

With generous support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Health Organization (WHO) deployed 24 emergency medical teams (EMTs) to more than 30 health facilities in Libya in 2022. The teams provided 321 542 medical procedures, including 3906 surgical interventions.

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An EMT doctor at Qatroun village hospital in southern Libya examines a patient with high blood pressure. Credit: WHO Libya

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An EMT paediatrician at Qatroun village hospital gives advice to the mother of a 7-year-old girl who has presented with a high fever.

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An EMT gynaecologist conducts regular prenatal visits in Qatroun village hospital

“We monitor and advise pregnant women and, when necessary, we refer them for specialist care. Unfortunately, several patients have died while being transferred to other hospitals, so we always ensure that we stabilize them before they begin their journey.”

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“This patient’s injuries mean that he is in no condition to travel to the nearest referral hospital in Sebha. The desert roads between here and Sebha are rough and unpaved, and they could make his condition even worse. Therefore, we have to stabilize him before he travels,” says an EMT doctor treating a patient with life-threatening injuries.

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EMT doctors in Qatroun hospital’s emergency room treat a migrant who has been stung by a scorpion. Before 2022, dozens of people in the southern region died from scorpion stings. This number dropped to zero after WHO deployed EMTs to public hospitals in southern Libya.

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EMT doctors in Qatroun village hospital examine an injured patient. EMTs in the area cover several neighbouring villages as the nearest major hospital, Sebha Medical Centre, is 300 km away. For badly injured patients, this journey can be perilous.

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Medical staff in full PPE attending to a patient in a clinical setting.



Two WHO EMT team members walking down a hospital corridor.



A WHO EMT team member pushing a gurney in a hospital hallway.



A WHO EMT team member performing a procedure on a patient in an operating room.

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