



Worried parents care for their children who suffer from diarrhoea in a Sukkur district, Sindh province, health facility. Peter Metzger/WHO

Highlights

- Australia, Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Jordan, occupied Palestinian territories, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Turkey and UAE have sent medical teams to support medical relief efforts in affected areas.
- 43% of the US\$56.2 million requested to support the health response has been funded, according to OCHA as of 26 August.
- Increasing numbers of suspected malaria cases being recorded in Sindh and Baluchistan provinces.
- On 24 August, 110,062 patients were recorded as having been treated in flood affected districts. Of these consultations, 21,400 cases of skin diseases (19% of total), 16,557 cases of acute respiratory infections (15%), 18,562 cases of acute diarrhoea (17%) and 7399 cases of suspected malaria (7%) were reported.
- Health Cluster coordination active in 5 hubs - Islamabad, Peshawar, Multan, Sukkur, Quetta.



Situation overview and current scale of disaster

- According to OCHA, 17.2 million people have been affected by the floods, with Pakistan officials stating number of affected could be upwards of 20 million. 1600 people have been reported killed and more than 2366 injured, while 1.2 million homes have been destroyed, as of 27 August. Floodwaters in Punjab are reportedly receding. Monsoon activity is expected to be subdued during next 3-4 days. Further OCHA information, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/32n9rjj>

Health impact

- Health needs remain great as relief efforts strive to cope with the scale of the challenges. Large numbers of people continue being treated for diarrhoeal disease cases, skin diseases, acute respiratory and increasingly, malaria.
- 402 of more than 1000 health facilities in flood-affected districts have been damaged or destroyed by the flooding.
- Latest epidemiological data released by WHO, as of 27 August, shows that on 26 August, 133,684 patients were recorded as having been treated in flood affected districts. Of these consultations, 28,815 cases of skin diseases (22% of total), 22,902 cases of acute respiratory infections (17%), 19,178 cases of acute diarrhoea (14%) and 7973 cases of suspected malaria (6%) were reported.
- In all, 3.7 million people are reported to have been treated from 29 July to, and including, 26 August. Of these, there were 500,635 cases of acute diarrhoea (13% of total consultations), 517,929 cases of acute respiratory infection (14% of total consultations), 693,114 cases of skin infections (19% of total consultations) and 94,186 cases of suspected malaria (3% of total consultations) were reported from flood-affected districts.
- The number of cases of suspected malaria is rising in Baluchistan and Sindh provinces compared to KPK and Punjab. During the last 24 hours, the number of cases reported from suspected malaria comprised 27% of patients' consultations in both Baluchistan and Sindh provinces.
- WHO's weekly disease surveillance document id as: http://www.whopak.org/idps/diseases_situation.asp#ds

Government response

- On 28 August, the Government of Pakistan's National Steering Committee on Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (HEPR) met in Islamabad with all provincial health secretaries and representatives from WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA, formulating plans to receive more rapid and complete health surveillance data from district and provincial levels.
- The Ministry of Health is working with partners on plan to provide incentives to have lady health workers return to duties, as at least 20,000 have been affected by the flooding, many of whom are not working.
- Foreign medical teams have been arriving in Pakistan to support health relief efforts, and their activities are being coordinated by the HEPR.

Foreign medical teams supporting Pakistan flood relief effort (not complete)

Country	Arrived	Capacities	Where operating
China	26-Aug	38 member hospital multi-disciplinary team, including mobile field hospital, medical equipment, doctors, nurses, surgeons, cardiologists.	Thattar district, Sindh province.
Australia	Approx 26-Aug	72-member army medical corps multidisciplinary team including mobile field hospital	Kotaddu district, Punjab province
Saudi Arabia	25-Aug	2 100-bed field hospitals with 70 staff each.	Rajanpour, Punjab province and Thatta, Sindh province.

