

SITUATION REPORT occupied Palestinian territory, Gaza 18 November –3 December 2018









11 HOURS OF ELECTRICITY AVAILABLE EVERY 24 HOURS

Highlights

- 490 Palestinians were injured by Israeli forces during this reporting period from 18 November to 3 December¹.
- Since 30 March, 246 people have been killed and a total of 25,461 people injured. 11,982 were treated and discharged from the Trauma Stabilization Points (TSPs) and the remaining 13,479 casualties were transferred to MoH and NGO hospitals. 6,068 people have live ammunition gunshot wounds, of which 5,264 (87%) present limb gunshot wounds².

In November and December, electricity from



Photo: four injured patients arrive to Al Awda hospital in one ambulance. Credit: UHWC

the mains grid increased from 6 hours to **11 hours out of 24**; however, the emergency fuel supply to sustain the health sector will run out in December; with some hospitals running out of the reserve fuel in the second week of December. This will be immediately life-threatening for over 1,500 patients dependent on electrical machines.

- The Ministry of Health reports rapidly declining vaccine supplies across the oPt with imminent stock-outs over recent Israeli bureaucratic obstacles and challenges to import vaccines.
- From 30 March until 31 December 2018, Health Cluster partners require \$ 41.5 million USD to respond to the health needs from the mass demonstrations. To date, 70% of the requested amount was received, leaving a gap of \$13 million USD.

Trauma Analysis 18 November – 3 December

- 490 Palestinians were injured by the Israeli forces during the reporting period from 18 November to 3 December, 288 were referred to hospitals, according to the Ministry of Health (MoH).
- 87 people out of the 288 injured people referred to the hospital were live ammunition gunshot wounds; the second largest reason was injuries caused by rubber bullets. See figure 1 below.

¹ Ministry of Health (MoH)

 $^{^2}$ Ministry of Health (MoH)

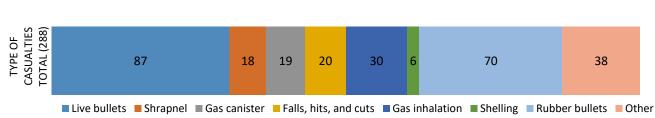


Figure 1: Type of emergency consultations at hospitals 18 November to 3 December

From the cohort of casualties referred to hospitals during this reporting period, 92 were children (32%), 27 were female (9%) and 261 (91%) were male. See figure 2 below.

Figure 2: Emergency consultations at hospitals disaggregated by gender and age

Total	By gender		By age	
	Male	Female	Children	Adults
288	261	27	92	196

Furthermore, from the total 288 people referred to hospital, 6 were critically life-threatening cases (2%), 112 moderate (39%), 158 mild (55%), and the remaining 12 were unspecified cases due to limited data collection³.

Cumulative Trauma Analysis since 30 March

- Deaths: From 30 March until 3 December, 246 people have been killed. Out of them, 212 people have been killed during the mass demonstrations and 34 during Israeli attacks.
- Injuries: The total figure of people injured stands at 25,461.
- Trauma Stabilisation Points: Out of 25,461 people injured, 11,982 were treated at the TSPs and immediately discharged. This has reduced the burden of casualties arriving at the hospitals by an average of 47%. The TSPs are managed by MoH and PRCS; the breakdown of treated and discharged is as follows:
 - MoH TSPs treated and discharged 67% of the casualties.
 - $\circ~$ PRCS TSPs treated and discharged 35% of the casualties.
- Hospital caseload: The remaining 13,479 casualties were stabilized and transferred for treatment at the emergency departments (ED) of MoH and NGOs hospitals.

³ Source: Ministry of Health

referred to emergency departments (ED) at hospitals, 6,068 cases were live ammunition gunshot injuries. This is 45% of the total casualties arriving at the hospitals. From the total of 6,068 live ammunition gunshot injuries, 5,264 are limb gunshot injuries (87%). Refer to figure 4 for a breakdown of gunshot wounds by affected body part.

Live ammunition gunshot injuries: Out of the total 13,479

- Long-term limb reconstruction needs: According to Shifa Hospital, supported by MAP-UK, initial screening shows that 700 patients are currently on the waiting list for complex limb reconstruction surgery at the Hospital. However, the lack of dedicated operating rooms, patient beds and essential medial equipment has hindered limb reconstruction services.
- **Amputations:** As a result of the conflict, **106 amputations** have taken place since the start of the mass demonstrations. This includes 17 children and 1 female. Out of this total. 91 were lower limb amputations and 15 upper limb amputations⁴.
- **Chest and Back** 189 Upper Limbs 503 Abdomen & Pelvis 252 Other 81 **Multi Injuries** Lower Limbs **62** 4,761

Total limb gunshot injuries: 5,264

Figure 4. Live ammunition gunshot

injuries by affected body part

Head & Neck 220

Total gunshot injuries: 6,068

- Paralysis: 19 patients are currently paralyzed due to spinal cord injuries caused during the mass demonstrations.
- Eye injuries: 18 patients suffered from direct eye injuries during the mass demonstrations, 5 of which resulting in loss of vision.

Electricity in Gaza

- Since the start of 2018, the international community have collectively donated \$4 million USD for emergency fuel to sustain Gaza's critical health facilities⁵. According to OCHA, 4.29 million liters of fuel were provided to Gaza's health sector to support 80 health facilities. However, the critical public hospitals in Gaza will run out of fuel throughout December.
- If funding for fuel is not secured, this will be **immediately life-threatening** for over 1,500 patients-including 113 newborns, 200 patients in intensive care units, 100 patients in need of emergency surgery, and 736 patients requiring hemodialysis.



