

# SITUATION REPORT occupied Palestinian territory, Gaza 1 - 19 January 2019











217 ESSENTIAL **DRUGS IMMEDIATELY NEEDED** 



# **Highlights**

- During the reporting period from 1 to 19 January 2019, three Palestinians were killed, including one child and one woman, and 1,169 were injured<sup>1</sup>. Out of which, 489 were referred to hospitals for emergency care.
- Since the start of the mass demonstrations in Gaza on 30 March 2018, 258 people have been killed and a total of 27,574 people injured. 13,013 were treated and discharged from the Trauma Stabilization Points (TSPs) and the remaining 14,561 casualties were transferred to MoH and NGO hospitals. 6,331 people had



Photo: PRCS paramedic evacuating an injured child from field. Credit: PRCS

live ammunition gunshot wounds, of which 5,513 (87%) presented limb gunshot wounds<sup>2</sup>.

- In December 2018, the Central Drug Store of the MoH in Gaza reported 42% of essential drugs and 23% of medical consumables at less than one month's supply. The 49 MoH primary healthcare clinics are critically impacted, with 59% of essential primary healthcare and 70% of mother and child drugs at zero stock.
- According to the Ministry of Health, some hospitals will run out of fuel for electricity. Ad-hoc donations from various charities have prevented the closure of hospitals. If funding for fuel is not secured, this will have a life threatening impact for patients whose life is dependent on electrical appliances.
- The Health Cluster requires \$32 million USD to response to humanitarian needs in the oPt. The Humanitarian Response Plan for the Health Cluster will target 900,000 people out of the 1.2 million identified as acutely in need of humanitarian health assistance.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ministry of Health (MoH)

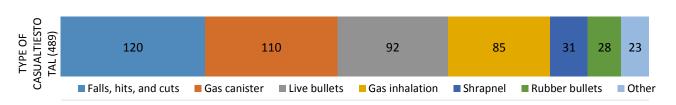
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ministry of Health (MoH)

#### Trauma Analysis 1 – 19 January 2019

#### Casualties:

- Three Palestinians were killed, including one child and one woman, and 1,169 were injured by the Israeli forces.
- The ambulance services transported a total of 988 patients from the field to the TSPs. 444 patients were subsequently transferred to the hospitals. 35 patients were transported directly from the field to the hospitals (8% TSP bypass).
- During this period, the hospitals reported 489 emergency consultations related to the mass demonstrations. Out of which, 92 people suffered from live ammunition gunshot wounds. See figure 1 below for type of emergency consultations.

Figure 1: Type of emergency consultations at hospitals 1 to 19 January 2019



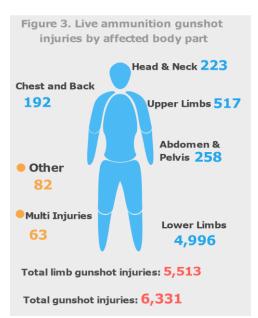
• From the cohort of casualties referred to hospitals during this reporting period, 124 were children (25%), 32 were female (7%) and 457 (93%) were male. See figure 2 below.

Figure 2: Emergency consultations at hospitals disaggregated by gender and age

Total	By gender		By age	
	Male	Female	Children	Adults
489	457	32	124	365

### **Cumulative Trauma Analysis since 30 March 2018**

- Deaths: From 30 March, 258 people have been killed<sup>3</sup>.
- Injuries: The total figure of people injured stands at 27,574.
- Trauma Stabilization Points: Out of 27,574 people injured, 13,013 were treated at the TSPs and immediately discharged. This has reduced the burden of casualties arriving at the hospitals by an average of 47%.
- Hospital caseload: The remaining 14,561 casualties were stabilized and transferred for treatment at the MoH and NGO emergency departments.
- Live ammunition gunshot injuries: Out of the total 14,561 referred to emergency departments (ED) at hospitals, 6,331 cases were live ammunition gunshot injuries, 43% of the total casualties arriving at the hospitals. From the total of 6,331 live ammunition gunshot injuries, 5,513 are limb gunshot injuries (87%). Refer to figure 3.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 10 bodies have been reported to be held by Israeli authorities, according to OCHA. The remaining 248 have been reported by the Ministry of Health (MoH).

#### Permanent disability:

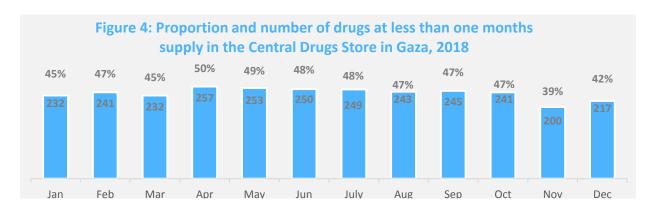
- Amputations: 120 amputations have taken place since the start of the mass demonstrations, this
  includes 20 children and one female. Out of this total, 106 were lower limb amputations and 14 upper
  limb amputations<sup>4</sup>.
- o **Paralysis:** 22 patients are currently paralyzed due to spinal cord injuries.
- Eye injuries: Nine people have permanent loss of vision as a result of injuries caused during the mass demonstrations.

