



1
KILLED



614
INJURED



8
TRAUMA
STABILISATION
POINTS



262 ESSENTIAL
DRUGS
IMMEDIATELY
NEEDED



UPTO 22 HOURS OF
ELECTRICITY
AVAILABLE EVERY
24 HOURS IN
HOSPITALS

Highlights

- From 01 to 30 August 2019, **one Palestinian was killed** and 614 were injured¹ as a result of the mass demonstrations.
- According to the MoH, since the start of the demonstrations in Gaza, **316² people have been killed including 62 children and 34,137 injured. WHO was able to verify patients records of 31,338 injured people and 316 deaths.** 7,545 people have suffered from gunshot wounds, of which 6,590 (87%) presented limb wounds³.
- In August, 51% out of the essential medications were reported at less than one-month supply at the MoH Central Drug Store (CDS) in Gaza; out of which 90% were completely depleted.
- Preliminary data indicates that maternal mortality is continuing to deteriorate in 2019⁴. A review, led by UNFPA is ongoing to ascertain the contributing factors, such as a weakened primary health care, stock outs of essential drugs and disposables, and lack of access to family planning services
- The electricity situation has improved given the efforts to connect the grid lines to nine out of the 14 public hospitals. These hospitals now have access to up to 22 hours of electricity every day.
- In order to respond to the growing health needs in Gaza, the Health Cluster requires a total of \$28.2 million. Out of this, \$20.9 million has been received, leaving a funding gap of \$7.3 million. 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. Further information can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2HWPjwz> .
- The Health Cluster oPt Humanitarian Response Plan, requires \$42 million USD; to date, a total of \$ 18.5 million USD has been received (44%) leaving a gap of \$23.5 USD.



Injured paramedic providing injured colleague with emergency pre-hospital care at a TSP. Credit: WHO

¹ Ministry of Health (MoH)

² 3 of the deaths were at fetus stage 7 – 8 months

³ Ministry of Health (MoH)

⁴ MOH Maternal Mortality Committee

Trauma Analysis 01 - 30 August

Casualties:

- 614 Palestinians were injured in August. During the same month, hospitals reported 384 emergency consultations for patients injured during the mass demonstrations, from which, 164 were injured by gunshots. See figure 1 below.
- From the cohort of casualties referred to emergency departments during this reporting period, 152 were children (40%), 14 (4%) were female and 370 (96%) were male. See figure 2 below. 22% were admitted to the hospitals.

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

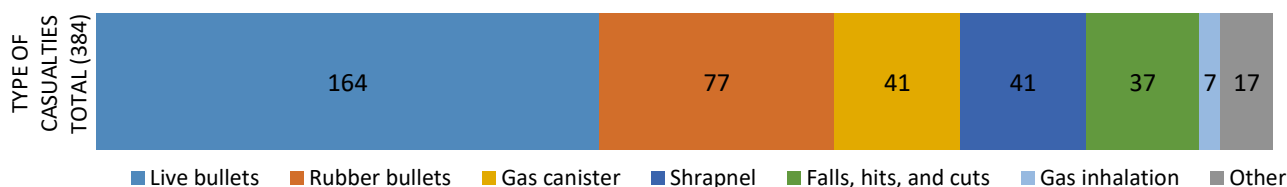
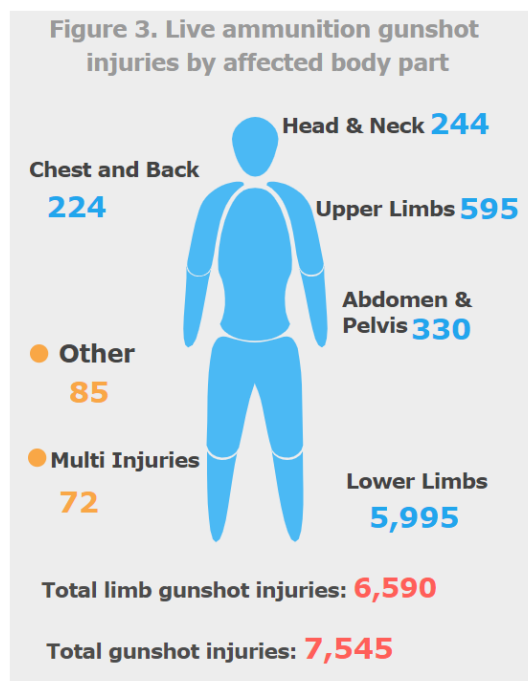