Saudi Arabia	25-Aug	Medical team with 18 specialists, medicines	District Headquarters hospital, Nowshera district, KPK province.
Indonesia	26-Aug	6-member team supporting Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences.	Charsadda district, KPK
Spain	26-Aug	8-member medical team, provided 13 tons of medicines to the Ministry of Health	Sukkur district, Sindh province.
Physicians Across Continents	26-Aug	Multidisciplinary team that has provided planeload of equipment, water filtration plants.	Nowshera and Charsadda.
Jordan	16-Aug	Medical team	Multan

Health Cluster response

(Inputs received before 4PM Thursday 28 August through health_cluster_bulletin@pak.emro.who.int)

- *UNFPA is delivering health care in Sindh, Punjab and KPK provinces is through 23 mobile service units for outreach services and 14 government health facilities for emergency reproductive health care services. UNFPA is also providing primary health care services including 8605 consultations for gastroenteritis, 5556 scabies, 5273 for acute respiratory tract infections, 5686 consultations for fever and 9971 other minor out-patient services for psychosomatic and general medical services.*
- *World Health Organization providing medicines and related supplies to all Health Cluster partners, delivering items that can treat more than 3.4 million people for one month. More than 20 international staff, including public health specialists, epidemiologists and logisticians, been deployed from throughout the WHO network to different locations in Pakistan to support the flood response. WHO is supporting the establishment of diarrhoea treatment centres in affected districts. As of 28 August, more than 60 had been established or where in the process of being set up to provide diarrhoea treatment services for people affected by the flooding.*

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

- *American Refugee Committee (ARC) International treated 859 children, women and men on 24-25 August at 7 health facilities it supports in Swat district. On 24 August, a medical camp was established in Dardyal town, Swat, where 1590 patients received consultations mainly for acute respiratory infection, diarrhoea, scabies and eye infections.*
- *CARE International operates 2 mobile teams and 4 basic health units in Upper Swat, treating on 25-27 August 568 patients (including more than 100 women on 26-27 August). CARE conducted 7 mobile clinics Charsadda district on the same days, providing primary health care services to 963 patients including 313 women and 278 children, and 12 mobile clinics in Nowshera district, treating 1829 patients including 515 women and 901 children.*
- *Church World Service (CWS) operates 3 mobile health units in Mansehra, Kohistan and Swat districts, delivering consultations to 3189 patients on 26 August. A lady health visitor examined 62 antenatal and 6 postnatal clients and gave them essential medicine. The medical team examined 531 children aged under 5 years. CWS is planning to further expand mobile health units in Kohistan and Shangla districts to provide more free consultations, free essential medicine and maternal and child health services. CWS ambulances transfer patients needing urgent referral to secondary or tertiary level health care facilities.*
- *International Catholic Migration Commission mobile teams on 27 August treated 66 flood affected people staying at the Prang Primary School in Utmanzai Union council in KPK's Charsadda district.*
- *International Medical Corps (IMC) medical teams are delivering emergency health services in Nowshera and Charsadda districts. IMC and WHO are working together to operate a diarrhoea treatment centre at the Nowshera district headquarters hospital. IMC medical teams treated more than 6353 patients from 25-28 August, with acute diarrhoea, acute respiratory infections and scabies being the main conditions. Health education and hygiene promotion sessions were given to 4200 people. The team from the Dagai basic health unit at Nowshera moved to the Khair Abad rural health centre and*

started functioning 28 August. A female psychologist has joined the 6-member psychosocial support team, which operates in Peshawar, Nowshera and Charsadda. The team has provided services to 461 people on 25-28 August, including for depression, anxiety and distress.

