



*A doctor examines a child at one of the WHO-supported medical clinics providing health services in Al-Hol camp ©WHO Syria, 2019*

**3889**

Health consultations provided

**3833**

Beneficiaries reached with medicines

**948**

Mental health and psychosocial support services provided

**795**

First-aid and emergency services provided

**6**

Children with severe acute malnutrition referred for specialized treatment

## Situation

- The population of Al-Hol camp is gradually decreasing as people return to their villages and homes. More than 900 people left the camp during the reporting period. Its population now stands at 70 285 compared to almost 75 000 at the end of April 2019.
- Nine medical points are reporting regularly to the disease Early Warning and Response System (EWARS). The main diseases reported included diarrhoea (due to contaminated water and inadequate sanitation and hygiene facilities). Other diseases reported were leishmaniasis, influenza-like illnesses, severe acute malnutrition and suspected cases of tuberculosis and measles.
- The results of tests conducted on 20 water points showed that most water sources were contaminated. Most of the camp’s water tanks still have no covers.
- Three new field hospitals are functioning only partially and lack regular supplies of blood to support surgical services. Moreover, they do not have enough staff to support 24/7 emergency surgery and they are struggling to manage the round-the-clock admission of patients. WHO and hospital managers are negotiating with the blood bank in Al-Hasakeh national hospital to secure regular supplies of blood.

- WHO's contract with Al-Hikmah private hospital has expired; the hospital has suspended services for patients from Al-Hol camp pending the negotiation of a new contract. As a temporary solution, children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) are being admitted to other WHO-contracted hospitals including Al-Hayat private hospital and Al-Tabqa national hospital. Al-Hikmah hospital is providing technical guidance and support to staff at these hospitals, and is also continuing to admit patients on an exceptional basis pending the renewal of its contract with WHO.

## Coordination

- WHO is conducting regular weekly meetings with health partners to review health assessments, discuss the overall health situation and analyse disease trends based on the data generated by EWARS.
- WHO held meetings with staff of the new field hospitals to evaluate the quality of services provided and discuss ways of tracking the referral, admission and discharge of patients. WHO also discussed the possibility of establishing a stabilization centre inside one of the hospitals.
- WHO supported a three-day workshop on the pharmaceutical supply chain for 19 pharmacists and logisticians from NGO partners. Topics covered included supply chain management, the quantification of medicines and supplies, the Essential Medicines List for Syria, stock and warehouse management and the rational use of medicines.
- WHO's health partners are following up on suspected cases of measles and tuberculosis. All patients are being referred to the DOH of Al-Hasakeh governorate for specialized treatment.
- WHO is working closely with health partners, camp authorities and local authorities to organize the evacuation of a 60-year-old female patient with a severe mental disorder to the WHO-supported Ibn-Khaldoun psychiatric hospital in Aleppo governorate.

## Response

- Twelve static medical points, 18 medical mobile teams, two vaccination teams, a leishmaniasis team and three maternity clinics are providing daily health care services to camp residents.
- Eight mobile medical teams and a fixed medical clinic are providing health care services at the Foreign Annex; however, the Annex still lacks round-the-clock services.
- Two field hospitals are operating round the clock and have a combined total of 46 beds. The third hospital, with five-beds, is open daily from 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The hospitals provide emergency health care, laboratory and X-ray services, obstetrics and emergency surgery. Each hospital has incubators for infants and a two-bed intensive care unit for short stays. Patients who need to stay more than two days in the ICUs are referred to hospitals in Al-Hasakeh.
- A WHO-supported mobile medical team is treating leishmaniasis patients and referring severe cases to Al-Hasakeh Directorate of Health.
- Pending the renegotiation of its contract with WHO, Al-Hikmah private hospital has admitted one child with severe acute malnutrition (SAM). During the reporting period, 16 children admitted to the hospital earlier were discharged, and two others remain under treatment. An additional six children were admitted to Al-Hayat private hospital, of which two were discharged from Al-Hayat and four remain under treatment.
- WHO has collected stool samples from patients with acute diarrhoea and sent them to the laboratory in Al-Hasakeh for analysis. The results are pending.

- Blood samples were collected from patients suspected of having measles. All results were negative.
- Water samples were randomly collected from water tanks and analyzed at the national laboratory in Al-Hasakeh. The results confirmed that most samples were contaminated with E-coli. WHO has delivered more than 150 000 chlorine tabs to the camp to sterilize water and reduce the risk of waterborne diseases.
- WHO is working with the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector and other health partners to deliver more than 1500 covers for water tanks.

## Priorities

- Work with field hospitals and the blood bank in Al-Hasakeh National Hospital to secure regular supplies blood for the camp.
- Enhance techniques for the active case finding of patients with leishmaniasis and conduct awareness-raising sessions to inform camp inhabitants of ways to protect themselves against the disease.
- Complete negotiations for the renewal of WHO's contract with Al-Hikmah private hospital.
- Dispatch additional chlorine tabs and covers for water tanks to reduce the risk of contaminated water.

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