## **Energy Crisis in Gaza**

In 2018, the international community have collectively donated \$4 million USD for emergency fuel to sustain Gaza's critical health facilities<sup>5</sup>. According to OCHA, 4.29 million liters of fuel were provided to Gaza's health sector to support 80 health facilities. However, MoH have announced that some hospitals will run out of fuel throughout January and February. Rationalisation measures have continued with suspended sterilization, diagnostic imaging, cleaning, laundry and catering services during cut-off hours. Elective surgeries have been further reduced and drastic service reductions, including closures of wards. If funding for fuel is not secured, this will have a life threatening impact for patients whose life is dependent on electrical appliances.

# **Depleting essential medical supplies**

■ The Central Drug Store in Gaza supplies all 14 MoH hospitals (2,243 beds) and 49 MoH primary healthcare clinics (PHC) in Gaza. These health facilities provide 40% of Gaza's primary healthcare, covering approximately 600,000 people and 90% of all hospital care services. According to Gaza's Central Drug Store, at the end of December 2018, 42% of essential drugs (217 essential medicines out of the total 516 essential medicines list) and 23% of essential disposables (192 essential disposables out of the total 853 essential disposables list) were at less than one month's supply at the MoH store in Gaza. See also figure 4 below.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> According to Assalama Society

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> OCHA Fuel Dashboard

## Access for patients referred out of Gaza

- WHO continues to monitor the access of patients from Gaza and attacks against healthcare across the oPt. For additional information on access barriers for Palestinian patients, see WHO's latest monthly access report.
- As of 31 December 2018, according to Gaza's Coordination and Liaison Office, there had been 435 applications
  to Israeli authorities by those injured in demonstrations to exit Gaza via Erez crossing to access health care. Of
  those applications, 82 (19%) were approved, 130 (30%) were denied and 223 (51%) were delayed.

## Attacks against health

- According to data reported to WHO by the Ministry of Health, PMRS, PRCS, UHWC and other health providers, for the period of 1 to 19 January 2019, at least 52 health workers were injured and 10 ambulances were damaged in 45 incidents of attacks against healthcare in the Gaza Strip. Of the health workers, 13 were injured by gas canisters, 1 with live ammunition, 2 with rubber bullets, and 36 suffered gas inhalation.
- From 30 March 2018 to 19 January 2019, three health workers were killed and 617 injured in 407 recorded incidents against health staff and facilities. 94 ambulances were damaged, as well as 5 other forms of health transport and 3 health facilities.



PRCS team providing first aid to one of the injured health staff. Credit: PRCS

## **Emergency Response**

- **WHO** delivered 10 drug items, with a total value of \$ 48,000 USD, to the MoH in Gaza. The delivered drugs are estimated to benefit approximately 55,650 patients in emergency departments.
- Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP- UK) delivered 6 items of disposables worth \$ 49,313 USD. In addition, the Gaza Limb Reconstruction team screened 99 patients; 65 in Al Shifa Hospital and 34 in European Gaza Hospital. 3 patients were operated. MAP-UK will deploy a limb reconstruction specialized cell EMT at the end of February.
- UNICEF provided 4 essential and lifesaving drugs reaching 41,000 people and 193,500 doses from Penta vaccine supporting 193,500 children.
- Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS) provided first aid to a total of 251 victims. Out of those 37 were shot with live bullets. Since the start of demonstrations, PMRS has provided first aid to a total of 5,268 victims including 4,206 males, 390 females, 553 boys and 119 girls. PMRS has also added 43 new patients to post-operative care services, raising the total of beneficiaries to 991.
- The Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) teams provided first aid to 67 people. Al Awda Hospital

- provided emergency services and 54 injured people received first aid in the field.
- Doctors Worldwide Turkey continues to provide dressings, screening, physiotherapy and psychosocial support, in addition to deploying emergency medical teams to Al Shifa Hospital.
- UNRWA provided support to 81 patients in need of postoperative care. To date, UNRWA has supported 5,163 people injured from the mass demonstrations.
- Caritas Jerusalem: Caritas provided first aid to 192 injured cases.



Turkish doctors deployed at Shifa Hospital Credit: DWWT.

- MSF France: Admitted 63 trauma patients (the active cohort of followed trauma patients is 737) and conducted 94 surgical procedures benefitting 34 people. Since April 2018, MSF-F has operated on 1,536 people.
- PRCS teams provided first aid services to 755 casualties including 53 Palestinians shot with live ammunition, 1 was killed, 515 tear gas suffocation cases, 186 tear gas canister wounds; PRCS' Psychosocial Support Team offered Psychological First Aid (PFA) to more than 33 wounded persons and their families in the Gaza Strip. PRCS Hospitals received and treated 56 cases at Al Quds hospital and 18 in Al-Amal hospital.
- Assalama Charitable Society Provided more than 907 patients with 1,813 multidisciplinary postoperative consultations.
- Physicians for Human Rights- I: PHRI delivered 2 trucks worth of over 25 types of medical equipment for emergency departments and surgical operating rooms, as well as 10 hospital beds.

#### **Coordination and Information**

- The Gaza Trauma Working Group conducted its regular meeting on 15 January. The meeting was attended by 24 partners representing 16 organizations.
- The Health Cluster is currently in the process of reviewing the strategic priorities for the CERF allocation and the first oPt Standard Allocation.



Trauma Working Group meeting, Credit: WHO

## **Urgent Funding Needs**

Health Cluster partners require \$ 32 million USD to address acute health needs of the most vulnerable communities in the occupied Palestinian territory for 2019, targeting 900,000 people out of the 1.2 million in need of humanitarian health assistance. See the <a href="https://example.com/humanitarian"><u>Humanitarian Response Plan 2019</u></a>.

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