- **MERCY Malaysia** is collaborating with the Pakistan Islamic Medical Association to operate static clinic for flood-affected people in KPK and a mobile medical team is providing health services in Charsadda district. MERCY Malaysia will help establish a static clinic at Pabbi Government High School which is occupied by 200 families; and a mobile team to support displaced people living nearby. MERCY is delivering hygiene kits and conducting hygiene promotion activities in KPK.
- **Medical Emergency Relief International (MERLIN)** is operational in Swat, Buner, and Nowshera districts, covering an approximate catchment population of 1 million people, and is starting interventions in Charsadda. Merlin currently provides health services through 27 static clinics (11 Swat, 10 Buner, 6 Jalozai) and 17 mobile teams (9 Swat, 3 Buner, 5 Nowshera), while 1 diarrhoea treatment centre is functional at the Satellite Hospital in Nowshera's Pabbi town, and 1 in Matta town, Swat. 2 centres are also being established at Pacha Kaly in Buner district and Charsadda district. Merlin is conducting an average of 4955 daily consultations and has conducted around 121,000 consultations from 5-27 August. Services include primary health care, referrals to tertiary level facilities, distribution of hygiene kits, water purification tablets, maternal and newborn health.
- **The Pakistan Red Crescent Society and the German Red Cross** are conducting joint activities Nowshera district, providing treatment for water-borne diseases, acute respiratory infections and a wide range of other conditions. Routine healthcare is also being delivered, including for hypertension and the delivery of babies. From 31 July-24 August, 8763 people have been treated (4897 males, 3866 females). On 26 August, PCRS teams treated around 400 people in Mana Khel town and Pirpayi station.
- **Relief International** medical staff has treated 518 people at the Madyan medical camp in Swat district for a range of conditions from 25-27 August, with the main health conditions being acute diarrhoea and respiratory infections. Relief International conducted health education sessions on diarrhoeal disease prevention and child immunization, while pregnant and lactating women have received education on the importance of breast feeding and complementary feeding. Hundreds of water purification tablets were distributed among the community. In Lower Dir, Relief International is using a mobile unit to better reach affected communities, with 480 patients being treated. Main health conditions were acute diarrhoea, respiratory infections and scabies. A health education session was conducted on diarrhoeal disease control and prevention.
- **Sawera Development** is running a medical camp in D.I. Khan and conducting disease early warning and surveillance. Sawera is providing medicines, consultations, checkups and health education sessions to raise awareness on communicable diseases and measures to protect public health.
- **UNICEF** is supporting routine expanded programme of immunization activities in Peshawar, Charsadda, Nowshera and D.I. Khan districts, completing a campaign on 28 August that vaccinated 285,154 children aged under 5 against polio, 253,511 children (6-59 months) against measles and providing 257,561 children with Vitamin A supplements.
- 5 UNICEF-supported mobile medical teams are operating in Charsadda, Nowshera and Swat districts, providing primary health care services, distributing health-related materials including hygiene kits and delivering health and hygiene messages. UNICEF is supporting specialized paediatric services at the D.I. Khan district headquarters hospital.

Punjab province

- **CARE International** mobile clinics operating in Muzaffargarh district of southern Punjab province on 25-27 August, delivering primary health care services to 1402 patients, including 351 women and 688 children.
- **Cordaid** has scaled up its health response, operating 5 mobile medical teams in Shangla, and 2 more teams are scheduled to start in Kohat shortly. Cordaid may conduct medical camps in Kohistan. **Cordaid Team A** is working in Shangla's most affected areas with mobile and fixed health services in Barkana, Kuzana, Karora, Damorai, Olandar and Shapur. Mule carriages are moving medicines on mountain roads, along with Cordaid vehicles and public transport. The Cordaid-supported basic health unit in Kuzana is delivering healthcare. A lady health volunteer is travelling from Kuzana to Shapur delivering health services to females. Cordaid is also coordinating the Shangla district WASH Cluster working group.
- **Integrated Health Services (IHS Pakistan)** is operating mobile medical teams in Muzaffargarh and DG Khan districts since 12 August.

- **MERCY Malaysia** conducted joint assessment with Pakistan Islamic Medical Association to Punjab for the opportunity to expand health services in Southern Punjab.
- **Medical Emergency Relief International (MERLIN)** is starting interventions in Muzzafargarh in Punjab province, including through the establishment of a diarrhoea treatment centre at the Muzzafargarh district headquarters hospital.
- **UNICEF** is delivering medical and nutritional supplies to 7 Punjab districts of Mianawali, Bhakkar, DG Khan, M. Garh, Layyah, Rajan Pur, RY Khan, Khushab, Multan. Health education sessions are being conducted in displaced people's camps in RY Khan and UNICEF-supported medical officers, lady health volunteers and vaccinators are providing health care services in all Punjab displaced people's camps.
- **UNHCR** is providing health support to Afghan refugees in Pakistan affected by the flooding. In **Mianwali**, Punjab province, where 18,000 people are located, UNHCR and implementing partners are providing health services to Afghan refugees and locals through makeshift tent health points. Bed nets have also been provided.

