



Highlights: Syrian refugee response

Primary care: Syrian doctors and nurses who have taken WHO-supported adaptation courses started their practical training in several of Turkey’s Migrant Health Training Centres. The innovative programme helps Syrian medical staff integrate into the Turkish health care system and provide care for their fellow refugees. Turkish doctors mentor their Syrian colleagues. When Syrian staff successfully complete their hands-on training, they are eligible for employment in Migrant Health Centres.



A Turkish doctor, left, works with Syrian doctors trained by WHO. They are treating a Syrian refugee baby, right. Credit: WHO/Laura Sheahen

Vaccination: WHO is supporting the Ministry of Health to screen Syrian refugee children in Turkey. Teams assess children’s living situation and their vaccination status for measles/rubella, the pentavalent vaccine and hepatitis B. Field work has started, with nearly 500 field teams visiting households or places of work. Once the data is collected, the Ministry of Health will begin a vaccination campaign on 15 February to immunize children whose records are

missing or who have not been vaccinated.

“Our patients have gone through so much. And we, the doctors and nurses, have our stories. When I hear a door slam, I jump.”
– Syrian doctor Dalal

Mental health: WHO is preparing to train 375 Turkish family physicians and 150 registered Syrian doctors in mhGAP, a

mental health programme. WHO is advocating that the Ministry of Health integrate mental health support into primary health care services. This would enable trained doctors to provide mental health services to refugees and host communities.

Noncommunicable diseases: WHO provides continuing medical education to Turkish and Syrian doctors in diagnosing and treating diabetes, asthma, hypertension, pulmonary diseases and more.



2.8 million Syrian refugees in Turkey



85 Migrant Health Centres



850 Syrian health staff trained
since autumn 2016

Funding

Out of a total of **US\$ 11.8 million** needed for its lifesaving work to help Syrian refugees in Turkey in 2017, WHO has received **US\$ 800 000**.

WHO programmes in Turkey are funded by European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), the United States Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (BPRM), and the governments of China, Kuwait and Norway.



Highlights: Northern Syria response

Vaccination: In immediate response to a mid-January measles outbreak at the Shamarekh camp in the Azaz area of northern Aleppo, where families coming from northeastern areas were not immunized, WHO partners vaccinated more than 6500 children in 10 days.

In neighbouring camps, WHO partners will assess newly arriving internally displaced people to determine whether they are vaccinated. WHO's ongoing immunization work continues.

Medical supplies: In January, WHO shipped more than 18 tonnes of intravenous fluids, first aid and surgical kits, urgently needed insulin, and essential medicines to facilities in Aleppo, Hama, Idleb and other parts of northern Syria. The emergency supplies will provide more than 110 900 treatments.

Primary care: WHO ran a workshop for health staff responsible for 120 mobile clinics, which are often the main option for displaced Syrians who need primary health care. 35 participants reviewed the clinics' services in Aleppo, Hama and Idleb. They identified gaps and agreed on a new map to relocate the clinics.

*"The training was helpful. Before, I grafted 10-15 days after the burns. Now, I know to do it earlier – there's less chance of infection."
– Syrian surgeon Malek*

Trauma care: WHO trained 27 surgeons and surgeons' assistants in burn management to help survivors.

Noncommunicable diseases: WHO provided insulin to more than 9000 diabetes patients in northern Syria and trained 19 doctors in diagnosing and treating diabetes, hypertension, asthma and pulmonary diseases.

Attacks on health care continued, with 7 reports of hijackings or thefts of ambulances and other facilities waiting to be verified.

Challenges to access continue to be a concern in the face of renewed fighting in Idleb.

* December Health Cluster data. Total number of patients treated: 764 615 in December 2016.



WHO partners vaccinate Syrian children in Shamarekh camp. Credit: Syria Immunization Group



18 tonnes of medical supplies sent



9068 children vaccinated



7 unconfirmed attacks on health care



13 363 trauma cases treated*

Funding

Out of a total of **US\$ 73 583 822** needed for its work in northern Syria in 2017, WHO has received **US\$ 2 062 847**.

WHO programmes in northern Syria are funded by the Department for International Development (DFID) (United Kingdom), European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) pooled funds, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the governments of China, Kuwait and Norway.