

Lebanon

GAZA War Spillover to Lebanon Based on available information as of 5:00pm on 10 November 2023

People wounded

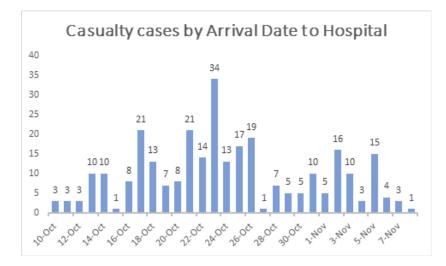
People killed

People displaced 26,232

As reported by MoPH-ESU on 10 November 202

lSituation overview

- As of 10 November 2023, the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has reported a total of 301 people wounded and 75 killed due to armed clashes at the border with Israel. Among the 75 killed, 70 were dead on arrival at the hospital.
- Since the last situation report was published on 2 November, the number of wounded has increased by 41.3% and the number of deaths by 67%. This is indicative of the deteriorating security situation in Lebanon, with more frequent strikes reported across a broader area.
- Over 26,000 people have been displaced, of which 986 (3.8%) are staying in 11 collective shelters and others with relatives and friends. Many displaced people have moved north to the coastal city of Tyre, which is 18 km from the border.
- According to the government officials, white phosphorous bombs were dropped by Israel on border villages such as Alma El Chaeb. This has resulted in fires ravaging through large swaths of land with olive trees and other plantations.
- On 5 November, an attack on health care was reported with 2 ambulances damaged and 4 paramedics wounded in a drone attack on the outskirts of Tayr Harfa, Tyre district.
- Four Primary Health Care centers in Marjayoun and Bint Jbeil have been forced to close due to insecurity and armed clashes.
- According to informal reports, sales of chronic disease medicines have increased in recent days and the risk of stock out in pharmacies is high.
- The broader impacts of the clashes on livelihoods and the economy are expected to increase pressure on public health services.



Health needs and response

- A **Public Health Emergency Operation Center** (PHEOC) has been set up by the MoPH, with WHO's support, to respond to the situation and prepare for further deterioration. International staff have been deployed by WHO, along with the Country Office team, to support the PHEOC.
- With a possibility of increased escalation, **hospital readiness for mass casualty management** is a key concern.
 - o A rapid assessment of 41 hospitals, mainly in the South, Nabatiyeh, Baalbeck-Hermel and Beirut areas, was conducted to look at readiness for trauma care and mass casualty management. Where access is a challenge, hospital management are being trained in self-assessment.
 - Of the 41 hospitals, 8 have been identified as **frontline referral hospitals**. WHO has prepositioned supplies for trauma care in these hospitals. WHO is also assessing their readiness on an ongoing basis.
 - o WHO is working with partners (Society of emergency medicine, ICRC, MSF and others) to train health workers, specially those in referral hospitals, in the management of mass casualty events. Other trainings –e.g., on life support, mechanical ventilation and airway management—are also ongoing.
 - An international casualty and trauma management expert has arrived in the country to work with the local teams to establish referral patient pathways in hospitals.
- With over 26,000 people already displaced from their homes, **continuity of essential health services** is of concern.
 - o Four Mobile Medical Units, linked to PHC centers, are delivering basic services in shelters.
 - o A hotline (1787) has been set up to refer displaced people to healthcare services near them.
 - WHO, representing the Health Sector, is joining the Disaster Risk Management unit and other national authorities as well as OCHA in field missions to assess on-ground needs.
- The **availability of essential medicines and other medical supplies** is a key concern, given the escalation of hostilities, signs of stockpiling of medicines by the public, as well as the precarious economic situation in the country.
 - o Current availability: As per data available on MEDITRACK system at the MoPH, the current local supply of injectable antibiotics and anesthetics is enough to last three months at the current use rate. The supply of cancer and other life-saving medications is enough to fulfil local demand for one to two months. Essential medicines for chronic and acute primary healthcare are in shortage at the PHC level. The pharmaceutical industry in the country has stockpile of medications enough to meet demand for four months, with the ability to produce additional supplies enough for four months.
 - o WHO has accelerated the delivery of vital medical supplies to Lebanon. Supplies for trauma and emergency surgery have been prepositioned in the referral hospitals (serving 100 surgical procedures in each) and further supplies are being shipped from WHO's logistics Hub in Dubai. In total, these supplies will enable 2,000 surgical procedures in the country.
 - o Thirty sets of Basic Surgical kits (basic trauma kits for adults and children) reached Beirut and were stored in MoPH Central Drug Warehouse. They will be distributed in the next few days to 30 public hospitals to strengthen the Emergency Room capacity.
 - An analysis is ongoing to identify gaps in the availability of critical medicines in PHC centers and critical services like dialysis. Additional medicines are being distributed to PHC centers to serve the displaced population.
- WHO is strengthening **mental health and psychosocial support** through trainings on psychiatric emergency care and psychological first aid, as well as sharing information resources.
- With displacement increasing health risks and reducing access to healthcare, there is an increased need for **strength-ened disease surveillance**.
 - o The Epidemiological Surveillance Unit at the MoPH is ensuring information flow between hospitals and municipalities and the PHEOC, especially in high-risk districts which are seeing the highest influx of displaced populations.
 - Data from calls received on the hotline are being used to identify any potential new outbreak as well as common health concerns among the displaced that require attention.
 - o The GIS database for different health facilities (hospitals, laboratories, and radiology centers) is currently being updated, with a dashboard for easy information retrieval.
 - WHO is sharing information and training materials for physicians on white phosphorus exposure in English and Arabic.

Funding

- WHO needs US\$ 11.2 million for emergency preparedness and response over the next three months.
- Discussions are ongoing with donors on the possibility to repurpose some of the existing funds towards these activities.



WHO visited Nabatiyeh Governmental Hospital on 9 November 2023 to check the readiness level to receive casualties, based on the trainings and the stock of advanced trauma supplies they received, along with available contingency plan.

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