

THE PALESTINIAN MEDICAL  
RELIEF SOCIETY



# PMRS GAZA UPDATE



7-26TH OCTOBER 2023 PMRS



## THE CURRENT CONTEXT

As of the 28th of October, the documented death toll is 7,703, over 3,000 of them children. However, given telecommunications were shut down on the 27th and Gaza experienced the heaviest 2 days of shelling since Friday night, the death toll is expected to be much higher. Additionally, it is important to note that this figure also does not include those stuck under the rubble which is believed to be more than 2,000 (As of the 27th).

More than 20,000 people have been injured, again, this is expected to increase once we understand the extent of the damage caused in the last 48 hours. Overall, the healthcare infrastructure is beyond recognizable as healthcare. As it stands:

- 20 hospitals have been damaged
- 24 ambulances
- 78 attacks on healthcare facilities
- Over 1/3 of hospitals in Gaza have completely shut down
- More than 60% of primary healthcare facilities have shut down
- Critical shortages in medical supplies
- Critical shortages in blood supplies
- High risk patients include 130 babies in incubators, 1000 kidney failure patients, 9000 cancer patients
- Over 50,000 pregnant women, who are due imminently and at higher risk of pre-term delivery due to the ongoing stress and trauma
- Water and food security remains an issue
- Damage to WASH and other sanitation poses huge risk for infectious disease spread

**CONTINUOUS ATTACKS ON HEALTHCARE BELOW: 1. AMBULANCE ATTACK KILLING 4 PARAMEDICS 2. AL AHLI HOSPITAL AFTER IT WAS BOMBED**



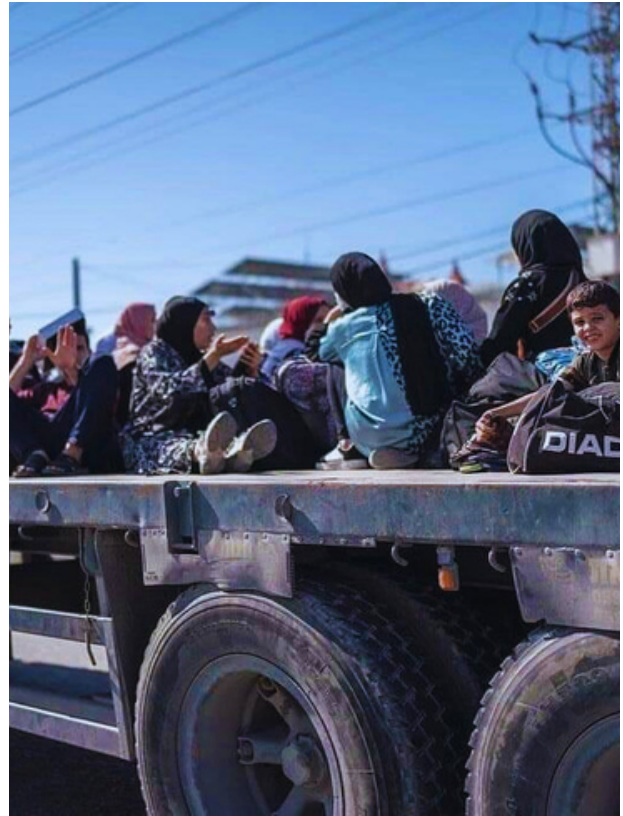
# 1 PALESTINIAN CHILD IS KILLED EVERY 8 MINUTES IN GAZA



**THE WAR ON CHILDREN. 1 MILLION CHILDREN IN GAZA, ONE OF THE MOST DENSELY POPULATED AREAS ON EARTH. 4,000 CHILDREN KILLED. 1 PALESTINIAN CHILD IS KILLED EVERY 8 MINUTES IN GAZA.**



**MULTIPLE VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL LAWS; CONTINUOUS ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS, FORCED DISPLACEMENT, EXCESSIVE USE OF FORCE, COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENT**



PMRS OUTREACH TEAMS IN GAZA PROVIDE EMERGENCY AND PRIMARY HEALTHCARE OUTREACH AT SHELTERS AND CLINICS





PMRS OUTREACH TEAMS IN GAZA PROVIDE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR MENTAL HEALTH FOR CHILDREN AT UNRWA SHELTERS

## PMRS TEAMS

PMRS mobilized their teams to continue offering both emergency response, triage, and referral, in addition to outreach teams offering comprehensive primary healthcare. By the 26th of October, we had 17 teams in operation as well as 2 Primary Healthcare Centers in Jabalya and Gaza City, consisting of general physicians, women's health doctors, health and social workers, psychosocial workers, and physiotherapists. Overall, PMRS teams have been able to cover the North of Gaza, Gaza City, Khan Younes, and Rafah in the south. PMRS outreach teams have been offering mobile services to shelters and other PHCs.