⁴ According to Assalama Society

⁵ OCHA Fuel Dashboard

Attacks against healthcare

- According to information provided to WHO by health partners for the period of 18 November to 1 December, five health workers were injured and one ambulance was damaged in six different incidents. Of the health workers, one was hit with live ammunition and four with rubber bullets.⁶
- Provisional data for verified incidents from WHO's Surveillance System of Attacks on Healthcare: From 30 March to 1 December, three health workers have been killed and at least 533 injured in at least 330 recorded incidents against health staff and facilities. 79 ambulances and 5 others health vehicles have been damaged, as well as 3 health facilities (a specialized health center for people with disability, the MoH central ambulance station and the Indonesian Hospital).

Emergency Response

Provision of medical supplies:

- The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) provided lifesaving neonatal machines constituting of 20 conventional phototherapy machines and 5 double wall incubators to the MoH. The machines were distributed to six neonatal intensive care units and are estimated to benefit 1,000 new-born babies per month.
- WHO procured and delivered 10,000 sets of IV Saline solution to cover the needs in Gaza's public hospitals' emergency departments. In addition, WHO, with support of the European Union, initiated procurement of drugs and medical supplies for 10 Trauma Stabilization Points, which are managed by the Ministry of Health and the Palestine Red Crescent Society. Life-saving drugs and equipment for emergency departments for a total of 1.3 million EURO.
- Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP- UK) procured 9 drug items estimated to benefit around 2,500 patitents. MAP has also procured 2 detergents for infection control.
- Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) procured and deliverd orthopedic sets for knee replacement and prosthetic knees. PHR aslo delivered one drug item.

Partners' response:

- Humanity and Inclusion (HI) in partnership with four local disability partners⁷ has deployed 10 multidisciplinary teams in all the five governorates of Gaza Strip. So far, HI has provided nursing and rehabilitation services for 1,703 injured persons with 27,105 multidisciplinary sessions, and distributed 533 assistive devices.
- Assalama Charitable Society has provided 237 people with 1,103 multidisciplinary post-operative consultations, including wound dressings, assistive devices, physiotherapy, medicines, disposables and psychosocial support.



Photo: HI team interviewed PwI to identify his needs in terms of referral. Credit: HI

⁶ Data provided to WHO by MoH, PRCS, PMRS, UHWC and other frontline health providers.

⁷ Baitona for community development, Palestinian Avenir for Childhood foundation, National Society for Rehabilitation, and EL-Amal Rehabilitation Society

- Haifa Charity Hospital staff and ambulances provided first aid to 76 injured patients in the field and transported 23 cases to the medical points in Malaka area, east of Gaza. The hospital also provided 276 post-operative consultations, including provision of medication, consumables, laboratory and x-ray services and wound dressing.
- Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) teams provided first aid to 71 cases, including 24 gunshot injuries, at their medical points in Rafah and the Middle Zone. In addition, Al Awda hospital provided emergency services for 63 cases at their emergency department, one of which underwent urgent surgical operations.
- Palestine Children's Relief Fund (PCRF) conducted a first aid training course for 30 medical students at Al-Azhar University Medical School. PCRF also deployed the following missions:
 - A pediatric orthopaedic mission to Gaza European Hospital (EGH). The mission operated on 21 cases.
 - Hand surgery mission to EGH. The mission operated on 12 cases.
 - Laparoscopic surgery mission and training, from 28 November to 4 December. The teams operated on 14 cases.



Photo: Dr. Rita Luisa and Mirco Mosè Tincani are performing endoscopy on their first mission to Gaza. Credit: PCRF

- United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) provided 86 post-operative consultations offering medication and wound dressing. Since 30 March, UNRWA has provided a total of 4,873 postoperative consultations at their 22 primary healthcare clinics.
- Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS) paramedics provided first aid support to 66 cases, including 21 gunshot injuries. Since the start of the demonstrations, PMRS has provided first aid to 4,710 patients. PMRS has also mobilized three outreach teams in Gaza, Khan Younis and the North governorate. The teams provided post-operative care to 17 new cases, raising the total of beneficiaries to 867, out of which, 195 are still receiving post-operative care and 331 have received assistive devices.
- Doctors Worldwide Turkey (DWWT) provided 337 cases with a total of 1,719 multidisciplinary sessions, including nursing, medical examinations, physical therapy and psychosocial support.
- PHR deployed a team constituting of three surgeons specialized in orthopedics and vascular surgery, and one
 pediatrician, to Shifa and EGH hospitals. The team was able to operate on 10 cases, with observation by local
 doctors, in an effort to improve the capabilities of local doctors.

 WHO conducted a clinical coaching mission to the Trauma Stabilization Point in Malaka, Gaza. This was part of WHO's broader activities in upgrading the TSP capacity across the Gaza Strip.

Coordination and Information:

- oPt Health Cluster:
 - A general oPt Health Cluster meeting took place
 19 November in the West Bank
 - Gaza Post-Op and Rehab meeting co-chaired by MoH took place 19 November
 - Gaza Trauma Working Group co-chaired by MoH took place 26 November
 - On the 11 December, Health Cluster partners will meet to review the Health Cluster emergency preparedness plan for Gaza.
- PCRF conducted a workshop on 'Data and Health Decision Making'. The workshop was held in cooperation and partnership with WHO and MoH.
- WHO continues to monitor the access of patients from Gaza and attacks against healthcare across the oPt. For additional information on access barriers for Palestinian patients, see WHO's latest monthly <u>access report.</u>

Urgent Funding needs

 From 30 March until 31 December 2018, WHO and the Health Cluster partners require a total of \$ 41.5 million USD to respond to the acute health needs. 70% was received, leaving a gap of \$13 million USD.

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Photo: WHO provided clinical coaching at the TSP in Gaza. Credit: WHO