

# SITUATION REPORT occupied Palestinian territory, Gaza 01 – 30 April 2019





2 KILLED





8
TRAUMA
STABILISATION
POINTS



268 ESSENTIAL DRUGS IMMEDIATELY NEEDED



UPTO 22 HOURS OF ELECTRICITY AVAILABLE EVERY 24 HOURS IN HOSPITALS

# **Highlights**

- From 01 to 30 April 2019, two Palestinian were killed, including 1 child, and 830 injured<sup>1</sup>.
- According to the MoH, since the start of the demonstrations in Gaza, 279 people have been killed (56 children) and 31,577 injured. WHO was able to verify records of injuries of 28,778 people. 7,013 people have suffered from gunshot wounds, of which 6,138 (88%) presented limb wounds<sup>2</sup>.
- The electricity situation has improved given the recent efforts to connect the grid lines to nine out of the 14 public hospitals, including



Injured patient transported to the TSP to receive pre-hospital care. Credit: WHO

- Al Shifa, Indonesia, Al Aqsa, Nasser, Al Dora, Ophthalmic Hospital, Paediatric, Psychiatric, Specialized Paediatric Hospital. These hospitals now have access to up to 22 hours of electricity every day. Meanwhile, the MoH has appealed for 500,000 liters to cover the interim period until all hospitals are connected to the grid lines.
- 268 items (52%) out of the essential medications were reported at less than one month's supply in the MoH Central Drug Store (CDS), and 56% of the essential laboratory items were reported at less than one month's supply in the Central Laboratory and Blood Bank Department.
- In order to respond to the growing health needs, the Health Cluster requires a total of \$ 28.2 million. Out of this, \$ 15.1 million has been received, with \$5.4 million USD recently released by the Country Based Pooled Fund, leaving a funding gap of \$ 13.1 million. Further information can be found here: <a href="https://bit.ly/2HWPjwz">https://bit.ly/2HWPjwz</a>.
- An additional \$1.5 million is required to ensure the minimum needed resources are available to prepare for and respond to the first 96 hours of a potential escalation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ministry of Health (MoH)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ministry of Health (MoH)

### Trauma Analysis 01 - 30 April

#### Casualties:

- o Two Palestinians were killed and 830 were injured.
- In April, the hospitals reported 465 emergency consultations for patients injured during the mass demonstrations. From which, 167 were injured by gunshots. See figure 1 below for type of emergency consultations.
- o From the cohort of casualties referred to hospitals during this reporting period, 157 were children (34%), 23 (5%) were female and 442 (95%) were male. See figure 2 below.

Figure 1: Type of emergency consultations at hospitals 01 to 30 April 2019

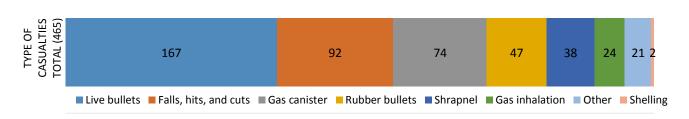


Figure 2: Emergency consultations at hospitals disaggregated by gender and age 01 to 30 April 2019

Total	By gender		By age	
	Male	Female	Children	Adults
465	442	23	157	308

# **Cumulative Trauma Analysis since 30 March 2018**

- Deaths: From 30 March until 30 April 2019, 279 people have been killed<sup>3</sup>.
- Injuries: The total figure of people injured stands at 28,778<sup>4</sup>.
- **Trauma Stabilisation Points:** Out of 28,778 people injured, 14,556 were treated at the TSPs and discharged. This has reduced the burden of casualties arriving at the hospitals by an average of 50%.
- Hospital caseload: The remaining 17,021 casualties arrived at the emergency departments (ED) of MoH and NGO hospitals. Of them, 3,467 were children.

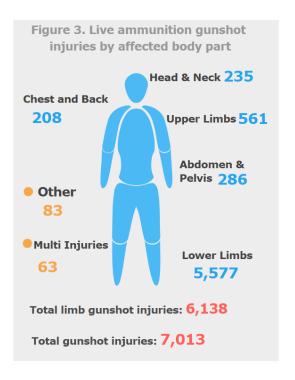
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 7 bodies have been reported to be held by Israeli authorities, according to OCHA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Although the MoH report 31,577 injured, WHO was able to verify 28,778.

• Gunshot injuries: Out of 17,021 casualties that arrived to emergency departments (ED), 7,013 cases were gunshot injuries; which account for 41% of the total casualties arriving at the hospitals. From 7,013 gunshot injuries, 88% are limb gunshot injuries. Refer to figure 3 for a breakdown of gunshot wounds by affected body part.

#### Permanent disability:

- Amputations: 129 amputations have taken place as a result of injuries during the mass demonstrations, including 31 in children. 110 were lower limb amputations and 18 upper limb amputations<sup>5</sup>.
- Paralysis: 22 patients are currently paralyzed due to spinal cord injuries.
- Eye injuries: Nine people suffered permanent loss of vision as a result of injuries caused during the mass demonstrations.



# **Electricity in Gaza**

The electricity situation has improved given the progress in recent recent efforts to connect the grid lines to nine out of the 14 public hospitals, including Al Shifa, Indonesia, Al Aqsa, Nasser, Al Dora, Ophthalmic Hospital, Paediatric, Psychiatric, Specialized Paediatric Hospital. These hospitals now have access to up to 22 hours of electricity every day. Meanwhile, the MoH has appealed for 500,000 liters to cover the interim period until all the hospitals are connected to the grid lines.

