



Following suspension of permit processing and coordination, Palestinian patients face additional difficulties to accessing healthcare. Before March, there were more than 1,750 permit applications each month for Gaza patients and more than 7,000 permit applications each month for West Bank patients, though this number reduced drastically during the COVID-19 outbreak. Patients need permits to reach health services in different parts of the occupied Palestinian territory, with the majority needing access to East Jerusalem. Almost a third of applications are for cancer patients; others require specialized surgeries, diagnostic imaging, cardiology, or other services otherwise unavailable. Overall, this group of patients is very sick, with their probability of survival at six months from first permit application less than 90%.

Waseem is 25 years old and has a congenital heart problem. He is from Beit Lahia in the north of Gaza Strip.

21 June 2020



Wafiq al-Haj, 34, a patient with a brain tumor, who was discharged and is waiting for a permit to return to his home in Gaza.



Haqim al-Haj, 34, a patient with a brain tumor, who was discharged and is waiting for a permit to return to his home in Gaza.









[https://www.who.int/emro/news/2024/02/25/24022501](#)