

WHO Special Situation Report occupied Palestinian territory, Gaza 5<sup>th</sup> May- 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018





## **Highlights**

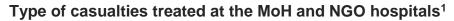
- Latest figures by the Ministry of Health (MoH) indicate 973 Palestinians were injured by Israeli forces following the seventh mass demonstration by Palestinians on the Gaza side of the perimeter fence with Israel, between the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> May.
- Out of the 973 injuries, 371 required immediate transfer to the MoH hospitals or to NGO clinics, (including 49 children, 12 females and 359 males). From the hospitalized injuries, 16 cases were critically life threatening, 222 moderate, the remaining 133 were mild cases.

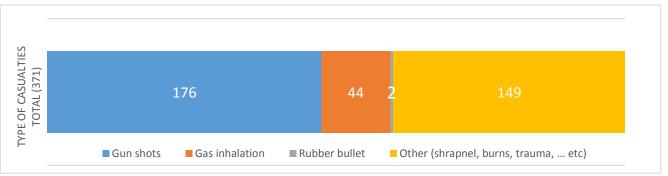


- An additional 602 injuries were managed at primary healthcare centers and 10 trauma stabilization points by the MoH, Union Health Workers Committee (UHWC) NGO and by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS).
- Casualties occurred during the mass demonstrations by Palestinians on the Gaza side of the perimeter fence with Israel. People from all over the Gaza Strip gathered near the area, where the Israeli army imposes a 'No Go Zone', to mark the Palestinian 'Land Day', the seventh of a series of mass protests leading up to the 70th anniversary of what Palestinians refer to as the 1948 'Nakba', on 15 May.
- For the seventh week in a row, mass gatherings took place across Gaza, 500-700 meters away from the perimeter fence, in the following 5 locations:
  - o An-Nahda area in the east of Rafah
  - o Al-Najar area east of Khuza'a in Khanyounis
  - Al Bureij camp in the Middle Area
  - Malaka area east of Gaza City
  - Abu Safiya in Jabalia and at the checkpoint in Beit Hanoun, North Gaza







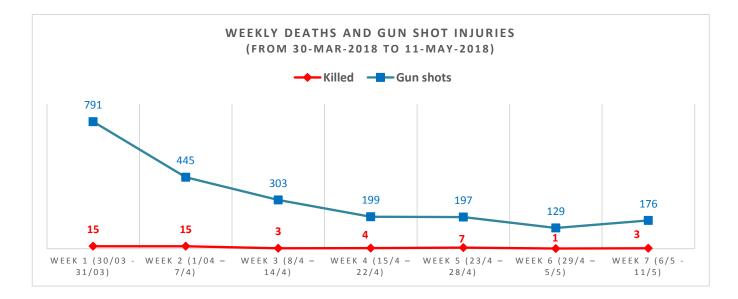


#### Casualties disaggregated by injury, gender and age at MoH and NGO hospitals (cases: 371)<sup>2</sup>

Total	By gender		By affected body part								By age	
	Male	Female	Multi- injuries	Head and neck	Upper limbs	Lower limbs	Chest and back	Abdomen and pelvis	Other <sup>3</sup>	Gas inhalation	Children	Adults
371	359	12	10	22	56	196	22	18	3	44	49	322

## Accumulative caseload

- As of the 11<sup>th</sup> May, 53 people have been killed since the start of the demonstrations. 48 have been reported by the MoH and an additional 5 reported by OCHA.
- During this period, another five people were killed by Israeli forces, in isolated incidents.
- The figure of people injured amidst ongoing demonstrations stands at 9,509. From this total, a cumulative 2,240 are live ammunition gunshot injuries. See graph below.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: Ministry of Health

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Source: Ministry of Health

<sup>3</sup> Other refers to the fact that the hospital records did not state the area of injury

# **Violations against health**

According to the Ministry of Health (MoH), Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) and Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS), from 5<sup>th</sup> April to 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018:

- 42 health personnel were injured (37 by tear gas inhalation, 2 by bullets and 3 by direct hit with tear gas canisters).
- 7 ambulances were damaged due to targeting by tear gas canisters (5 MoH and 2 PRCS).

