

Notes for the Record

Health Working Group - Displaced Syrians

November 6th, 2013

The central Health Working Group met, as planned on a monthly basis to share updates and plan actions for follow up concerning the displaced Syrians crisis in Lebanon. The meeting was held at the premises of WHO – Museum Square, Glass Building, floor -1 - on Wednesday November 11th, 2013 between 10:00 AM and 11:45 AM.

Topics of Discussion

- 1- Updates
- 2- Reproductive health
- 3- Mental health
- 4- Child health and vaccination
- 5- Nutrition
- 6- Others

Organizations present

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Health Organization (WHO), Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Médecins du Monde (MDM), International Medical Corp (IMC), International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale (PU-AMI), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Handicap International (HI), Save the Children (SCI), Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura (FPSC), Armadilla, Restart, Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), and HAI/HI.

See detailed List of Attendees annexed.

Main Discussions

<i>Topic 1:</i>	Updates
<i>Topic Details</i>	<p><u>Main discussions :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – IMC is actively contributing to the weekly health situation report issued by the UNHCR and their recent field reports include the following findings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 cases of pertussis detected among Syrians in Lebanon, yet they have been lost on follow up ○ Slow progress towards the improvement of the environmental/public health conditions of displaced Syrians ○ Increased incidence of diarrhea specially in collective shelters and informal tented settlements – FPSC has received funds from OCHA/ERF and will be providing several services for the disabled – The World Rehabilitation Fund (WRF) may be contacted for

	<p>persons in need of hearing aids (Mr. Toufic Rizkallah at toufic@wrf.org.lb)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – UNHCR finalization of the RRP6 narrative shall be completed within a day – MOSA is strengthening the capacity of its Social Development Centers (SDC) as partners in delivering health services within the context of humanitarian response. Health services will be delivered at 3,000L.L. per consultation, and all partners may contact MoSA to benefit from SDC health services where needed <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNHCR highly recommends that partners make oral rehydration solutions (ORS) available for displaced Syrians, and to encourage them to use it instead of referring them to advanced IV Drip therapies of dehydration. ORS should be requested from UN agencies, and not bought from suppliers, and in this matter UNHCR field offices may be contacted. This is specifically important to prevent breakouts of cholera. 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Person responsible:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
To share details of all services provided and contact information of focal persons	FPSC	November 2013

<i>Topic 2:</i>	Reproductive health	
<i>Topic Details</i>	<p><u>Main discussions :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – UNFPA has newly received supplies such as STI treatments, and contraceptives that will be provided to 26 PHCs, in addition to NGOs and INGOs, and MMUs working in the field. UNFPA to be contacted may needs of RH materials/supplies arise – UNFPA also announces a possible collaboration with the YMCA to provide RH related medications/supplements such as folic acid and fluconazole to PHCs in the north, south, and Bekaa regions – UNHCR announces that the MoPH has asked for the newly developed maternity cards to be withdrawn from all PHCs, for no specified reason 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Person responsible:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
Share list of available RH supplies/material	UNFPA	November 2013
Share list of PHCs trained on CMR and those who have PEP kits available	UNFPA	November 2013

<i>Topic 3:</i>	Mental health	
<i>Topic Details</i>	<u>Main discussions :</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restart continues to provide mental health services in Beirut and Tripoli, however its Tripoli office is currently taking only follow up cases due to its inability to respond to any additional needs - IMC, in coordination with Restart, is conducting mhGap training sessions for health care providers, in addition to trainings on trauma for psychotherapists, and self-care training for caregivers - WHO has recently conducted a TOT session for 15 potential mhGap trainers who will serve as trainers for mhGap trainings that will soon be conducted and organized by WHO for 20 PHCs - MDM continues to provide mental health services through 3 different PHCs in Beirut, and it also plans on delivering training sessions on mental health to their medical staff 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Person responsible:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
Share information on different planned/ongoing mental health training activities	IMC	October 15, 2013

