



HIGHLIGHTS

- John Holmes, the United Nations' Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, will be in Yemen from 8 to 12 October. He will visit Al-Mazrak camp in Hajjah governorate and meet with humanitarian workers and government representatives.
- Six joint WHO-MoPHP teams are continuing to provide essential health services in the affected governorates of Amran, Hajjah and AlJawf. Over 12 000 IDPs have been treated so far. Most consultations are for diarrhoea, and skin, respiratory and urinary infections.
- On 7 October, the National Malaria Control programme will begin a residual spray campaign in Al-Mazrak camp.
- No communicable disease outbreaks have been reported from any IDP-hosting area. Nonetheless, the risk remains very high due to incomplete surveillance, inadequate health services and lack of safe drinking water.
- WHO is sending additional medicines and supplies (enough to treat 4000 IDPs for three months) to Aleb via army helicopters.
- UNFPA has donated essential supplies to reproductive health services in affected areas.
- The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has pledged US\$2 million in response to the Flash Appeal launched on 2 September.



HEALTH IMPACT

- The main causes of patient consultation are diarrhoeal diseases, respiratory and urinary infections, as well as skin infections, which mainly include scabies and rashes.
- No disease outbreaks have been reported to date.
- There remains a high risk of communicable disease outbreaks due to low surveillance, lack of clean drinking water and inadequate sanitation.
- Six mobile medical teams jointly operated by WHO and the MoPHP have reported a total of 12 481 consultations since 1 September this year.

HEALTH SECTOR RESPONSE

- The sixth health cluster coordination meeting was held on 4 October. Eight health cluster partners have submitted 14 projects for the 2010 health response plan; these are being reviewed by the health cluster review committee.
- In response to the critical needs of women and girls displaced by the conflict, UNFPA has shipped emergency supplies to Yemen for safe child delivery and emergency obstetric care interventions. UNFPA is also donating contraceptives, condoms, and medicines to treat victims of sexual violence and prevent sexually transmitted diseases.
- A rapid assessment conducted by UNFPA in Al-Mazrak camps revealed some gaps in health services to the female population, especially in reproductive health.

WHO RESPONSE

Al Jawf Governorate

- The joint MoPHP and WHO mobile teams operating in Al Jawf reported 134 consultations last week.

Sa'ada Governorate

- No patient data are available from Sa'ada due to limited communication.
- A joint UN mission to Aleb to assess the possibility of opening a new camp there has been delayed due to logistic constraints.

Hajjah Governorate

- The joint MoPHP and WHO mobile medical teams reported 996 consultations last week.
- The WHO-supported fixed health clinic in the Al-Mazrak camp continues to operate. UNICEF will be supporting oral rehydration therapy and UNFPA will facilitate the strengthening of reproductive health services in the clinic.
- Last month the WHO-supported clinic in the Al-Mazrak camp delivered six babies.

Amran Governorate

- The two mobile medical teams supported by WHO reported 1093 consultations last week.
- The Al-Hawan camp is now up and running. One mobile medical team is providing health services to the IDPs there.

NEEDS

- Active monitoring of communicable disease trends in affected areas.
- Enhanced primary health care coverage by enhancing support to the existing health care infrastructure and increasing the number of mobile medical teams.
- Specialized care capacity in at least one hospital per governorate should be improved in order to handle the increasing number of H1N1 cases.
- Referrals to secondary health facilities should be enhanced in order to provide timely treatment for chronic illnesses such as tuberculosis, hypertension, cardiovascular diseases and asthma.
- Water quality monitoring must be strengthened.
- Strengthening of reproductive health services, especially at Al-Mazrak camp.

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