## **Access through Erez**

In the first quarter of 2018). 20 applications were denied or delayed, 2 out which were children (66% - significantly higher than the overall denial rate of 8% for the first quarter of 2018).

#### Impact of Kerem Shalom crossing closure

- On May 11<sup>th</sup>, Israeli Authorities announced that the Kerem Shalom crossing would be closed until further notice. A prolonged closure may lead to a serious disruption of critical services, preventing the supply of essential fuel. The Health cluster reports that the current emergency fuel available in 14 public hospitals is enough for one week and would only be enough to run the 14 NGO hospitals for 3 days.
- MDM France will release emergency drug items later this week, and an additional cargo of medical supplies by the end of May. However, the delivery will be delayed, due to the closure of Kerem Shalom.

#### **Immediate critical Drugs and Medical Disposables needs**

- Out of the 148 drug items needed to respond to the increased influx of trauma casualties, currently only 108 are available, resulting in a shortage of 27%. As part of the broader ongoing chronic crisis in Gaza, 50% of all essential drugs list (516 items) are currently at zero stock (less than one month's supply) and 40% are completely depleted.
- In addition, 190 items of disposables are urgently needed to respond to the current casualties, out of which less than 60% are currently available. An



additional 29% of the essential disposables are currently at zero stock (less than one month's supply).

#### **Emergency Response**

- An additional, 64 pallets of drugs released by the MoH have reached Gaza, bringing the total to 148 pallets.
- The Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) provided immediate care to four cases of tear gas inhalation in the field and transferred 254 cases to hospitals, including two dead bodies and 81 live ammunition injuries.

- On May 9<sup>th</sup>, the ICRC delivered 3 Weapon Wound (WW) Kits (enough to treat 150 severe surgical trauma patients), 7 external fixation sets (enough to treat 28 patients) and 15 dressing sets (enough to treat around 750 cases), to the Ministry of Health warehouses. ICRC also delivered one complete WW Kit (enough to treat 50 severe surgical trauma patients), 10 dressing sets (to treat around 500 cases), three external fixation sets (to treat 12 patients), one vascular set and one laparotomy set, to the PRCS Central Drugs Stores.
- The joint UNICEF/WHO appeal for CERF funds was approved in the amount of US\$ 1,000,000. UNICEF and WHO will kick start the procurement of drugs, disposables and assistive devices.
- International Medical Corps (IMC) partners provided immediate care to 54 injured cases in the field, with ambulances transferring 114 patients. IMC partner hospitals have also provided 118 patients with medical care including 87 for wound care and 31 surgeries for cases referred from MoH.
- MSF France admitted an additional 63 trauma patients for post-operative care. A fourth postoperative clinic
  was also opened in the Middle Zone. MSF- France also donated sutures and surgical instruments to Al Aqsa
  Hospital and a hospital tent to Nasser Hospital. Their surgical teams operated on 20 patients in Al Shifa and Al
  Aqsa Hospital, some receiving multiple interventions.
- MSF- Belgium deployed a new surgical team to Al-Awda Hospital on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May.
- Palestine Children's Relief Fund (PCRF) deployed a number of teams to MoH hospitals, including a mission to European Gaza Hospital (EGH); and a paediatric surgical team.
- MDM- France had 20 Basic Life Support (BLS) active community volunteers. MDM- F has also deployed emergency teams to Al-Aqsa Hospital.
- With support from WHO, the MoH upgraded their 5 trauma stabilisation points across Gaza.

## Immediate health priorities and unmet needs

The three priority health needs are; trauma management, mental health support and the protection of health workers and health facilitirs. In order to respond to the humanitarian needs from the 30<sup>th</sup> March until the 31<sup>st</sup> May, the Health Cluster requires a minimum \$5.9 million USD. To date, \$1.8 million USD has been secured through reserve funds currently being released by the Humanitarian Coordinator, \$ 1.8 million USD has been pledged by ECHO.

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