

قرار

Resolution

**REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN**

**EM/RC71/R.3
October 2024**

**Seventy-first session
Agenda item 4(a)**

Addressing the increasing burden of trauma in humanitarian settings in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

The Regional Committee,

Having reviewed the technical paper on addressing the increasing burden of trauma in humanitarian settings in the Eastern Mediterranean Region;¹

Recalling global commitments including, among others, World Health Assembly resolutions: WHA64.10 on strengthening national health emergency and disaster management capacities and resilience of health systems; WHA68.15 on strengthening emergency and essential surgical care and anaesthesia as a component of universal health coverage; WHA72.16 on emergency care systems for universal health coverage; WHA74.7 on strengthening WHO preparedness for and response to health emergencies; and WHA76.2 on integrated emergency, critical and operative care for universal health coverage and protection from health emergencies;

Further recalling Regional Committee resolution EM/RC63/R.1, which urges Member States to “conduct assessment of emergency care services at both the national system level and the service delivery level and develop national plans of action”;

Recognizing the particularly heavy and distinct burden of physical trauma in the Eastern Mediterranean Region;

Deeply concerned by the escalating frequency of conflicts and natural disasters in the Region, which has led to a surge in trauma-related injuries and deaths;

Recognizing the indispensable role of efficient, accessible and quality trauma and emergency care services in reducing morbidity and mortality associated with acute injuries and conditions;

Acknowledging the importance of public awareness, systematic education and the integration of comprehensive data systems in strengthening the trauma care continuum from prehospital care to rehabilitation;

¹ EM/RC71/3-Rev.1.

Noting that the response to traumatic injuries and other urgent medical needs in humanitarian settings faces multiple challenges;

Acknowledging the urgent need for targeted interventions and support systems to address the impact of trauma on vulnerable populations, especially in fragile and conflict-affected situations;

Recognizing recent advances and expertise in trauma care in some countries of the Region that could be leveraged to support other countries;

1. ENDORSES the regional operational framework for trauma care in humanitarian settings;

2. URGES Member States to:

- 2.1 Strengthen community-based trauma response, including through public messaging, educational campaigns and first aid training;
- 2.2 Build capacities at primary health care level for the initial management of trauma and rapid referral;
- 2.3 Strengthen or establish prehospital care services that facilitate rapid transportation and referral of trauma and other emergency patients, including a universal emergency access number and dispatch system;
- 2.4 Improve the quality of trauma care during each phase of the trauma pathway, including prehospital care, hospital care and post-hospital care;
- 2.5 Strengthen emergency, critical and operative care services;
- 2.6 Develop protocols and systems for:
 - 2.6.1 the early integration of rehabilitation services into the trauma pathway; and
 - 2.6.2 pain management and palliative care throughout the trauma care pathway;
- 2.7 Develop and reinforce national rapid response and surge capacities, including national emergency medical teams;
- 2.8 Strengthen information systems for emergency and trauma care;

3. REQUESTS the Regional Director to:

- 3.1 Provide technical guidance and operational support to Member States on trauma care management across the trauma pathway, including inter alia in the development of protocols and systems;
- 3.2 Strengthen operational and academic partnerships across the Region to address trauma care management more effectively and consistently;
- 3.3 Support Member States to undertake descriptive, operational and interventional research on trauma care management in humanitarian settings;
- 3.4 Use trauma pathway data in countries affected by armed conflict and other situations of violence to advocate as appropriate for the protection of civilians and health care, and resource mobilization; and
- 3.5 Report on progress in implementing this resolution to the 73rd and 75th sessions of the Regional Committee and present a final report to its 77th session in October 2030.