

WHO oPt Daily Update: Gaza

Daily Update No. 1

21 November 2012

The latest casualty figures according to the Ministry of Health in the Gaza Strip are (as of November 20, 11:00 pm):

- 132 persons killed (97 males; 19 females; 16 not yet identified) of whom 30 (23%) are children; 17 children are less than 5 years old.
- 1090 persons injured (695 males; 307 females; 88 not yet identified) of whom 381 (35%) are children; 119 children are less than 5 years old.



A WHO team visited the Jordanian field hospital hit by a missile November 19; there were no injuries. (photo by Mahmoud Halabi - WHO).

Hospitals operated by the Ministry of Health in the Gaza Strip are functioning but are reporting difficulties due to severely depleted medical supplies. 46 patients were transferred via Erez checkpoint since November 17 (including two sets of twins) and 34 patients via Rafah to Egypt.

- Beit Hanoun hospital, a 36-bed MoH facility in the north of Gaza, suffered a direct hit in the late afternoon today (November 21) which penetrated the roof and damaged an internal stairwell; some injuries were reported but no details were available.
- A 40-bed Jordanian field hospital, which has operated in Gaza city since 2009, was hit by a missile
 November 19 which penetrated two floors of the hospital, damaging the in-patient department nursing
 station in the center of the hospital. Patients had been evacuated only 10 minutes earlier following
 attacks in the surrounding area. The hospital was partially functioning today with the reopening of a
 second ward department.

44 of 54 Ministry of Health primary health care clinics are functioning, although residents are venturing onto the streets only for most urgent needs; ten clinics located in dangerous areas, including four clinics that suffered collateral damage, were closed. 19 of 21 UNRWA primary health care clinics are functioning.

WHO has appealed to the international community for support in providing essential medical supplies by coordinating donations according to the specific needs of the Ministry of Health (see press release below).

Related links:

WHO occupied Palestinian territory web site
WHO oPt Situation report: Gaza November 20, 2012
Press release November 17, 2012

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