

In response (since 05 October 2024)

- 13 trauma and surgical kits were distributed to 6 hospitals, each kit is sufficient to perform 100 surgical interventions for 50 trauma patients. Another 30 kits were prepared and ready to be distributed to priority hospitals
- In cooperation with YMCA, WHO continued to monitor the distribution of NCD and mental health medications to PHCs serving host communities and displaced patients. Displaced people are also benefiting from existing NCD and mental health medications through PHCs and PSUs

Coordination

- WHO supported the expansion of PHEOC capacity through recruitment of 9 additional surge staff to sustain PHEOC operations, referral of patients, hospitals evacuation, transferring of patients to health services (dialysis, chemotherapy, etc)
- Establishment of an EMT coordination unit under PHEOC based on a memorandum of understanding and in line with WHO EMT initiative's standardized tools and methodology.
- 6 public hospitals identified as potential trauma centers supported by Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs), while potentials EMTs to support these trauma centers have been identified.



Health Facility/Trauma Management Capacity

- A trauma working group, co-chaired by WHO and PHEOC/ MOPH, has been established and is meeting weekly to build the capacity of trauma pathway activities from point of injury to specialized care.
- Through the trauma working group, there are plans to organize a training on surgical skills and emergency care for trauma in conflict, tentatively in November.
- WHO exploring means to support gap-filling for health staff not reporting to work due to displacement or security concerns, especially for nursing staff at priority hospitals.
- Continued to monitor the mass casualty management at referral hospitals and provide technical support as needed.

Epi/Surveillance

- No confirmed disease outbreak to date across the country, especially displaced shelters.
- Supporting the Epidemiological Surveillance Unit (ESU) at MOPH to expand early warning and community-based surveillance on priority diseases to include shelters.
- 6 training sessions for 155 participants from 35 NGOs conducted to enhance early detection of epidemic-prone diseases in shelters.
- Approximately **291,000** (81%) in targeted areas have been vaccinated with the Oral Cholera Vaccines in door-to-door campaign. The campaign continues in Akkar and Tripoli.



A trauma working group has been established, co-chaired by WHO and PHEOC/MOPH to build the capacity of trauma pathway activities from point of injury to specialized care by setting minimum standards of care, identifying gaps and proposing interventions while enhancing coordination, and data management.

Health sector response

- **763** collective shelters are now linked with the PHCCs to ensure continuation of health services among IDPs. The fixed site PHCCs are coordinated by Al Salameh project team and PHC Satellite units PSUs.
- A dashboard to guide partners and multisectoral stakeholders is regularly updated in close collaboration with PHEOC and PHCC department (<u>Collective Shelter PHCCs</u> arcgis. com)
- A multisectoral discussion initiated to identify needs, challenges and potential solutions for people living with disabilities (PwD). Key challenge highlighted during the session is uncoordinated referrals leading to a lack of access to services for PwDs.
- Continued to monitor the health facilities impacted by the conflict, and find alternative options to provide services in the affected communities.

Challenges

- Closure of health facilities and shortage of health workers.
- Continued increase in numbers of displaced people with suboptimal shelter conditions.
- Limited mass casualty capacity at referral hospitals in some areas.
- Patient referral is facing challenges due to security issues.
- Difficulty retaining health workers at frontline hospitals, and exhaustion of the remaining ones
- Funding shortage for health sector partners.

Flash Appeal

- The ongoing conflict is having a toll on civilians and the health system in Lebanon:
- 37 attacks on health
- 10,019 injured
- 100 health centres closed
- 608,509 internally displaced
- WHO's Flash Appeal seeks \$50 million to support Lebanon's health crisis.

For more information please contact

- Dr Abdinasir Abubakar, WR, abubakara@who.int
- Dr Alissar Rady, Team Lead, radya@who.int
- Dr Md Shajib Hossain, Health Sector Coordinator, smd@who.int