

HEALTH BRIEF 4



Food and waterborne diseases 01 - 15 Oct 2024

Ministry of Public Health announced the first cholera case detected on the 14th of October.











Test positivity



Vaccinated cholera OCV

Hepatitis A 01 - 15 Oct 2024

New suspected cases: 69 | New confirmed cases: 21 | Cumulative cases for 2024: 2 128

DISTRIBUTION							
Akkar	Mount Lebanon	Beqaa	North Lebanon	Nabatieh	Beirut	Baalbek/Hermel	South Lebanon
7	6	11	32	0	9	3	1

Vaccine preventable diseases 01 - 15 Oct 2024

	AFP	Measles	Meningitis
Disease outbreaks	Ö	*	
New suspected cases	1	0	0
Geolocation of cases	Aley	NA	NA
Vaccination status of case	?S	NA	
Cumulative for 2024	58 suspected cases	193 suspected cases	270 suspected cases
Confirmation 0		10 confirmed measles	78 classified bacterial cases

SARS-COV 2 (COVID) 01 - 15 Oct 2024

	Global			
New cases	Cumulative cases			
314 895	776 546 006			
New death	Cumulative death			
888	7 070 128			

	Lebanon
New cases 68	Cumulative cases 1 255 938
New death	Cumulative death 11 005

Preparedness and Response to Acute Respiratory Infection and Acute Watery Diarrhea/Cholera

Coordination



- Continue to provide support to staff at the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) Epidemiological Surveillance Unit (ESU) to strengthen their operational capacity.
- Provided technical assistance in finalizing the Identification of Priority Areas for Multisectoral Interventions (PAMIs) aimed at cholera control.
- The WASH sector and ESU teams have developed a comprehensive dashboard to monitor water alerts and laboratory results on water effectively.

Surveillance



- A response plan has been drafted with the support of WHO, aimed at assisting the MoPH Epidemiology Surveillance Unit (ESU) in maintaining and strengthening early warning and event-based surveillance during the ongoing conflict.
- The ESU is actively enhancing community-based surveillance within shelters to improve early detection of outbreaks by launching a series of training sessions on case reporting for NGOs, schools, municipalities, and medical centers, with six NGO sessions held by October 15, involving 155 participants.
- A joint mission was conducted to assess suspected cholera cases and collect water samples for analysis, in Akkar.



Laboratories

Laboratory supplies have been delivered to facilitate testing for vaccine-preventable diseases (VPD), respiratory infections, and acute watery diarrhea (AWD) cases.

Vaccination



- An awareness campaign regarding influenza vaccines has been launched, alongside the receipt of 10,000 doses donated by PIVI to vaccinate the targeted population till 15 October 50% have been vaccinated.
- The oral cholera vaccination campaign has ceased, and no additional vaccines are currently available in the country.
- The Expanded Programme on Immunization is planning a two-phased campaign to reach all displaced individuals inside shelters during Phase 1, targeting those aged 0-59 months with bOPV, and MMR for those 9 months to under 10 years. Phase 2 will target displaced individuals outside shelters and host communities. A challenge remains in accurately determining the population denominators.



Risk Communication and Community Engagement

- Disseminated Food Safety posters to all shelters
- Started awareness campaign on cholera



The conflict in Lebanon has forced the closure of over 100 health facilities, about 1/3 of the country's total. Hospitals and health workers are overwhelmed, and also being attacked. WHO calls for:

1. safe, unhindered, and sustained humanitarian access; 2. financing the UN Flash Appeal; 3. immediate protection of civilians, healthcare workers, and health facilities, in line with international law. 4. Ceasefire.

Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Secretary General

WHO ensures access to mental health services in shelters



Mental health support remains central to WHO's response, especially during these difficult times of conflict.

A wide range of accessible services at community and health care facility level are being extended to shelters and vulnerable communities ensuring no one is left behind.



WHO response

Korea donates \$1million for the people of Lebanon

Heartfelt thanks to the Republic of Korea for a generous contribution of US\$1 million to support the urgent health care needs of people in Lebanon.

This donation will enable WHO to respond more effectively to rising needs especially among the most vulnerable.

WHO response

ECHO donates 90 trauma surgical kits to Lebanon

With the generous support from the European Union Humanitarian Aid, WHO was able to procure and deliver 90 trauma surgical kits for Lebanon. Each kit is sufficient to perform 100 surgical interventions, bringing the total to 9 000 life-saving surgeries. We thank you!



WHO to provide First Aid kits to shelters all over the country

With the generous support from the European Union Humanitarian Aid, WHO was able to procure and deliver 90 trauma surgical kits for Lebanon. Each kit is sufficient to perform 100 surgical interventions, bringing the total to 9 000 life-saving surgeries. We thank you!



WHO delivers 5th shipment of health supplies

WHO delivers the 5th shipment of supplies into #Lebanon in 1 month. The shipment contains:

- -NCD medicines
- -glucometers and insulin for diabetes -medicine for children with severe acute malnutrition
- -medicines for trauma interventions



WHO works with MOPH to stop spread of cholera

WHO in Lebanon is working closely with the Ministry of Public Health to prevent cholera from spreading amid ongoing conflict in the country through enhancing surveillance and testing capacity to ensure no further spread of the disease.



WHO Global response



WHO Youth Council releases bold call for a healthier world

Young people should be at the heart of decisions that impact their lives and health. WHO wants to support the engagement of young people and their participation in addressing key global health priorities. Read full article.

WHO Lebanon would like to thank the support of all partners and donors who have and are still contributing generously and directly to the WHO health response. Together health for all by all.



Further information

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