Figure 2: Emergency consultations at hospitals disaggregated by gender and age 1 to 30 August 2019

Total	By gender		By age	
	Male	Female	Children	Adults
384	370	14	152	232

Cumulative Trauma Analysis

- **Deaths:** From 30 March 2018 until 30 August 2019, a total of 316 people have been killed⁵.
- **Injuries:** The total figure of people injured stands at 31,338⁶.
- **Trauma Stabilisation Points:** Out of the total people injured, 15,588 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 18,549 casualties arrived at the emergency departments (ED) of MoH and NGO hospitals. Of them, 1,221 were children.
- **Gunshot injuries:** Out of 18,549 casualties who presented to emergency departments (ED), 7,545 cases were gunshot injuries; these account for 41% of the total casualties arriving at the hospitals. Out of 7,545 gunshot injuries, 87% are limb gunshot injuries. Refer to figure 3 for a breakdown of gunshot wounds by affected body part.



⁵ Out of 11 bodies reported by OCHA to be held the Israeli authorities, 4 have been reported by MoH.

⁶ Although the MoH report 34,137 injured, WHO was able to verify 31,338 patient records.

- **Permanent disability:**
 - **Amputations:** 149 amputations have taken place as a result of injuries during the mass demonstrations, including 30 children. 122 were lower limb amputations and 27 upper limb amputations⁷.
 - **Paralysis:** 24 patients, including two in a coma, are currently paralyzed due to spinal cord injuries.
 - **Eye injuries:** 15 people suffered permanent loss of vision as a result of injuries caused during the mass demonstrations.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Situation Analysis Contribution: UNFPA

Contribution: UNFPA

- Preliminary data indicates that maternal mortality is continuing to deteriorate in 2019⁸. A review is ongoing to ascertain the contributing factors, such as a weakened primary health care, stock outs of essential drugs and disposables, and lack of access to family planning services. 69% of essential maternal and child health (MCH) drugs are at zero stock⁹, which shows no improvement from June 2019. Lack of drugs and micronutrients, such as iron, folic acid and Human Anti-D Immunoglobulin (essential for newborns for mothers who have Rhesus-negative “RH–” blood) is believed to have significantly impacted access to maternal and child health services. Access to family planning, which is essential to preventing maternal mortality, continues to be at a critical status in Gaza. Two out of the five family planning methods (male condoms and Progesterone only pills “femulen”) are at zero stock at UNRWA and at severe shortage at the MOH drug stores in Gaza, though UNRWA has male condoms in the procurement pipeline.

Electricity in Gaza

- The electricity situation has improved given the progress in 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 have access to up to 22 hours of electricity every day.

