



8 May, 2023 – On World Thalassemia Day 2023, WHO stands in solidarity with the thousands of thalassemia patients in Syria and their families.

“Despite a weakened healthcare system in Syria as a result of years of conflict, there are still glimmers of hope everyday thanks to the support of donors and the tireless dedication of healthcare workers who make it possible for thalassemia patients in Syria to access to life-saving care,” said Dr Iman Shankiti, WHO Representative a.i. in Syria.

From remote villages to urban centers, healthcare workers and health partners have made a difference in the lives of patients – bringing hope and healing to those who need it most.

But the work is far from over. Thalassemia patients in Syria still face many challenges in accessing the treatment and care they need and the health system is facing shortages of medicine, equipment, and trained healthcare professionals.

“Despite ongoing conflict and the disruption of the healthcare system in Syria, WHO remains committed to supporting these patients and their families. This World Thalassemia Day, we pledge to continue our efforts to improve the health situation in Syria and ensure that every patient, no matter where they are, has access to the care and treatment they need. Together, with healthcare workers and aid organizations, we can make a difference and give a brighter future to those who need it most,” added Dr Shankiti.

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