



UNRWA

PRESS RELEASE

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UNRWA and Ministry of Health signs hospitalization agreement

Amman - An agreement was concluded this morning at the Ministry of Health in Amman between the Ministry and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), whereby the ministry administers the Agency's hospitalization reimbursement scheme.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Health, Engineer Said Darwazah and the Director of UNRWA Operations in Jordan, Mr. Sheldon Pitterman who expressed his deep appreciation of the Ministry's continued support to UNRWA's health services and the role played by the Department of Palestinian Affairs (DPA) in finalizing the agreement. Present at the ceremony were DPA's Director General Engineer Wajeeh Azayzeh and senior officials from the Ministry of Health and UNRWA.

At present, the Agency's scheme for re-imbusement of hospitalization expenses requires that refugee patients referred by UNRWA health centres to government hospitals for in-patient care pay the full cost of hospitalization before discharge and later submit a claim for reimbursement of 75% of the cost or 95% if they are registered as special hardship cases.

According to the agreement, refugee patients will now pay their share of 25% or 5% directly at the hospital and will no longer be required to pay the full amount of hospitalization expenses and get reimbursed later. This will spare them the time and effort of submitting and recovering claims for the Agency's share in their hospitalization expenses.

The Ministry of Health will submit to the Agency a monthly claim of the total cost of hospitalization expenses incurred by refugee patients treated at the various hospitals of the Ministry of Health all over the Kingdom, including an administrative overhead charge which will be calculated for each patient's bill prior to discharge.

UNRWA provides comprehensive primary health care, including family health services, curative care, laboratory services and preventive and curative dental health services through a network of 24 health centres in camps and outside camps catering for 1.8 million refugees registered with the Agency in Jordan.

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