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How has 15 years of block

Severe restrictions on people's movement and the lack of supplies have negatively impacted health services for Palestinians in the Gaza Strip. High unemployment and poverty are detrimental to health, and the blockade is affecting the adequate provision of health services for health protection.



Barriers to accessing health care, including the movement of patients, companions, and health workers, are affecting medical supplies and health services, and contributed to **645 attacks on health workers**.

Can patients from Gaza freely access hospitals in the occupied Palestinian territory?

No.

15 YEARS OF BLOCKADE AND

What about access for health staff and medical supplies?

Barriers to access for health staff limit opportunities for professional development. Since 2016, of permit applications through WHO for health partners, **nearly two-thirds (64%) were approved.**

Restrictions and delays on entry for medical supplies limit availability in the Gaza Strip. In 2021, for example, of requests for x-ray/CT spare parts or equipment, **69% were denied.**

How can the situation be improved?

The World Health Organization and partner organizations in the occupied Palestinian territory are calling for **an immediate end to the blockade.**

WHO made recommendations to the 75th World Health Assembly on the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem.²

Recommendations to Israel:

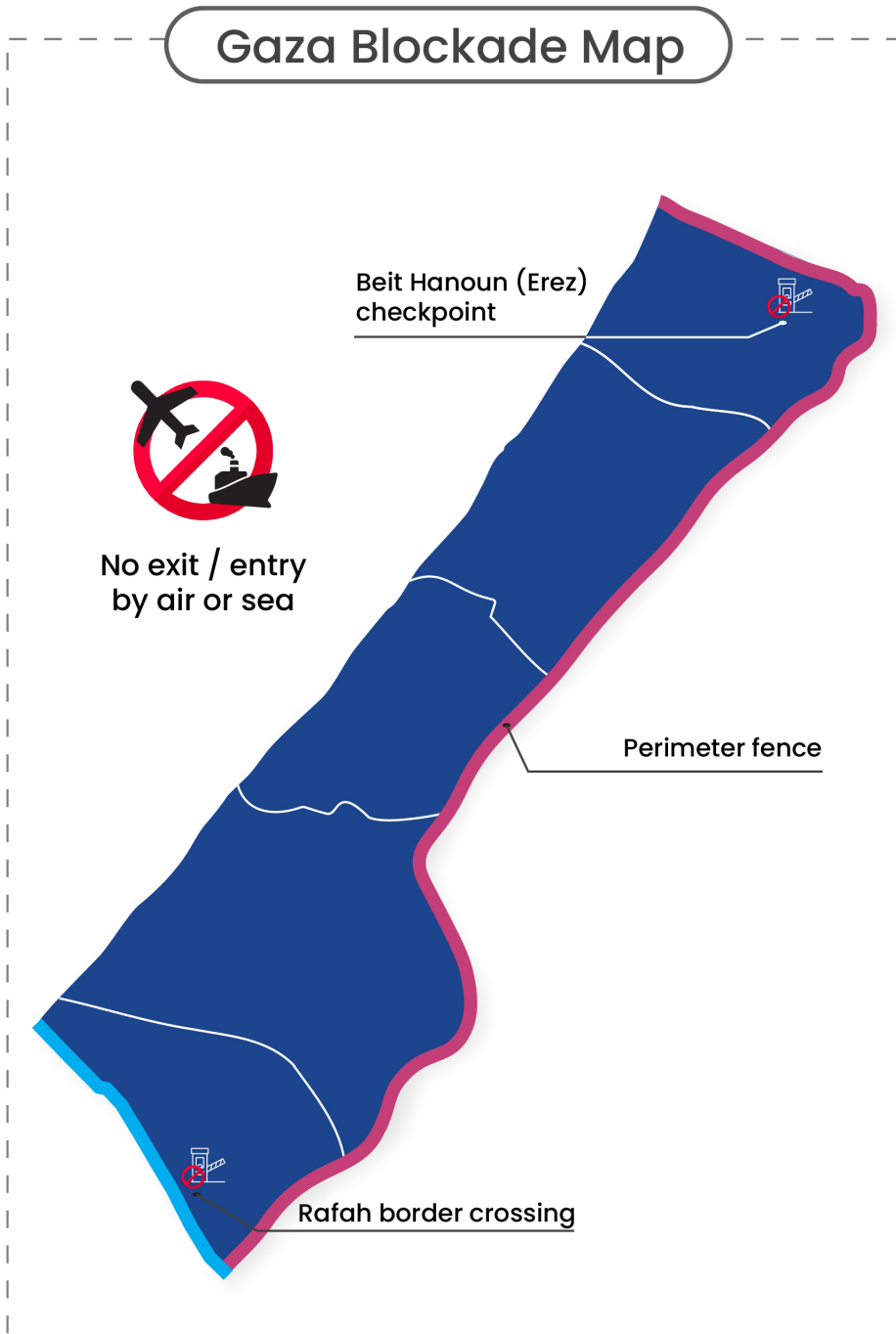
- **End the arbitrary delay and denial of permits for Palestinian health staff** to ensure unhindered access for patients and their caregivers.
- **End the arbitrary delay and detention of ambulances** and ensure the unobstructed throughout the occupied Palestinian territory.
- **Facilitate entry of all essential medicines and medical equipment** by streamlining of administrative requirements and processes.
- **Ensure respect for, and protection of, medical personnel** under international humanitarian law, and refrain from acts of violence.
- **Respect, protect and fulfil underlying determinants of health**, including through ending movement restrictions and restrictions on health services.

Recommendations to the Palestinian Authority and international community:

- **Prioritize health care expenditure** to ensure the continuity of health services in the occupied Palestinian territory.

15 YEARS OF GAZA BLOCKADE AND BARRIERS TO HEALTH A

Gaza Blockade Map



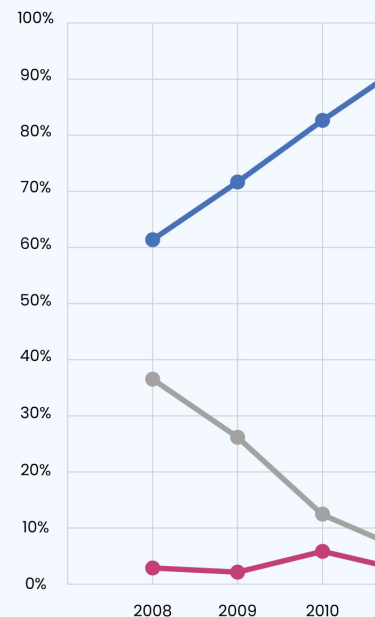
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security interrogations of patients requiring permits

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