Sindh province

- **CARE International** provided primary health care services via 9 mobile clinics to 1282 patients in Sukkur and Shikarpur districts, including 524 women and 446 children, on 25-27 August.
- **Helping Hand for Relief and Development (HHRD)** is supporting 184 medical camps in flood-affected areas and provided medicines to treat 43,000 people. launched a hygiene promotion project in Sukkur district, Sindh province, and will conduct health and hygiene awareness sessions and distribute hygiene kits to 500 families (35 00 people). Clean drinking water will also be provided.
- **Mercy Corps** is operating 2 mobile health teams in Sindh province's Sukkur, Rohri and Pannu Aqil districts, delivering primary health care and maternal, newborn and child health services. The mobile teams contain ambulances, medicines, and health and hygiene kits. Mercy Corps health teams deliver health and hygiene sessions and provide clean delivery kits to pregnant women. Mercy Corps is also supporting water and sanitation activities. Mercy Corps is planning to replicate the same services in Jacobabad, Shikarpur and Jaffarabad.
- **The UNFPA** humanitarian team conducted a joint reproductive health assessment mission with national and the Sindh provincial maternal newborn and child health department in the districts of Sukkur, Shikarpur and Khairpur.
- **UNICEF** is supporting childhood vaccination campaigns in camps providing shelter for flood-affected people, with continuing vaccinations planned for areas where people have moved to, including Karachi. More than 2000 patients have been treated at UNICEF-supported medical facilities in Sindh, while messages on safe motherhood, breastfeeding, clean drinking water, hand washing and immunization are being provided.
- **World Health Organization** conducted disease early warning system training for 36 district health management staff, polio team members and Health Cluster partners on 28 August in 9 flood-affected districts of Sindh to strengthen disease surveillance activities.

Baluchistan province

- The **American Rescue Committee International** is supporting the rural health centre in Talli town, Sibi district, where 214 people were treated (158 men and 80 women) on 25-26 August. At the ARC-supported basic health unit in Chandia, 95 patients were treated on 25 August (58 women and 37 men) mainly for diarrhoea, bloody diarrhoea, upper acute respiratory infections, lower acute respiratory infections, scabies and injuries.
- **Relief International** is working in Dhadar town of Kachi district, conducting 515 consultations between 25-27 August. Main conditions reported include acute respiratory infections and acute watery diarrhoea. Health education sessions have been conducted for mothers and male members of the community, as well as for use of oral rehydration solution. Water purification tablets have been distributed.
- **UNICEF**-supported health services are operating in Barkhan, Kohlu, Sibi, Naseerabad, Jaffarabad and Harnai districts of Baluchistan, treating 9400 patients on 24-25 August, including for diarrhoea (21% of cases), clinical malaria (23%) and scabies /skin diseases (135). UNICEF is conducting polio, measles, tuberculosis and tetanus in Baluchistan's 6 most affected districts (Barkhan, Kohlu, Sibi, Naseerabad, Jaffarabad and Kachhi) and a relief camp at Eastern bypass Quetta. UNICEF is supporting malaria control activities being conducted by health authorities in Sibi, Naseerabad and Jaffarabad districts.
- **World Health Organization** is planning to send a 20-bed inflatable hospital to the severely flood-affected Sindh province town of Thul.

Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK)

- **UNICEF** is delivering zinc tablets and oral rehydration solution to health authorities and planning measles vaccinations campaigns for flood-affected people.

Gilgit Baltistan

- **UNICEF** is providing emergency medical supplies, zinc tablets and oral rehydration solution to health authorities and is planning measles vaccinations in Ganche, Skardu, Ghizer and Gilgit districts.

Coordination

- **REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH:**

The first reproductive health task force meeting of Health Cluster partners was held 24 August to ensure implementation of Minimum Initial Service Package protocols through the Health cluster response.

- **WASH-HEALTH:**

WHO is working with UNICEF, as WASH cluster lead, which is coordinating the WASH cluster response to reach safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation supplies to flood-affected communities. UNICEF and WHO launched an appeal on 25 August for more support for water and sanitation activities. <http://tinyurl.com/3y466zq>

- **LOGISTICS-HEALTH:**

WHO/Health Cluster working closely with the Logistics Cluster to plan deliveries of medicines to flood-affected communities.

Gaps/challenges

- **Cordaid International** reports that Sharpur town, in KPK's Shangla district, has no operational health facility, and the nearby Karora Rural Hospital is badly damaged and non- operational. Critical shortages of medicines reported in Sharpur and Damorai markets. Increased hygiene promotion needed in Sharpur and Towa towns, Shangla district in KPK.
- According to **UNFPA**, more female health care providers (especially gynecologists) in flood-affected districts are needed due lack of access to reproductive health services and limited funds.
- Overall funding of the health sector's emergency response projects had reached 43% of the US\$56.2 million requested as of 28 August, according to OCHA.

For further information contact: health_cluster_bulletin@pak.emro.who.int

Please submit your organization's activities by 5pm daily using the above email address.