

World Health Organization

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Eastern Mediterranean

Syria crisis WHO'S RESPONSE IN AL-HOL CAMP, AL-HASAKEH GOVERNORATE

Issue 15 29 August-26 September 2019



WHO-supported field hospitals providing health care services to patients inside Al-Hol camp.

©WHO Syria, 2019

16 904 Consultations provided

16 723 Beneficiaries reached with medicines

11 Children with severe acute malnutrition referred for specialized treatment

577 First-aid and emergency services provided 3518 Mental health and psychosocial support services provided

Situation:

- The security situation is a real concern due to the incidents of violence reported inside the camp.
- The camp's population remains the same as the previous reporting period (68 530 inhabitants) as no new arrivals or departures have been registered. However, hundreds of departure applications have been submitted to the camp's administration, so the number is expected to decrease.
- 19 static medical points, 14 mobile clinics, three field hospitals, three normal delivery clinics, two leishmaniasis teams, two community and family wellbeing centres as well as two vaccination static points are providing various health services to the camp's inhabitants.
- The gap in the provision of full health services is still a major concern in the camp as health points only provide health services during limited periods of time mainly during day time until 5:00 p.m.
- During the reporting period, 14 health points were reporting effectively to the Early Warning And Response System (EWARS). The most common morbidity cases are related to acute diarrhoea, influenza-like illnesses, leishmaniasis, chickenpox, scabies and lice. Reports show 13 suspected measles cases, three confirmed cases of tuberculosis and two confirmed cases of acute flaccid paralysis. All patients received the proper treatment, either inside the camp or were referred to the concerned health centres outside the camp.
- The Foreigners Annex is still suffering from the absence of around-the-clock health services provision. Only two health points are providing health services to inhabitants of the Annex for a limited time during the day only.
- The procurement of ice blocks, which are confirmed to be contaminated with E-coli, is prevented. This has reflected positively in the remarkable decrease in diarrhoea cases during the reporting period.

• The referral mechanism of patients to WHO-contracted hospitals in Al-Hassakeh governorate is facing some challenges due to the lack of security guards required to accompany the patients. As a result, 15 referral cases from the camp and the Annex were denied admission in the WHO-contracted hospitals and stayed at the camp without receiving proper treatment. Moreover, security guards at the gates prevented ambulances from going outside the camp.

Coordination:

- WHO participated in the regular meetings of the health working group inside the camp. Discussions revolved around different health topics including updates on the general health situation, EWARS system and mortality rates in the camp.
- WHO is following up closely with Al-Hassakeh DoH on the provision of vaccination services and leishmaniasis treatments for the camp's inhabitants.
- WHO is working closely with the camp's administration to enhance the referral system for patient transfers to governorates outside northeast Syria.
- WHO is conducting various discussions with the protection sector at the camp about supporting cases in need for care givers in health facilities inside the camp.
- WHO developed the map of health services in coordination with other health partners in the camp.

Response:

- WHO dispatched 2.7 tonnes of medical supplies to Al-Hol camp to be distributed through the different health partners inside the camp. This shipment contains: 100 vials of human anti-rabies vaccines, 100 prefilled syringes of human anti-rabies immunoglobulin, 1200 vials of insulin, one surgical kit, four interagency emergency health kits (IEHK), four non communicable diseases kits, one compressor nebulizer device as well as different types of primary, secondary and tertiary health care medical supplies.
- With WHO support, one of Al-Hassakeh DoH prefabricated caravans was installed inside the camp to provide routine vaccination and proper treatment of tuberculosis and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).
- 10 children with severe acute malnutrition were referred to the WHO-contracted Al-Hikmah private hospital in Al-Hassakeh governorate to join the seven children already hospitalized. 12 children were cured and discharged while the remaining five children are still under treatment.
- With WHO-support, the stabilization centre at Al-Tabaqa hospital is functioning again after a 4-month suspension due to the shortage of supplies and the referral mechanism is operating once again. The centre has received a child with sever acute malnutrition for treatment.
- WHO teams tested 159 samples from different water tanks, water trucks and jerry cans. All results confirmed the validity of the water, except 10 samples from jerry cans which were contaminated.
- 55 mental health and psychosocial support workers are providing different mental health services like psychological first aid, awareness sessions, and individual and group counselling sessions to inhabitants in all phases of the camp.

Priorities:

- Ensure the smooth implementation of the referral mechanism for patients from the camp to other governorates in Syria.
- Follow up with the camp administration on allowing ambulances access from and to the camp.
- Continue conducting water quality monitoring to control water diarrhoea infections.

Representative a.i.: Dr Nima Saeed Abid	abidn@who.int
Emergency Team Lead : Isiaka Stevens ALO	aloi@who.int
Communication Officer : Yahya Bouzo	bouzoy@who.int