# **Drugs, Disposables & Laboratory Supplies**

- Availability of medicines, disposables and laboratory reagents:
  - 268 items (52%) out of the essential medications were reported at less than one month's supply at the MoH Central Drugs Store (CDS).
  - 226 items (26%) out of the essential medical disposables were reported at less than one month's supply at the CDS.
  - 56% of the essential laboratory items were reported at zero stock levels in the Central Laboratory and Blood Bank Department.
- There is a persistent shortage in essential drugs and disposables, this includes non-communicable disease (NCD) medicines with 66% less than one month's supply and maternal and child health medications 76% less than one month's supply.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> According to Assalama Society

## Attacks against health

- According to data reported to WHO by the Ministry of Health, PMRS, PRCS, UHWC and other health providers, in April 2019 at least 14 health workers were injured and 2 ambulances were damaged in 16 attacks against healthcare in the Gaza Strip. Of the health workers injured, 6 were hit with gas canisters, 2 by rubber bullets and 6 suffered injury with gas inhalation.
- Cumulative figures on attacks against health: From 30 March 2018 to 30 April 2019, three health workers have been killed and 745 injured in 462 recorded incidents against health staff and facilities. 106 ambulances were damaged, as well as 6 other forms of health transport and 6 health facilities (including 3 medical points).

## Access for patients referred out of Gaza

- WHO continues to monitor barriers to the right to health, including barriers to access for patients. For WHO's latest monthly access report click here.
- As of 30 April 2019, according to Gaza's Coordination and Liaison Office, there had been 550 applications to Israeli authorities by those injured in demonstrations to exit Gaza via Erez crossing to access health care. Of those applications, 17% were approved, 26% were denied and 56% were delayed.

## **Emergency Response**

- WHO supported training courses on the mh-GAP Intervention Guide for 150 health workers in addition to four training workshops that were conducted by the Mental Health Liaison Units, in Indonesia and Nasser hospitals. WHO is also coordinating with the main mental health services providers to set a new National Mental Health Strategic Plan (2020 2024).
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) provided MoH with 12 essential and lifesaving drug items enough to benefit 32,700 people. UNICEF prepositioned 15 security trauma bags that were added to the previous 20 bags, bringing the total of prepositioned trauma bags to 35.
- MAP UK deployed a limb reconstruction mission from 14-18 April, where a team of 8 surgeons joined



Injured patient receives emergency hospital care in the Al-Awda Hospital. Credit: UHWC

- the local teams in Shifa and EGH. The total number of cases seen and examined by the mission was 79, while a total of 21 complicated surgeries were operated. During April, the local team in Gaza was able to examine 77 cases (60 Shifa, 17 EGH) and to conduct 7 surgeries (5 Shifa and 2 EGH).
- Doctors Worldwide Turkey (DWWT) provided 4,219 treatment sessions for 325 beneficiaries, including 2,077 nursing treatment sessions, 852 medical examinations, 1,112 physiotherapy and 178 psychosocial support sessions.
- Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) teams provided first aid and emergency health services to 45 cases, including 16 gunshot injuries, 3 injuries with rubber bullets and 5 injuries with shrapnel. Out of this total, 18

- cases were provided with first aid services at the medical point in Rafah and 27 cases were transferred to the emergency department of Al-Awda Hospital for further interventions.
- **Assalama Charitable Society** provided 3,561 multidisciplinary postoperative consultations and services to 1,381 patients.
- United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) provided 248 injured people with surgical dressings and medication, bringing the total of beneficiaries, since the start of the demonstrations, to 5,841 patients. On 30 March 2019, UNRWA contracted NGO hospitals to provide emergency services to the injured under the financial coverage of UNRWA. The contracted hospitals received and treated 80 persons with injuries, in addition to nine non-trauma surgical emergency cases.
- Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS) provided first aid to 384 people injured during the demonstrations, out of which 51 were shot with live bullets. PMRS added 76 new patients to their postoperative care services, raising the total of beneficiaries to 1,214. PMRS also distributed 44 assistive devices to 44 persons with injury. Since the start of demonstrations, PMRS has provided first aid services to 6,473 casualties.
- The Palestine Children's Relief Fund (PCRF) deployed nine medical missions including, pediatric and adult urology, pediatric surgery, pediatric and adult orthopedic, hand surgery, orthotics and vascular medicine. In total, the missions screened 397 cases and operated on 200 patients.

#### **Urgent Funding Needs**

- In order to respond to the growing health needs, the Health Cluster requires a total of \$ 28.2 million. Out of this, \$ 15.1 million has been received, with \$5.4 million USD recently released by the Country Based Pooled Fund, leaving a funding gap of \$ 13.1 million. Further information can be found here: https://bit.ly/2HWPjwz.
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The WHO Regional Emergency Director visits a PRCS TSP in Gaza. Credit: WHO

■ The Health Cluster partners also require \$ 32 million USD to address health needs of the most vulnerable communities in the occupied Palestinian territory for 2019, targeting 900,000 people out of the 1.2 million people in Gaza, West Bank (including East Jerusalem). See the Humanitarian Response Plan 2019.

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