

Andi Hajramurni , The Jakarta Post , Makassar | Mon, 01/05/2009 7:54 PM

The Health Ministry has sent a 7-member medical team from Makassar, Sulawesi, to Manokwari, West Papua, on Monday to help victims of Sunday's 7.3 quake.

The team, who left early Monday, consists of five doctors -- specialists in orthopedics, surgery, anesthetics, internal injury and a general practitioner -- and two paramedics.

The team, led by orthopedist Idrus Paturusi (who is also the rector of Makassar's Hasanuddin University), immediately joined other medical teams assisting victims of the disaster.

The team also delivered a 10-kilogram pack of medicines, two large field tents and surgical supplies and instruments, supplies for a mobile field hospital.

Idrus said, "We prepared a 10-man team to be sent, but it turns out we only had seven seats in the plane, so the other three was forced to be left behind."

The logistical scrambling was due to the ministry's sudden order to deploy to Manokwari.p>



