARE



Total number of victims – 1,007

* Medical personnel: Doctors, nurses and paramedics
** Others: Aid workers, relatives of medical personnel, and unspecified persons.

Health Care in Danger: The Project



Consultations

Issues for global consultations	Location
1. Military practice: from training to operational orders	Sydney (December 2013)
2. National Societies' response to HCiD (PNS and ONS)	Oslo (December 2012) Teheran (February 2013)
3. Ambulances and pre-hospital services	Mexico (May 2013)
4. Responsibilities and rights of health-care personnel	London (April 2012) Cairo (December 2012)
5. The physical safety of health facilities	Pretoria (April 2014)
	Ottawa (September 2013)
6. National legislation and penal repression	Brussels (January 2014)
7. Civil society: mobilizing opinion & religious leaders	Dakar (April 2013)

Military Operational Practice

Consultations

Focus in 4 areas, namely:

Ground evacuation of wounded and sick across territory controlled by different parties to a conflict (including the issue of **checkpoints**)

Search operations in health-care facilities

Fighting in proximity of medical infrastructure: precautions in the attack and defense at either the planning or conduct of operations stages, in order to avoid or minimize potential dangers medical workers, vehicles and facilities

Use of the protective emblems by health-care workers, medical vehicles and health-care **facilities**

National Legislations

- **Integrate victims of armed conflicts and other emergencies into national scheme ensuring access to health.**
- **Contextual definition of Health care providers, transports and infrastructure; what about traditional medicine?**
- **Need to ensure protection of Red Cross/ Red Crescent emblem; in addition possibility of creating a national emblem for the medical mission as in Colombia.**
- **Preserving medical ethics and confidentiality when regulating possible disclosure of medical information.**

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Health care in danger: Results

Mobilization at Global Level

- World Medical Association
- International Council of Nurses
- ICMM
- International Hospital Federation
- MSF / Medical NGOs
- WHO
- OHCHR

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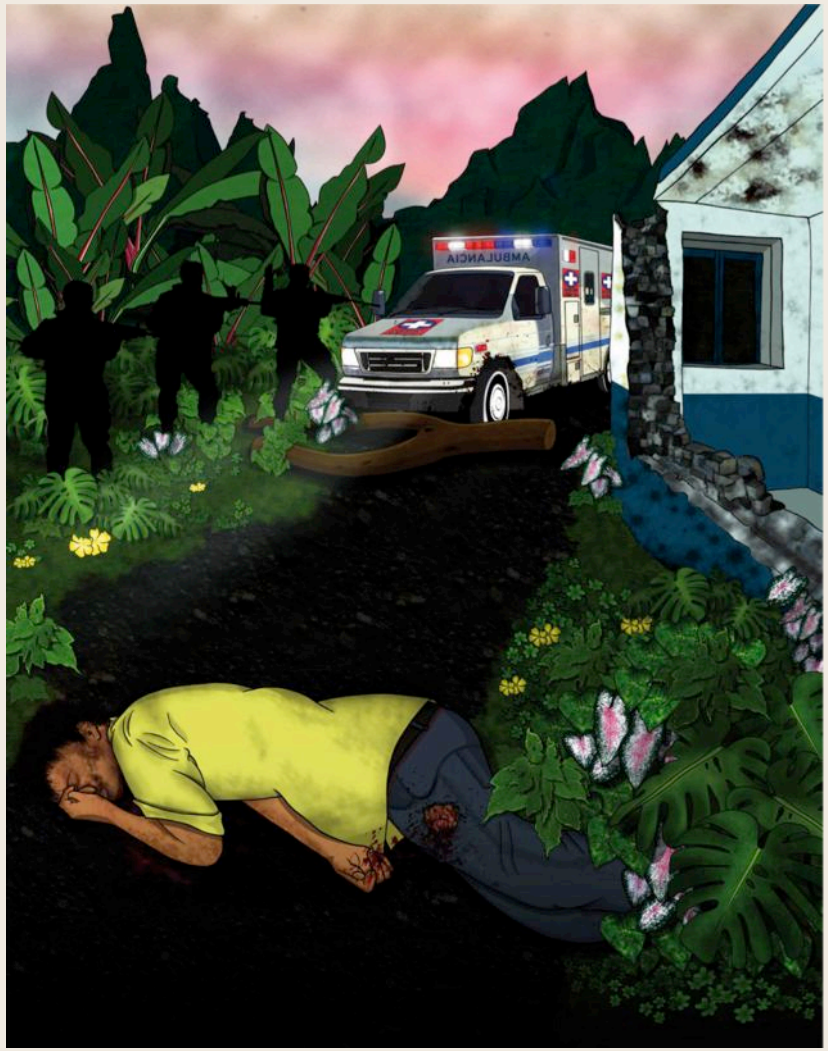
Health care in danger: Country level results

Colombia:

Government decree, data collection, medical mission campaign and training for health professionals.



