



📲 🚣 📫 👯 - The above disaggregation of accessibility and availability of inpatient, surgery and ICU services covers hospitals only, and does not include field hospitals.

- Overall hospital bed capacity at 1,812 beds (including 1,507 inpatient, 152 maternity, 94 ICU beds, and 59 incubators), in addition to 292 emergency beds.
- The field hospitals provide an additional bed capacity of 674 beds (602 inpatient, 26 maternity, 29 ICU beds, and 17 incubators), in addition to 85 emergency beds.



- ★ Partially functional facility: when a health facility is unable to fully provide some or all of the services as normal, or there is an interruption in any of the services provided at the facility, due to various reasons.
- ‡ Source: The Health Resources and Services Availability Monitoring System (HeRAMS)



#### **Malnutrition**

**229** Patients admitted due to severe acute malnutrition with complications

Source: Ministry of Health.

### **Medical evacuation**

§ Source: Ministry of Health



5,138 Patients\* (33% of 15,600 requested cases) have been evacuated since October

#### Long term conditions



>2,000 People diagnosed with cancer each year, including 122 children



**45,000** Patients living with cardiovascular disease



**>1,500** Patients in need of kidney dialysis to maintain life§



**>60,000** People with raised blood glucose\*



+485,000 People with mental health disorders\*

\* Source: STEPS Survey 2022

## **Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health**





~ 5,500 Women are due to give birth within the next month including

~1,400 Requires Cesarean section ~180 Deliveries / day

- More than 500,000 women in the reproductive age lack access to essential services including antenatal care, postnatal care, family planning and management of sexual transmitted infections.
- Maternity services are provided at nine out of 17 partially functioning hospitals, and at four field hospitals (ICRC, IMC, UKMED, and Kuwait FHs).

#### West Bank, including east Jerusalem **Overview** As of 29 Sep 2024 Source: Ministry of Health 6,158 Injuries **9** Fatalities 624 Health Attacks As of 30 Sep 2024 Obstructed 471 🛞 **56** Health access facilities Use affected of force 25 People 111 People 20 Mobile Detained Ambulances killed in injured in clinics affected attacks attacks Militarized 128 🔍 search of vehicle

# Situation Update

- Gaza Strip
- Preparations are ongoing to implement the second round of the polio vaccination campaign, expected to take place in mid-October. The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF, and UNRWA, are in the final stages of developing the campaign micro-plan. Based on further analyses, the target population was adjusted to be 591,700 children. Doses of Vitamin A will also be administered to children 2 years to 10 years of age.
- The Health Cluster priorities in Gaza for August focused on ensuring access to essential health services focusing on primary and secondary healthcare services for acute and chronic cases including trauma, management of communicable and non-communicable diseases, sexual and reproductive health, rehabilitation and mental health. A total of 1.34M people were reached with different healthcare services and supplies by Health Cluster partners.
- Eight patients, including seven children, were evacuated from Gaza to Romania, on 30 September, for specialized medical care. The patients included four cancer patients, two with blood diseases, one in need of a kidney transplant, and one with a severe injury. The patients traveled with 24 companions.
- Medical evacuation of patients outside of Gaza remains limited since 7 May. As of 30 September, out of 15,600 cases requested for medical evacuation, 5,138 (33%) have been evacuated, since October 2023, with only 229 patients evacuated since Rafah Closure in May 2024. Of utmost urgency is the restoration of medical evacuations from Gaza to the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, where hospitals are ready to receive patients. Patients must also be facilitated to be transferred to Egypt and Jordan, and from there to other countries when needed. WHO appeals for the establishment of multiple medical evacuation corridors to ensure sustained, organized, safe and timely passage of patients via all possible routes, including Rafah and Kerem Shalom.
- Four severe acute malnutrition stabilization centers (SAM SC) are currently functioning, across the Gaza Strip. Two SCs are supported by WHO and Med-Global at Kamal Adwan and Patients Friends Benevolent Society Hospitals (10 beds each); one SC is supported by WHO and IMC at the IMC Deir Al-Balah FH (7 beds); and one supported by MSF-Spain at Nasser Medical Complex in Khan Younis (6 beds).
- The Health and WASH clusters published a joint information note on the potential public health impact of flooding on the Gazan population, during the approaching winter season. According to the 2023 flood risk assessment and current population distribution, many internally displaced people are located near flooding hotspots, increasing risks of injury and drowning. Forty-seven per cent (114/242) of health service points were found to be near flooding

hotspots, putting them at risk of damage and jeopardizing the population's access to essential health services. Formation of stagnant pools also increases the risk of vector-borne diseases as they become breeding sites for mosquitoes, and contamination of water supplies with sewage increases the risk of water-borne diseases. Other impact would include exacerbation of psychological stress, in addition to other effects related to exposure to mold, environmental and chemical hazards.

