

oPt Emergency Situation Update

Issue 23



As of 20 February 2023 at 16:00



World Health Organization

occupied Palestinian territory

Gaza Strip

Overview

Source: Ministry of Health. As of 19 February 2023



29,195 Fatalities

70% are said to be women and children



69,170 Injuries



+7,780

reported missing or under the rubble



1.7M People

(75% of population) displaced

Health Care Functioning, Access and Risks

Hospitals



33%

12/36 Hospitals partially functioning

Estimated average bed occupancy: 349%



3%

1/36 Hospitals minimally functional



67%

2/3 field Hospitals fully functional

UAE Field Hospital
IMC Field Hospital



33%

1/3 field Hospitals minimally functional

Jordanian Military Hospital



22.5%

18/80* Primary health care facilities are functional

* The number of PHCCs includes active NGOs.



Referrals abroad through Rafah since start of war **2,293 including 1,498 wounded and 795 ill, accompanied by 1,625 companions**

Communicable Diseases

Ongoing outbreaks of diarrheal illness and hepatitis A. Cases recorded since mid-October:



330,192 Cases of acute respiratory infections



213,085 Cases of diarrhea <5 years: 104,213*



69,962 Cases of scabies and lice



74,712 Cases of skin rashes



6,425 Cases of chickenpox



8,437 Cases of jaundice[§]

* As of Jan 1st, figures include those reported by MoH only.

§ Presumed Hepatitis A after samples tested positive

Health Attacks



378 Health attacks



659 People killed in attacks



843 People injured in attacks



116 Health workers detained/arrested



98 Health facilities affected



27 Hospitals damaged

Including



98 Ambulances affected



52 That sustained damaged

Including



399 Fatalities



4,600 Injuries

Health Attacks

376 Health attacks



10 People killed in attacks



65 People injured in attacks



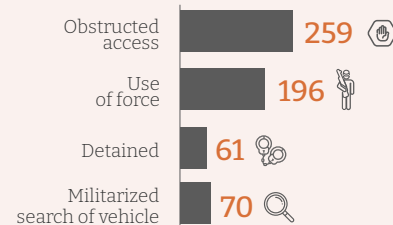
45 Health facilities affected



15 mobile clinics Including



261 Ambulances affected



Key concerns

- **Continued dismantling of the health system.** Hospitals in Rafah are overwhelmed and struggling to keep up with needs. Nasser Hospital in KhanYounis is non-functional and has no electricity or running water, and medical waste and garbage are creating a breeding ground for disease and is deemed non-functional. The access for Emergency Medical Teams (EMT) to North Gaza hospitals is still challenging. Now, no EMT activities are conducted in this area and no WHO-led convoys reached healthcare facilities in North Gaza.
- **The influx of internally displaced persons (IDPs) migrating to Rafah has overwhelmed the available bed capacities in hospitals, leading to insufficient capacity to meet the healthcare needs of the population.**
- **Referring patients outside of Gaza for tertiary care is a challenge,** with over 8,000 patients currently on the waiting list.
- Partner operations continue to be negatively affected by the displacement of staff, social stresses, and lack of telecommunication.
- Limited access to proper WASH facilities is hindering outbreak prevention and IPC.
- **Concerns for malnutrition are growing, given extreme levels of food insecurity and disease outbreaks.** Opportunistic screening efforts have revealed significantly increased levels of moderate and severe malnutrition among children.
- **Ongoing outbreaks of infectious disease,** including diarrhoeal illness and hepatitis aid, with increases of bloody diarrhea observed.
- WHO response is significantly hindered due to **denials of missions and insufficient humanitarian access and corridors,** both inside the strip and from outside.

Response

- **WHO**
 - To date, WHO has procured \$14.47 million in health commodities, 68 % of this is already delivered to Gaza (459.57 metric tonnes), this includes Trauma Emergency Supply Kits (TESK), NCD Kits, orthopaedic Fixators, Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and pneumonia kits to cover the basic care of 245,000. A range of psychotropic, oncology in addition to dialysis supplies, and essential medical equipment such as solar fridge hospital beds and tents were additionally delivered.
 - WHO supported its partner MedGlobal in opening an in-patient stabilisation centre and an outpatient programme for treatment of children severe acute malnutrition
- **Partners**
 - 12 EMTs are currently operational in Gaza with coordination from WHO and the MoH, and an additional two teams are scheduled to arrive next week.
 - Al-Emirati Maternity Hospital in Rafah received 900 ampoules of oxytocin, IARH kit 5 and 500 Maternal and Neonatal Health (MNH) kits.
 - 45 health cluster partners are providing different humanitarian health interventions across Gaza benefiting 1 million beneficiaries including supplies provision.



- Ongoing coordination with the Nutrition Cluster on screening of children for malnutrition. To date, 3,516 children have been screened as part of opportunistic screening health service delivery with 341 of them identified as malnourished (57 severe; 284 moderate).
- WHO provided a grant to the Palestinian Medical Relief Services with funding from Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) where they deployed four outreach teams at four shelters in the south to provide essential health care services to about 60,000 IDPs.
- EMTCC and WFP coordinated two missions to deliver food parcels to EGH and Al Aqsa hospitals for patients, staff and IDPs living within the hospital premises.
- EMTCC together with UNFPA and Save the Children conducted an assessment to Al Awda Maternity hospital in Al Nuseirat (Middle Area). Donation of medical supply has been delivered.

WHO Mission Update

for January 2024



27

Missions planned
(in the North and South)



7

Missions facilitated
(including 2 partially facilitated)



6

Missions impeded
(ie. delays/unpassable routes)



12

Missions denied
(additionally, 2 postponed)

Update on missions since Feb 10th:

- **10 Feb**, WHO and partners accessed Al Aqsa hospital in central Gaza - first time in 27 days and provided trauma supplies, medicines, and vaccines to address the health needs of 3,700 patients.
- **Feb 19**. WHO led two life-saving missions to transfer 32 critical patients, including two children, from Nasser Medical Complex in southern Gaza on 18 and 19 February, amid ongoing hostilities and access restrictions. The high-risk missions were conducted in close partnership with the PRCS and OCHA. The team also provided limited supplies of essential medicines and food for the remaining patients and staff who are otherwise cut off from aid.

WHO Recommendations

- **Immediate ceasefire**
- **Expand and sustain humanitarian access into Gaza for fuel, water, food, medicines and other necessary supplies**
- **Expand humanitarian corridors and ensure safe passage to allow delivery of humanitarian aid within Gaza**
- **Unhindered medical evacuations**
- **Active protection of civilians and health care, preserving the function of remaining health facilities**
- **Establish and strengthen a routine process for medical evacuation for all patients in need, without distinction of any kind.**

Funding

\$73.1M secured

\$37.7M Pledged

\$110M of funding required against WHO Operational Response Plan

- The inter-cluster Flash Appeal has been revised and the funding requirement for humanitarian health response is **\$204.2M*** and is targeting 2.5M people in Gaza and West Bank, of which 33.4% is funded.

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