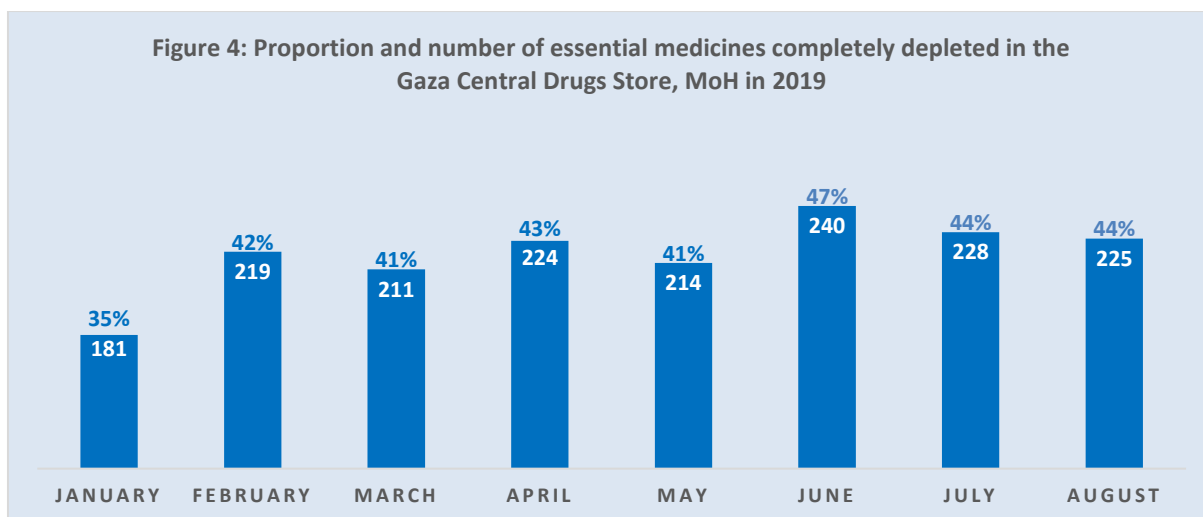
Medicines, Disposables & Laboratory Supplies

- Availability of medicines, disposables and laboratory reagents:
 - 262 items (51%) out of the essential drugs list, were reported at less than one-month supply at the MoH Central Drugs Store (CDS) in Gaza, out of which 225 items are totally depleted (90%), representing 44% from the essential drugs list. See Figure 4.
 - 239 items (28%) out of the essential medical disposables were reported at less than one-month supply at the MoH CDS in Gaza.

⁷ According to Assalama Society

⁸ MOH Maternal Mortality Committee

⁹ MoH in Gaza August Drugs Report



Attacks against health

Contribution: WHO

- According to data reported to WHO by the Ministry of Health, PMRS, PRCS, UHWC and other health providers, in August 2019 at least 7 health workers were injured, while 3 ambulances were damaged, in 10 attacks against healthcare in the Gaza Strip. The seven health workers were injured with rubber bullets.
- **Cumulative figures on attacks against health:** From 30 March 2018 to 31 August 2019, three health workers have been killed and 810 injured in 529 recorded incidents against health staff and facilities in the Gaza Strip. 115 ambulances have been damaged, as well as 10 other forms of health transport and 7 health facilities (including 3 medical points).

Health access for patients injured during demonstrations

Contribution: WHO

- As of 31 August 2019, according to Gaza's Coordination and Liaison Office, there had been 585 applications to Israeli authorities by those injured in demonstrations to exit Gaza via Erez/Beit Hanoun crossing to access health care. Of those applications, 17% were approved, 27% were denied and 56% were delayed.

Emergency Response Activities

- **The World Health Organisation (WHO)** has completed the delivery of key instruments and furniture for the Limb Reconstruction Unit in Nasser hospital. Four drug items were delivered to the MoH Mental Health Directorate that are estimated to benefit approximately 3,900 patients, and 30 drug items that were delivered to the Trauma Stabilization Points (TSPs) estimated to benefit 29,000 patients. WHO also conducted a two-day training workshop on "Emergency Risk Communication" targeting around 20 participants from the Ministry of Health and UNRWA. On 25th August, WHO at the request of the Prime Minister, conducted a high-level expert mission to the occupied Palestinian territory to support the Ministry of Health and partners in accelerating efforts towards universal health coverage (UHC). WHO experts reviewed the current status of UHC to advise on strategic options to strengthen health system capacities with an emphasis on health service delivery and sustainable financing

- **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** continued to provide essential maternal health drugs and disposables to MoH and NGOs in Gaza to support safe delivery for around 20,000 pregnant women. UNFPA supported MoH to hold the annual maternal mortality meeting attended by 100 participants. Jointly with MOH, UNFPA conducted a workshop to improve breast cancer coordination and care in Gaza.



