



*A WHO-supported medical team provides health care services in Al-Hol camp ©WHO Syria, 2019*

**3226**

Outpatient consultations provided

**3207**

Beneficiaries reached with medicines

**4**

Children with severe acute malnutrition referred for specialized treatment

**689**

First-aid and emergency services provided

**691**

Mental health and psychosocial support services provided

## Situation

- Tensions in the camp are growing. There have been a number of demonstrations, and humanitarian workers have been attacked and stabbed.
- An additional 196 people have left the camp and returned to their homes in Deir-ez-Zor governorate.
- Twelve static medical points, 18 medical mobile teams, two vaccination teams, a leishmaniasis team, three maternity clinics and three field hospitals are providing health care services daily to camp inhabitants. WHO has distributed medicines, supplies and equipment to support health partners.
- The three new field hospitals are not yet fully operational. They do not have enough staff to stay open throughout the day, and surgical operations have been delayed due to shortages of blood supplies. All three hospitals are performing simple procedures such as setting fractures and cleaning infected wounds, but only one is providing paediatric and intensive care and performing major surgeries. WHO is negotiating the establishment of a nutrition stabilization centre in one of the hospitals.
- Access to the annex containing foreign families is regulated by camp authorities. Services are being provided by five mobile teams that are authorized to enter the annex and one fixed medical point located outside. However, services are limited and available only during restricted times.
- The health sector is setting up a new system to track the admission and discharge of patients.
- Eleven medical points reported to the disease Early Warning And Response System (EWARS) over the past two weeks. Main morbidities reported included influenza-like illnesses, acute diarrhoea, tuberculosis, leishmaniasis,

Helminth (worm) infections and lice. There were eight confirmed cases of tuberculosis and one suspected case of measles that was laboratory-tested and proved to be negative.

- Tests conducted on 56 random water samples showed that most were contaminated and not safe to drink. Most of the camp's water tanks still lack covers.

## Coordination

- WHO is convening regular meetings with partners to review the overall health situation, analyse disease trends and explore ways of strengthening the capacity of the three field hospitals.
- The health sector is working with colleagues from the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector to disinfect water and make it safe to drink to prevent waterborne diseases.
- WHO is coordinating the treatment of a six-year-old girl with leprosy with the Directorate of Health (DOH) of Al-Hasakeh governorate. DOH has stressed the need for the patient to adhere to her lengthy treatment regimen.
- In coordination with DOH Al-Hasakeh, WHO has proposed to establish three new internal medicine, gynaecology and paediatric clinics, as well as a mental health and psychosocial support team.

## Response

- WHO distributed medicines and supplies to health partners. Supplies included 14 kits containing medicines and supplies for the treatment of noncommunicable diseases, two portable patient monitoring devices, 2500 anti-lice treatments, 7500 deworming pills and 1030 antiviral tablets.
- 148 severely ill cases were referred to WHO-contracted private hospitals in Hassakeh for secondary care and surgical interventions (including critically ill, malnourished and trauma cases). Four new children with SAM were referred to Al Hayat hospital during the reporting period. Six children who were already undergoing treatment were successfully treated and discharged.
- Eight patients confirmed as having tuberculosis have been referred to the TB treatment centre in Al-Hasakeh.
- A team of laboratory technicians from Damascus visited the camp to collect stool samples from patients with acute diarrhoea. The samples were sent to the reference laboratory in Damascus to test for cholera, E-coli, salmonella and rotavirus.
- Ten new leishmaniasis patients were enrolled for treatment during the reporting period. WHO is supporting the camp's designated leishmaniasis team.
- Health partners are working with WASH sector colleagues to chlorinate water, replace water tanks and implement other measures to reduce water contamination.
- WHO trained 25 health care workers on the management of children with SAM with medical complications. These health care workers will be assigned to the nutrition stabilization centre to be established in one of the camp's field hospitals once the necessary approvals have been obtained.

## Priorities

- Follow up with the Ministry of Health to secure medicines for the patient with leprosy.
- Establish a new DOH medical point in the camp. The DOH team will provide primary health care services, HIV counselling, mental health consultations and TB care.
- Collaborate with WASH sector colleagues to improve the quality of drinking water.
- Coordinate with health partners and the blood bank in Al-Hasakeh national hospital to secure regular and sustainable supplies of blood for the field hospitals

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