

# **OPT EMERGENCY SITUATION REPORT**

Issue 10 As of 01 November 2023, 13:00



8,805	22,240	128	2,274	216*
Number of people killed in Gaza	Number of people injured in Gaza	Number of people killed in the West Bank	Number of people injured in the West Bank	Attacks on Health Care since 7 October *WHO SSA
1.4 M Estimated number of people displaced	40%  Hospitals not currently functioning	64%  Ministry of Health  primary health care  clinics closed	59% UNRWA primary health care clinics closed	3 Litres of water available per person per day

Source for Gaza and West Bank death and injury figures: Ministry of Health

# **SITUATION OVERVIEW**

From 7 to 30 October at least **8,805** people killed in Gaza. Approximately **41.5%** are children (3650), **45%** female (3956) and 55% male (4849), according to the Ministry of Health (MoH). **128** Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank; **27%** are children.

According to Israeli authorities, ~1400 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed, ~5,400 injured and 240 being held hostage since the hostilities started.

Gaza: Largescale fatalities and casualties with mass displacement of 1.4 million people and continued siege severely restricting entry of essential supplies, as well as entry/exit of humanitarian workers and evacuation of the injured/sick.

West Bank, including east Jerusalem: Increased settler and military violence, including airstrikes and live ammunition. Complete obstruction at checkpoints between Palestinian towns and closure of several communities, restricting access for patients, health personnel and ambulances. At least 103 households comprising 864 people, including 333 children, have been forcibly displaced since 7 October.

## **HEALTH NEEDS AND RISKS**

#### Gaza

- Traumatic injuries: In addition to fatalities, at least 22,240 people injured in Gaza. Approximately 34% are children (7468), 34% female (7623) and 66% male (14617), according to MoH.
- **350,000 non communicable diseases patients** (diabetes, heart disease, cancer, and others). 1000 patients in need of kidney dialysis.
- **50,000 pregnant women,** with an average of 183 births per day.
- 130 premature infants are dependent on incubators of which 61% are in the north, require electricity, to keep them alive.
- An imminent public health catastrophe looms with mass displacement, overcrowding, and damage to water and sanitation infrastructure. Of 1.4 million displaced, 690,400 in UNRWA shelters nearly 4 times their designated capacity.
- Severe stressors for mental health affecting the whole population, including bombardment and siege. Over 485,000 people estimated to be living with severe or moderate mental health disorders before the escalation.
- Destruction severely affecting infrastructure in the Gaza Strip and obstructing ambulance access to the injured.
  - According to the Ministry of Health, **1950 people including 1050 children reported to be missing and may be trapped under the rubble**, obstacles to providing first aid response.
  - o Private vehicles being used for the injured putting their safety at risk.

#### West Bank, including east Jerusalem

- Increased injuries placing a high demand for emergency medical supplies for first response and at hospitals.
- Over 270 patients per day need access to health care in east Jerusalem, as well as in Israeli facilities, from the rest of the West Bank.
- At least 400 patients and companions from the Gaza Strip are stranded in the West Bank, including east Jerusalem.
- **Around 5000 Palestinians from the Gaza Strip** who had been working in Israel on 7 October are also sheltering in the West Bank, where they require primary health care support and provision of medications for chronic conditions.