<i>Topic 4:</i>	Child health and vaccination	
<i>Topic Details</i>	<u>Main discussions :</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Given the polio outbreak in Syria, where 22 cases AFP have been detected, of which 11-12 have been confirmed positive for Polio, regional efforts have increased in activities of immunization against polio - There are 2 planned rounds of national campaign for vaccination against polio, for all under 5 children. The first round will take place between November 8 to 12, and the second between 6 to 10 of December - Caza physicians are in charge of about 5,000 vaccination teams, where the MoPH is responsible in coordinating vaccination within different regions, whereas UNICEF is responsible for the coordination of vaccination activities in tented settlements - The MoPH has established vaccination stations at the 4 major points of entry within the country, to ensure that all children who enter the country are vaccinated properly <u>Recommendations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Partners are asked to report any challenges or shortages in vaccination from the field, so that gaps are addressed promptly 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Person responsible:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>

Share the contact information of caza physicians	UNHCR	November 7, 2013
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Topic 5:	Nutrition	
<i>Topic Details</i>	<u>Main discussions :</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IOCC reports that since August 2013 there have been 29 (SAM & MAM) cases of malnutrition that have been treated on an outpatient basis, whereas 25 SAM cases have been treated on an inpatient basis - IOCC has an ongoing training session for the in-patient management of malnutrition at the Rafic Hariri University Hospital, and it will also train IMC community health workers on screening malnutrition - IOCC also performs home visits for discharged patients who have been treated for malnutrition - IOCC announces that 3 PHCs in Kab Elias (Bekaa), Burj Barajneh (Beirut), Bebnine (North) are officially trained on screening/referring SAM and MAM cases - IOCC continues to deliver refresher training sessions to trained health personnel and will soon make available a community pamphlet of malnutrition for info on services - A first draft of the second nutrition survey will be made available by UNICEF by the beginning of December 2013 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Person responsible:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
Share the SAM/MAM breakdown of the 29 outpatient malnutrition cases treated on an outpatient basis	IOCC	November 2013
Share addresses of PHCs trained on screening/referring malnutrition cases	IOCC	November 2013

Topic 6:	Others	
<i>Topic Details</i>	<u>Main discussions :</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNHCR suggests that partners proactively take part in the central HWG meetings, whereby they can suggest certain topics of interest, present on them or have short discussions to effectively think about ongoing problems and help coming up with solutions 	

Annex: List of Attendees

Health Working Group - Syrian Displaced			
Monday October 7, 2013			
Organization	Name	Tel.	E-mail
UNFPA	Christelle Mousallem	76-923227	moussallem@unhcr.org
UNFPA	Meder Omurzakov	76-482273	omurzakov@unfpa.org
FPSC	Alberto Bocanegra Vidal	70-457157	abocanegra.fpssc@gmail.com
FPSC	Elio Yahchouchi	03-565184	elioy.fpssc@gmail.com
Medical Aid for Palestinians	Kate Mason	79-131996	programme-assistant@map-uk.org
IMC	Julie Davidson	71-802793	jdavidson@internationalmedicalcorps.org
MOSA	Nellie Ghusayni	03-955168	nellie.ghusayni.mosa@gmail.com
IMC	Jamil Youssef	03-127692	jyoussef@internationalmedicalcorps.org
IMC	Heather Lorenzen	71-802494	hlorenzen@internationalmedicalcorps.org
IMC	Ibrahim Abou Khalil	76-700345	iakhalil@internationalmedicalcorps.org
MdM	Lara Chlela	76-460869	med.beirut.mdmlebanon@gmail.com
Restart	Maria Emanuela Falchi	70-005926	memanuelafalchi@gmail.com
Save the Children	Dr. Branko Dubajic	78-956604	branko.dubajic@savethechildren.org
UNHCR	Marie Akiki Abi Safi	71-910618	akiki@unhcr.org
WHO	Edwina Zoghbi	01-612007	zoghbie@who.int
WHO	Lucie Sagherian	01-612007	sagherianL@who.int
IOCC	Dima Ousta	03-899321	dousta@ioccc.org
HAI/HI	Boram Lee		boram.lee@helpage.org
Handicap International	Mohamad Mansour	03-706174	hom.assistant@hi-emergency.org
IOM	Kaisa Kontunen	76-460869	kkontunen@iom.int
PU-AMI	Fola Ogmbowale	76-435803	lib.health@pu-ami.org
Armadilla	Monica Di Rieo	76-758791	m.dirieo@armadilla.com
UNHCR	Njogu Patterson	78-933576	njogup@unhcr.org