

Notes for the Record

Health Working Group - Displaced Syrians

March 28, 2014

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 Friday March 28th, 2014 between 09:00 AM and 10:45 AM.

Topics of Discussion

- 1- Action items from last meeting
- 2- Secondary healthcare referrals
- 3- Mental Health
- 4- Reproductive health
- 5- Child health/vaccination
- 6- Nutrition
- 7- Outbreaks
- 8- AOB

Organizations present

See detailed List of Attendees annexed.

Main Discussions

<i>Topic 1:</i>	Action items from last meeting	
<i>Topic Details</i>	<u>Main discussions :</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Action points from last meeting were followed up – UNHCR – IA coordination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The previously discussed core group within the central health working group meeting has already been formed ○ Amel association has nominated for the Core Group of the central health working group meeting 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Responsible agency:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
1- Share the TOR's of the central HWG's core group	UNHCR - IA	April 2014
2- E-mail partners to agree on Amel to represent the Core Group of the central health working group meetings	UNHCR – IA	April 2014

<i>Topic 2:</i>	Secondary Healthcare Referrals
<i>Topic Details</i>	<p><u>Main discussions :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GlobeMed Lebanon (GML): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o GML has office hubs at Hariri Hospital, Bekaa Hospital, and as of April 1st, in Islamic Hospital in Tripoli o GML statistics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jan – Feb 2014: 4184 admissions; ▪ in January, 1443 deliveries (both NVD and C-section); ▪ GML receives calls from referring NGOs and PHCS. The most common NGOs referring to GML are Makhzoumi Foundation, Caritas, IMC, and MSF o GML sharing reports on admitted cases, rejected cases, and mortality rate with UNHCR on a monthly basis o Process of payment to GML: GML receives bills from the hospital 10 days after the end of each month; GML audits the bills for 10 other days, after which the bills are sent to UNHCR for final verification and approval. The whole process between discharge and reimbursement takes around 45 days. - IMC: concern with delays in payments for mental health conditions - UNHCR IA coordinator: UNHCR to be contacted with any concern faced with GML <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WHO: expresses the importance of sharing mortality and morbidity data from GML/UNHCR to help improve decision making processes, especially now that the core group exists

<i>Topic 3:</i>	Mental health (MH)
<i>Topic Details</i>	<p><u>Main discussions :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoPH Mental Health program - Dr. Rabih Chammay: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o An MH unit is established at the MoPH under the umbrella of the PHC program, and it will be overseeing the mhGAP expansion, utilization of mental health services, and other mental health related issues o The MH task force has also been formed, it meets on a monthly basis, and its TORs have already been developed o Coordination activities shall also be undertaken, especially with sectors such as Education, SGBV, and protection to ensure the alignment of all relevant activities o The program has a wider umbrella than the MHPSS

	<p>task force (i.e. monitoring and evaluation, capacity building, policy, legislation, research, etc.) to expand eventually in the future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WHO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Plans to continue with the expansion of mhGAP soon o 40 centers (out of 180) will receive advanced training on mhGAP. These “excellence centers” will be closely monitored for piloting patterns of MH conditions) o Sensitization workshop will start after Easter 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Responsible agency:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
Share mental health task force TORs with health partners	MoPH Mental Health Unit	April 2014

<i>Topic 4:</i>	Reproductive health (RH)	
<i>Topic Details</i>	<p><u>Main discussions :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNFPA : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ongoing distribution of RH kits to PHCs that are not affiliated with the MoPH, and will soon come up with an MoPH distribution plan o Planning several activities of family planning and counseling o A medical doctor was trained to become a trainer on “clinical management of rape” (CMR) through a regional UNFPA training session. This will help increase the availability of CMR trainers in Lebanon o The next reproductive health sub-working group meeting is to take place on April 7th, 2014 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Responsible agency:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
Share Youth RH assessment results	UNFPA	April 2014

<i>Topic 5:</i>	Child health and vaccination	
<i>Topic Details</i>	<p><u>Main discussions :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoPH – PHC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o With the support of WHO and UNICEF, and in close collaboration with the Lebanese Order of Physicians, and the Lebanese Pediatric Society, the MoPH has vaccinated 600,000 children against polio during the national vaccination campaign which took place in march 2014 o This campaign was done mainly through schools, PHCs, and private clinics, however, door – to door vaccines were delivered in regions where lack of coverage from previous campaigns were detected o The upcoming national vaccination campaign in April 2014, will deliver OPV to children 0 – 5 years old, and MR + Vitamin A to children between 9 months and 18 	

	<p>years old</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WHO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The national EPI committee has been discussing about revisions that are to be introduced to the national vaccination calendar. These discussions include keeping the measles vaccine at 9 months of age, and introducing pneumococcal and hepatitis A vaccines. The introduction of these vaccines will be done by the financial support of UNICEF o Highlights of results of the cluster vaccination survey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Good coverage of oral polio vaccine ▪ Poor coverage of measles vaccine - Issues regarding the dissemination of information, on the vaccination campaign, especially in ITSs, - IMC: inquiry about the possibility of the introduction of chickenpox vaccine, due to the increase of the number of cases seen. WHO clarified that this has been discussed with the EPI committee, however no decision has been taken - UNHCR: expresses the possibility of sending SMS for health information regarding vaccination and states that it is important to also promote routine vaccination, and not just vaccination campaigns - IOM: raised concerns regarding the vaccination fees required from PHCs for vaccination during campaigns <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WHO recommends that NGOs report to the MoPH about PHCs that charge vaccination fees, however it states that it may be difficult to have the government waive all vaccination related fees, and this may be needed to account for in the upcoming revision of the RRP6 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Responsible agency:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
<p>1- Share targeted vaccination media coverage of upcoming vaccination campaign</p> <p>2- Share the revised national vaccination calendar</p>	<p>UNICEF</p> <p>MoPH</p>	<p>March 2014</p> <p>May 2014</p>