## **HEALTH CARE FUNCTIONING AND ACCESS**

#### Gaza

- Prevention of entry/exit of humanitarian supplies and personnel, and limited medical evacuation from Gaza.
  - Insufficient water and sanitation, food, medicines, medical supplies, and health equipment remain and require continual resupply.
  - From 1 November, Rafah crossing opened for exit of people for the first time since 10 October, with the
    evacuation of 46 wounded persons and 36 of their companions, alongside some 345 foreign passport
    holders.
- Functioning of health care facilities and ambulances is critically affected by acute shortages of fuel with lack of mains electricity, as well as depletion of medications and medical supplies.
  - 63% (45/72) of primary care facilities not functioning; a higher proportion not functioning in North Gaza (92%) and Gaza City (74%).
  - Due to insecurity, damage, and lack of fuels, 39% (14/36) of hospitals and two outpatient specialist centres
     (Al Yaman Al Said and Musalam Eye Center) are not functioning. 126% of hospital beds currently occupied
     in 7 major hospitals. At Shifa hospital, the bed occupancy rate has reached 164%. Fuel depletion
     immediately risks the lives of injured patients, those requiring surgery, patients in intensive care, and those
     on neonatal incubators.
  - Turkish-Palestinian Friendship Hospital (the only dedicated cancer hospital in the Gaza Strip) became non-operational, risking the lives of cancer patients.
  - o **Ambulance functioning**: 28 ambulances out of service due to damage or fuel shortage.
  - Medications and medical supplies are depleting, including those needed for acute and emergency care
    (e.g. bandages, saline, anaesthesia, pain medications, antibiotics), for treatment of chronic conditions (e.g.
    insulin) and lifesaving drugs for newborns, for patients with cancer, people requiring dialysis, and people in
    intensive care.
  - o **Blood bank supplies:** Calls continue for blood donation and appeals for outside supply of blood units.
  - o Medical equipment increasingly non-functional, affecting diagnostic and treatment capacities.

- 55% of the Health Cluster partners stopped or limited operations because of the insecurity and mass infrastructure damage, which makes it difficult to move.
- Evacuation orders affecting the north of the Gaza Strip.
  - 12 hospitals in Gaza City and North Gaza are currently functioning and facing evacuation orders. These are impossible to carry out, risking the lives of inpatients and IDPs particularly the most vulnerable requiring life support. Insufficient ambulance capacity for transfer and insufficient bed capacity to care for these patients in the south.
  - Most dialysis capacity (80%) located in the area ordered for evacuation.
- Lack of WASH facilities in health care settings and shelters means imminent risk of infectious disease outbreaks.
- Routine surveillance systems are not functioning, hampering detection and response to public health threats.

  UNRWA shelters report thousands of cases of acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea, chickenpox, skin infections including scabies and others.

## West Bank, including east Jerusalem

- First response capacities overstretched by increased casualties, with high demand for emergency medical supplies.
- Checkpoint closures, insecurity, movement restrictions, and attacks on health obstruct access for ambulances, health care workers, and patients including to primary and hospital care.
- Twenty-nine communities in Area C remain inaccessible to partners running mobile clinics, leaving the population without access to essential healthcare services.
- Increased shortages of essential medicines and medical supplies continue, affecting first response, primary care, and hospital care.

#### **HEALTH ATTACKS**

WHO has documented 216 attacks on health care in the occupied Palestinian territory since 7 October.

- 93 attacks in the Gaza Strip have resulted in 491 fatalities and 372 casualties, including 16 fatalities and 30 injuries of health care workers on duty. The attacks have affected 39 health care facilities (including 22 hospitals damaged) and affected 28 ambulances (including 25 damaged).
- 123 attacks in the West Bank affecting 102 ambulances and including 70 attacks involving obstruction to delivery of health care; 66 involving physical violence towards health teams; 19 involving detention of health staff and ambulances; and 12 involving militarised search of health assets.

## **HEALTH RESPONSE**

## WHO

- **61 trucks** with medical supplies were sent from Al Arish to be scanned and enter Gaza until 1 November, **including 8 from WHO** and others from Egyptian MoH, ERC, UNICEF, Qatar and Tunisia. The WHO supplies that have entered Gaza so far are enough to serve the different health needs of **390,670 people**.
- WHO has delivered medical supplies between 24-25 Oct, 30-31Oct and on 1 November to seven hospitals (2 in the north, 5 in the south), Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) to support ambulance operations, and to the UNRWA warehouse for onward distribution to approximately 8 UNRWA primary health care centres.
- WHO, with support from UNRWA, delivered the minimum amount of fuel required to six major hospitals and PRCS to sustain its ambulance services. However, this is only enough for just over 24 hours.
- Additional flights arrived to Al Arish, Egypt, since 14 October carrying trauma and surgical supplies.
- WHO is coordinating with MOH, UNRWA and others partners to establish **early warning systems** to support disease surveillance and control measures, especially in over-crowded shelters.