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Health care in danger: Country level results

Yemen: receiving a strong governmental commitment to protect health-care

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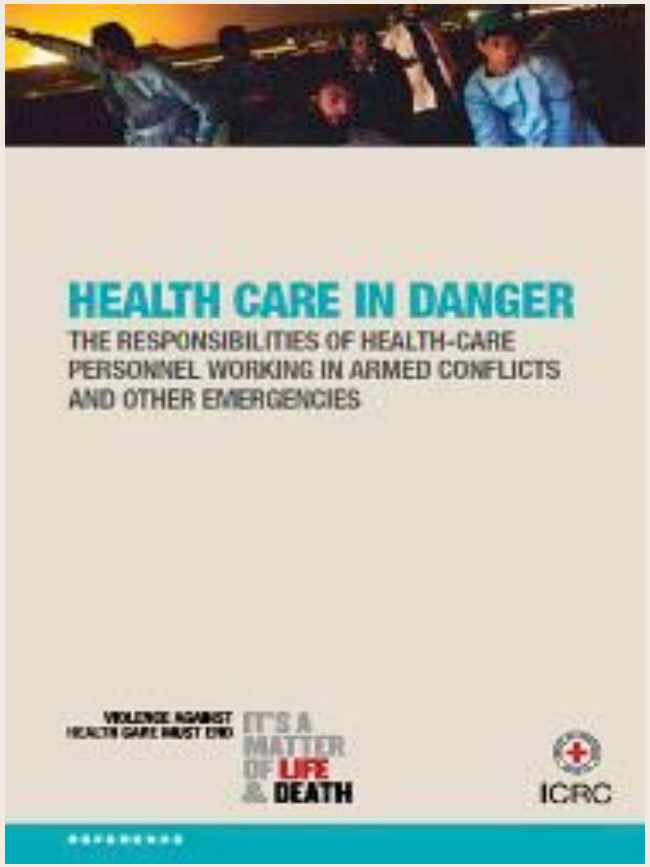
- A tool for all health-care personnel confronted to armed violence :

The responsibilities of Health Care Personnel working in armed conflicts and other emergencies :

- International law
- Medical ethics
- Data protection & health records
- Dead body management and issue of missing persons
- Taking into account vulnerabilities
- Witnessing abuses



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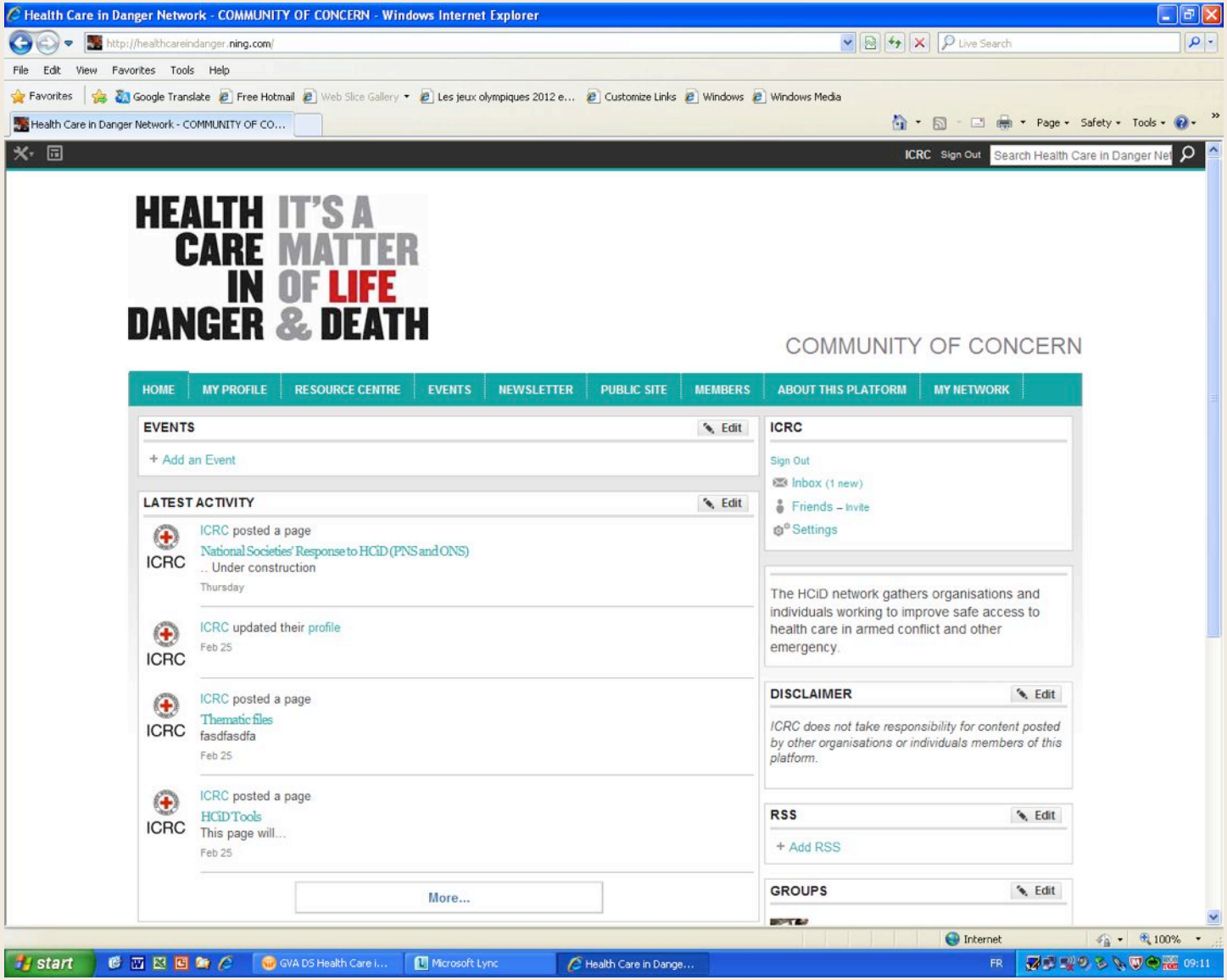
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