- According to the Emergency Medical Team Coordination Cell (EMT CC), 16 EMTs (15 international and one national) are deployed across the Gaza Strip, including three EMTs operating in Gaza and North Gaza. The teams provide a wide range of services, including surgical, NCD, and mental health and psychosocial support.
- Persistent fuel shortages continue to threaten humanitarian interventions, including health care provision, impacting the functionality of hospitals, PHCCs and ambulance services.
- According to Israeli authorities, over 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals were killed inside Israel, and approximately 5,400 reported injuries. As of 2 October, there have been 346 reported fatalities and 2,297 reported injuries of Israeli soldiers since the start of the ground operation in the Gaza Strip. One hundred and one hostages remain in Gaza.

## Response

- WHO has procured more than USD35 million worth of health commodities, 56% of which has already been delivered to the Gaza Strip. Procured items include essential trauma emergency supply kits (TESK), NCD and SAM kits, in addition to critical medications and supplies that are needed to maintain provision of essential health services.
- WHO and partners continue to carry out missions, support patient transfers, conduct needs assessment, support deployment of emergency medical teams (EMT) and field hospitals, and deliver medical supplies to health facilities, across the Gaza Strip.
- The Health Cluster reported that 73 partners are currently operational across the oPt, including 67 in Gaza Strip and 26 in the West Bank, reaching a weekly average of 369,700 people with various healthcare services and supplies.
- In total, 243 health service points, including 159 medical points, are currently operating throughout the Gaza Strip, providing essential primary health care services to the vulnerable population. Mapping of population density and health service points availability is ongoing to identify gaps in service delivery.
- The Health Service Delivery Working Group (HSD WG) is working on reviewing the minimal service package, which will be shared with partners once finalized.
- The first phase of construction work to expand the Nasser Hospital in Khan Younis with 88 additional beds was completed, supported by WHO. The operational plan for the new department is being reviewed by MoH.
- WHO is assessing the infection prevention and control (IPC) capacity of health facilities across the Gaza Strip, with 17 health facilities, so far, assessed during September. Capacity building training for relevant staff was identified, to ensure adherence and proper implementation of guidelines.
- Work is ongoing to expand the WHO Health Resources and Services Availability Monitoring System (HeRAMS) to include primary healthcare centres (PHC). HeRAMS is collaborative approach aimed at ensuring that core information on essential health resources and services is systematically shared and readily available to inform decision-making. Since October 2023, WHO has successfully re-instated HeRAMS at the hospital and field hospital level. A training was recently conducted for 12 healthcare workers from the PHC level on using the tool, to ensure uniform and accurate reporting.
- The Health Cluster conducted a quality assessment for 11 health facilities. Priority interventions were identified, and plans of action were set-up to improve service provision.
- The Health Cluster and WHO regularly update the oPt <u>Unified Health Dashboard</u>, providing a snapshot of conflict-related casualties, communicable disease surveillance, medical evacuations, attacks on health, and overall Health Cluster response in the oPt, with emphasis on the ongoing emergency in the Gaza Strip.

## **WHO Mission Update**

26 Sep - 1 Oct 2024



**Missions planned** 

(in the North and South)



**Missions facilitated** (including partially facilitated)





- From 25 to 27 September: WHO conducted a mission to Gaza City to establish the next priorities for the National EMT (nEMT); and facilitate the induction training of the nEMT leadership and supervisors. Due to delays in receiving greenlight for crossing to the north, the mission had to be extended for an additional night.
- On 28 September: WHO conducted a mission to Al-Ahli Arab Hospital and MSF-France clinic, to deliver 24,050L of fuel to Ahli Ĥospital, and an additional 20,000L to UNRWA facilities. The WHO team assessed the scope of services provided at Al-Ahli Hospital, including rehabilitation, laboratory, and cancer services, to determine priority interventions to support and strengthen service provision. The team also visited the MSF-France clinic and assessed the logistical needs for rehabilitation, renovation, and potential expansion of the clinic. WHO also facilitated the rotation of one EMT, and supported transporting PRCS medical supplies to the south.
- On 30 September: WHO facilitated the medical evacuation of eight patients (including seven children), along with 24 companions to Romania to receive specialized medical care.

# 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.
- 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, ensuring timely referral of the +10,000 critical patients that need to be medevaced out of Gaza.

## Funding



\$408.5M\* and is targeting 2.9M people in Gaza and West Bank.



The WHO Operational Response Plan for the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) for April 2024 to December 2024. was published, on 29 May 2024.

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