Maternal Mortality Study Day, August 27th. Credit: UNFPA

- **National Center for Community Rehabilitation (NCCR)** provided 763 multidisciplinary postoperative care sessions, including medical examination, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, psychological support and nursing for 163 patients. NCCR also distributed 12 assistive devices, 12 medical kits, 29 hygiene kits and referred 24 cases in need for further medical treatment to medical centres.

- **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** provided 61 medical consumable items as a part of the rapid emergency response.

- **Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP – UK)** deployed a limb reconstruction mission to Shifa and European Gaza Hospital. The total number of cases seen and examined by the mission was 92, and 16 limb reconstruction surgeries were operated.



NCCR outreach team providing injured patient with post-op care. Credit: NCCR

- **United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)** provided 87 injured people with surgical dressings and medication, bringing the total of beneficiaries since the start of the demonstrations to 6,349 patients.

- **Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS)** provided first aid to 290 people injured during the demonstrations, out of which 69 were shot with live bullets. PMRS added 44 new patients to their postoperative care services, raising the total of beneficiaries to 1,337. Since the start of demonstrations, PMRS has provided first aid services to 7,589 casualties.



OCHA, the Health Cluster and PMRS visit an injured patient. Credit: WHO

- **Union of Health Work Committees (UHC)** provided 34 cases including 17 gunshot injuries with emergency care in the emergency department of Al-Awda Hospital.

- **Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS)** teams provided first aid services to 630 injured persons, including 109 live ammunition, 290 tear gas suffocation cases, and 64 tear gas canister wounds. PRCS' Psychosocial Support Team offered Psychological First Aid (PFA) to more than 858 wounded persons and their families and 117 emergency providers in the Gaza Strip. PRCS hospitals received and treated 10 cases, 9 cases at Al Quds hospital and one case at Al-Amal hospital.
- **Assalama Society** provided 245 injured patients with assistive devices and medical supplies and 430 with medication. Assalama also performed 554 physiotherapy sessions and 137 wound dressing sessions inside their clinic, in addition they provided 111 patients with physiotherapy, 182 patients with wound dressings and performed 262 medical examinations and 90 psychosocial sessions through the outreach teams.

Coordination and Information

- WHO as the cluster lead agency supports the Ministry of Health in establishing a permanent Emergency Medical Teams (EMT)- Coordination Cell. The coordination cell will be critical for the coordination and monitoring of all international and national EMTs.
- On the 19th August, HC Mr. Jamie McGoldrick and WHO visited the Paediatric Specialized Hospital to assess the impact of shortages in drugs, consumables, and equipment.
- On 21st August, OCHA Humanitarian Fund (HF) team along with the Health Cluster, conducted a monitoring visit to the Central Drugs Store (CDS) and European Gaza Hospital to monitor projects funded by the pooled fund.



WHO leads the discussion on EMTs. Credit: WHO



HC visit to Paediatric Specialized Hospital. Credit: WHO

Key dates of the HPC process

- Finalization of Health Cluster HRP inputs: 25th September
- Partners upload projects: 1st – 13th October
- Vetting process: 14th- 24th October
- Approval of projects: 1st November
- Final global submission: 7th November
- Global and local launch of the HNO and HRP for oPt: December date tbc



UHC mission visit to PRCS TSP. Credit: WHO

Urgent Funding Needs

- In order to respond to the growing health needs in Gaza, the Health Cluster requires a total of \$28.2 million. Out of this, \$20.9 million has been received, leaving a funding gap of **\$7.3 million**. Further information can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2HWPjwz> .
- 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**.
- 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 1 million people out of 1.2 million people in need of humanitarian health interventions in Gaza and West Bank (including East Jerusalem). See the [Humanitarian Response Plan 2019](#).

Contact

- Gerald Rockenschaub, Head of WHO oPt Office, email rockenschaubg@who.int
- Sara Halimah, Health Cluster Coordinator, WHO, email: halimahs@who.int
- Abdelnaser Soboh, Sub-Cluster Coordinator, WHO, email: soboha@who.int