Supporting frontline heroes in Ukraine.

The value of cross-sector collaboration for rapid deployment of Butterfly iQ+ handheld ultrasound systems to enhance care in conflict-associated humanitarian crises.

In late February 2022, Butterfly rapidly responded to the Ukrainian conflict with outreach to humanitarian and veterinary non-profits providing care on the frontlines of the Ukrainian conflict. Collaborations with more than 25 organizations have since brought nearly 900 Butterfly devices to practitioners and veterinarians across Ukraine.

Today, over 1,500 healthcare workers in Ukraine have received comprehensive point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) training with Butterfly devices, and the Butterfly iQ+ system is proving its value helping providers make fast, accurate clinical decisions that can speed diagnosis at the patient bedside, in both emergency identification of blunt trauma and blast injury by military medics in the field, or in routine prenatal and primary care now occurring in survival shelters.

A winning partnership model: pocket-sized imaging technology, paired with training to give providers the skill and confidence to use it on the frontlines.

The Global Ultrasound Institute (GUSI) contributed to response efforts by releasing a library of online POCUS courses at no cost. Over 1,000 practitioners in Ukraine completed the courses in short order, which covered topics ranging from trauma ultrasound for life-threatening internal bleeding to finding shrapnel foreign bodies.

Additionally, 500+ practitioners trained with in-person POCUS courses through various partners.

“Having the portable, versatile Butterfly iQ+ device was crucial, but equally important was having our POCUS training partners to teach practitioners at scale, so more and more providers could effectively operate the device and integrate it into practice. They need the know-how and confidence to get in the field and make life saving decisions,” said Vadym Vus, MD Family Medicine. “In a field hospital, there is no wiggle room. We need quality images very quickly. The Butterfly iQ+ is quick, and the user needs to be just as quick.”

The Butterfly portable ultrasound system is for use by trained healthcare professionals. Carefully read all cautions, warnings and operational instructions prior to use. Not all presets, imaging modes and features are available everywhere. Check for availability in your country. 980–23882–00 Rev B
The Butterfly Effect

Over 50,000 scans taken in Ukraine since February 2022*

“I remember one boy, 4 years old, who suffered from an abdominal injury and had signs of shock. With the help of a Butterfly iQ ultrasound, we were able to diagnose internal bleeding in time, and the child, who had a ruptured liver capsule, was urgently taken to the operating room. The child’s life was saved.” – Aleksij Obolonskij, MD, Pediatric Anesthesiologist (source: Americares “The Butterfly Effect in War: Lives Saved”)

*Actual number may exceed 50,000, as probe use data is only generated if the device is “online” (i.e., connected to WiFi or a data network).

Most commonly used Butterfly presets used in Ukraine:
1. Abdomen
2. FAST
3. Vascular Access

“With the Butterfly iQ+, we were able to see the nature of internal injuries and ruptured vessels, which helped us to determine and triage surgical care more efficiently and effectively. Being able to see if and where the veins in a leg are damaged makes all the difference when it comes to amputation decision making. Many soldiers’ limbs were saved because of this handheld imaging technology. We were all very fortunate to have Butterfly devices in our pockets.” – Joseph White, Medical Volunteer, Medic Corp.

850+ iQs in Ukraine

Today, nearly 900 Butterfly devices have been distributed throughout Ukraine via global health partnerships. One partner, Razom, alone has brought more than 400 devices into the country.

With an average scan time of just 2 minutes and 19 seconds, Butterfly iQ+ provides efficient, effective clinical insights—and in military conflict settings, this efficiency and accuracy can mean the difference between life and death.

To learn more about Butterfly or to get involved in its global health program, visit: butterflynetwork.com/global-health