## **Health partners**

- Partners continue to preposition supplies and other resources in Egypt to support the health response; delivery of supplies to Gaza is needed to re-establish operations for most partners.
- **Health Cluster Logistics Support Team** set up in Cairo and is compiling supply chain information from all partners and service providers in Gaza.
- **National Inter Cluster Coordination Group** approved the inter-sectoral prioritisation strategy for supplies into Gaza and continues to advocate for increasing the number of trucks allowed into Gaza to pre-crisis levels.
- Surge staff deployed from inside Gaza are continuing to support trauma management at Gaza hospitals.
- Twenty global EMT (Emergency Medical Team) partners are on standby ready to be deployed to support management of patients in Gaza.

- Health Cluster is tracking partner procurement and Nutrition Working Group planning response pending access.
   The Nutrition Cluster will now be activated.
- Inter-cluster coordination to bring in medical supplies, food, water, and fuel to hospitals and IDPs in the north.
- Health Cluster partners are providing **health and MHPSS services to workers from Gaza** sheltering in the West Bank and supporting emergency and trauma care needs across the West Bank.
- Health Cluster partners continue providing humanitarian health response across West Bank. The Inter-Agency Contingency Plan is activated in response to increased military operations, settler violence and civil unrest.

#### WHO RECOMMENDATIONS

- Immediate end to hostilities.
- Establish and sustain protected humanitarian access for the immediate entry of adequate quantities of humanitarian supplies including fuel, water, food, medicines, and other essential supplies and personnel into the Gaza Strip and unimpeded access for patient evacuation and outside referral.
- **Prioritization of the shipment of fuel** to operate desalination plants, hospital generators, ambulances.
- Ensure safe passage for medical supplies and civilians within the Gaza Strip. Ensure WHO medical supplies can safely reach major hospitals in Gaza City and North Gaza and hospitals in south Gaza.
- Ensure the respect and the protection of health care as well as civilians and civilian infrastructure against attacks.
- Ensure the injured have immediate and unhindered access to health care.
- Ensure continuity of essential health services.
- Rapidly reinforce infectious disease surveillance and control measures.

#### **FUNDING**

- In the Multi Country Funding Appeal, WHO estimates \$50 million for immediate needs to support the health response efforts in oPt in the coming three months \$30 million for essential medicines and supplies and \$20 million for other health interventions. WHO has confirmation from several partners regarding funding to support the response. Currently, WHO is finalizing an operational response plan for upcoming three months, focusing on: health service delivery; public health intelligence, early warning, disease prevention and control; supplies and logistics support; and coordination. Details to follow in next sitrep.
- WHO has secured \$8.2 million from the WHO Contingency Fund for Emergencies and \$2.5 from Central Emergency
  Response Fund (CERF) (of which, \$500,000 is allocated for West Bank) for the immediate procurement of essential
  medications and supplies. Additionally, it is reprogramming \$1 million to procure urgently needed medical supplies
  from the local market to ensure the continuity of essential health services, including emergency obstetric care,
  management of chronic diseases, and infectious disease control.

Health Cluster partners support tracker				
	Partners	\$		
Delivered prepositioned supplies	WHO, MAP, AWDA, UNICEF	800,000		
Delivered locally procured supplies	WHO, MedGlobal, IRPAL, MAP, PCRF, QRCS, PAMA	5,443,134		
Confirmed incoming funding	WHO, UNICEF, MAP, AWDA, PMRS, MdM France, MdM Suisse, MdM Spain, UNFPA, Care, MedGlobal, QRCS, HI, PCRF, PAMA	23,050,399		
Total support committed/ delivered		29,293,533		

## **Further information:**

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