## PMRS WORK

Our most recent updates are up to the 26th of October due to the disconnection that occurred on the 27th of October. At that time, we had served thousands of people in shelters, including the 90 UNRWA shelters spread across the Gaza Strip. We continued to provide healthcare services to patients in our primary healthcare clinics, which included comprehensive healthcare for those with long-term/chronic conditions, MHPSS, women's health, and hundreds of dressings and wound cleaning per day in each facility. The emergency outreach teams, continued their frontline work, including advanced first aid response, triage, and transfer/referral of more serious patients to nearby hospital facilities. Further, our outreach teams were able to distribute hundreds of hygiene kits, including dignity kits for women. We equipped our teams and communities with first aid kits. Medication was distributed for those in need via our mobile outreach teams completing home visits, prescribed at the PHC, and via mobile outreach visits at the various shelters. Our outreach teams have also been offering as much MHPSS care as possible given the emergency context, this included a series of activity workshops for children and youth at the UNRWA shelters to distract and calm the children.



PMRS OUTREACH TEAMS IN GAZA PROVIDE MUCH NEEDED MEDICATIONS TO THOSE WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS AND RECENT INJURIES - SUPPLIES ARE DANGEROUSLY LOW

## PMRS STAFF

Since the Israeli occupying forces destroyed communication towers, cutting Gaza off from any phone or internet services, we have not been able to reach any members of our 17 teams. As of the 26th of October, our staff and many other healthcare workers have come under direct attack, as follows:

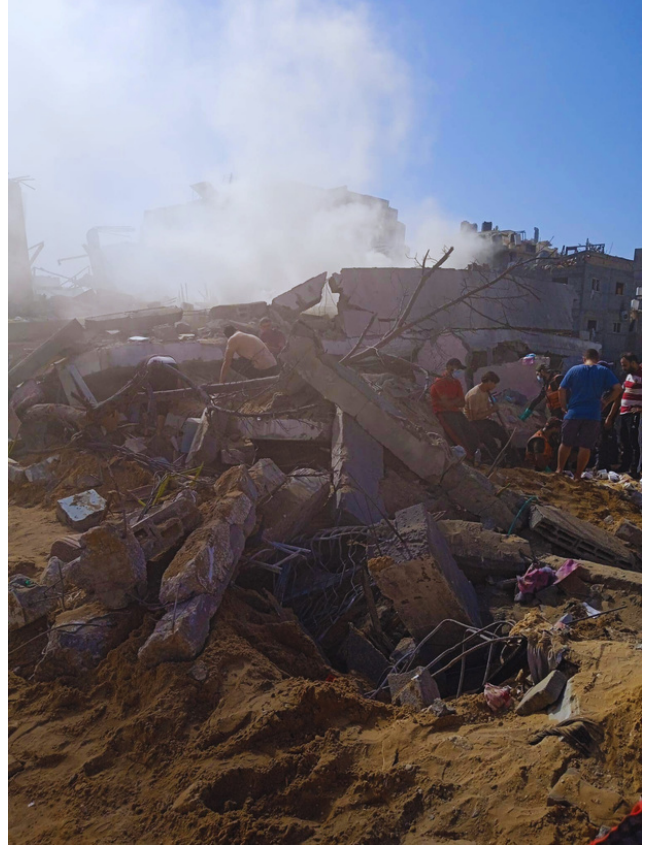
- 2 of our staff were injured in Jabaliya, one of which had his leg amputated
- A driver was attacked while transferring injured people to shelters in Khan Younes
- Massive destruction to the PMRS rehabilitation center in Gaza City which was a key point of care for those with disabilities and in need of physiotherapy, occupational therapy and MHPSS supports them as part of their rehabilitation.
- Difficult accessibility to Um Al-Nasr primary healthcare center in the North of Gaza and Al-Fukhary center, east Khan Younes

## ONGOING CONCERNS

Despite our team's ability to continue working amidst the worst brutality and conditions they have ever experienced, given the escalation in violence on Friday (27th) night and the deterioration of the humanitarian crisis, PMRS remains extremely concerned for our teams and the population of Gaza. Without a ceasefire, the provision of healthcare is increasingly difficult. Healthcare workers continue to be a target, including hospitals, ambulances, and clinics. There is a great need for humanitarian aid to enter Gaza, especially since Friday the 27th, and we still do not know the full extent of the damage or needs. There will be a great need for medical support for the foreseeable future.



**PMRS TEAM IN GAZA 1. AT SITE OF DESTROYED REHABILITATION CENTER WHICH WAS UNRECOGNIZABLE AND 2. INJURED STAFF**



# UPDATE FROM OUR SENIOR DRS IN GAZA

7-26TH OCTOBER 2023 PMRS



UPDATES FROM OUR SENIOR EMERGENCY DRS IN GAZA  
1. DR AYED AND 2. DR BASSAM

