

Sardina's mother, speaks to WHO about the assistance that she received from the mobile clinic team. Photo credit: WHO/P Ajello13 November 2014 – Ensuring access to basic health services for internally displaced people (IDP) in the Kurdistan region is a critical pillar of WHO's support.

Twenty-four mobile medical teams in Duhok currently provide consultations and medicines to treat common illnesses while ensuring referral of cases requiring specialized care. Thirteen-year-old Sardina Gazwan an IDP from Bashiqa is one of the thousands of the displaced persons who received medical care from the mobile team. Sardina was treated for an ulcer in her hand as a result of an abscess due to unknown cause. Subsequently she developed a fever and occasional chills which worried her mother.

Thankfully for Sardina's mother, the mobile medical team made a timely outreach visit, "I am glad for the medical services that this mobile team has provided to treat my daughter's ulcer," she said.

Thousands of people like Sardina are living in unfinished buildings, under road bridges and schools in Duhok, Erbil and Suleimaniya. Many are benefiting from the services of mobile medical teams and clinics. An average of 150 people are seen in one visit; majority of patients are women and children. The most common diseases reported are upper respiratory tract infections, followed by acute watery diarrhoea and skin rashes. The mobile medical teams in Duhok work six days a week and are seriously overstretched.



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