<i>Topic 6:</i>	Nutrition	
<i>Topic Details</i>	<p><u>Main discussions :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF: nutrition screening was planned to be done during the recent vaccination campaign; planning another nutrition screening campaign in Bekaa in April 2014 - UNHCR IA coordinator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Nutrition Sub Working group is established o TORs need finalization o Strategy and work plan will be developed in a workshop - IOCC: 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Screening of around 17,000 children <5 years old at ITSs and surrounding households; 230 outpatients and 61 inpatients treated for malnutrition ○ The list of centers activated for management of malnutrition is shared ○ Breastfeeding awareness and counseling provided at PHCs and in hospitals ○ Mother support groups established at PHCs 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Responsible agency:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
Provide comments on the TORs of the Nutrition Sub Working Group	All partners	April 2014

<i>Topic 7:</i>	Outbreaks
<i>Topic Details</i>	<p><u>Main discussions :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Polio: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MoPH: A case of suspected Polio was detected and discharged in Taanayel, after diagnostic tests proved the case Polio negative ○ MoPH: Active surveillance ongoing in all hospitals, and community based surveillance is also on its way for activation through municipalities and ITS focal persons – Measles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MoPH: 87 cases of measles were reported during the last week of March 2014, 30 of whom were found to be Syrians – Tuberculosis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WHO: about 90% Ethiopian and Asian housemaids that are diagnosed with TB, are usually started on treatment and are deported soon after. This category constitutes of about 23% of all cases detected in Lebanon ○ WHO: some of the Syrians diagnosed with TB, are known cases who have already been started on DOTS, and some are presenting as TB relapse cases, sent to the national TB program for follow up ○ WHO: Discussion with the national TB program are ongoing to improve the program’s capacity in handling the case-load of TB presenting for treatment and diagnostics <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – WHO: to prevent the further increase in the number of hepatitis A cases, it is important to focus on awareness, WASH activities, and chlorination of water. It is necessary that health and wash working groups coordinate activities together – WHO: it is important to discuss jointly with all interested partners on ways of collaboration towards the improvement of the national TB program’s capacity in handling TB cases

<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Responsible agency:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
1- Core group to discuss and recommend on ways to move forward with health activities in collaboration with the WASH group	Central HWG Core Group	April 2014
2- Call for a joint meeting on increasing the capacity of the national TB program	WHO	April 2014

<i>Topic 4:</i>	AOB	
<i>Topic Details</i>	<p><u>Main discussions :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – RRP6 mid-term review (UNHCR IA coordinator): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The core group is to meet to discuss and put forward key dates to submit the RRP6 mid-term review ○ The revision shall be “light”, and focus on the accomplishments so far, major changes, in addition to the revision/ confirmation of priorities ○ 4th of April is the deadline to submit the 1st draft of priorities and 10th of April is the deadline to a revised categorization of activities ○ Confirmation of activities, budgets, and targets will be done web-based using the Activity Info tool – VaSYR (UNHCR IA coordinator): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The second VaSYR survey design and process has started. The methodology is under discussion, and comments on the questionnaire are appreciated. Comments shall be gathered by April 4th ○ The following are the agencies that nominated themselves to participate in the revision activities of the VaSYR design: UNICEF, IMC, IOCC, WHO, UNHCR, and Beyond – Multi Sectorial Needs Assessment (UNHCR IA coordinator): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A draft of MSNA is already out, comments to be shared for a finalized version on April 11th – Activity Info Tool (UNHCR IA coordinator): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Partners are reminded to report in their activities, through the use of Activity Info Tool on the 7th of every month 	
<i>Action Items:</i>	<i>Responsible agency:</i>	<i>Deadline:</i>
Follow up and feed into the RRP6 mid-term revision, VaSYR, MSNA, and Activity Info Tool	UNHCR IA coordination unit and all involved partner	April 2014

Annex: List of Attendees

Health Working Group - Syrian Displaced			
Friday March 28, 2014			
Organization	Name	Tel.	E-mail
ACF	Juliette Seguin	76-658425	jseguin@lb.acfspain.org
ADRA Lebanon	Memory Cox	78-818932	memory.cox@adralebannon.org
ADRA Middle East and North Africa	Anne-Claire Bremard	78-932630	anneclaire.bremard@adramena.org
CISP	Roberta Zuin	76-973213	cispleb@cyberia.net.lb robertazuin.cispleb@gmail.com
CLMC	Amal Rahal	01-502550 ext 117	arahal@eclmc.org
ICRC	Joelle Clerc Pouliot	70-129773	jlclercpouliot@icrc.org
ECHO	Jamale Chedrawi	78-958330	jamale.chedrawi@echofield.eu
Foundation for the Social Promotion of culture	Alain Kiwan	03-184828	alain.fpssc@gmail.com
Globe Med Lebanon	Mazen Khatib		melkhatib@globemedlebanon.com
HI	Fatima Nasser Eddine	79-103991	rehab.superv.lb@gmail.com
HI	Adeline Binanzer	76-320917	specificneeds.ta.lb@hi-emergency.org
Heartland Alliance	Mariney Ocampo	76-672530	mocampo@heartlandalliance.org
IA Coordination UNHCR	Frank Tyler	71-911355	tylerf@unhcr.org
IMC	Jamil Youssef	03-127692	jyoussef@internationalmedicalcorporps.org
IMC	Christina Bethke	71-059789	cbethke@internationalmedicalcorporps.org
IMC	Ibrahim Abou Khalil	76-700345	iakhalil@internationalmedicalcorpors.org
IMC	Nellie ghusayni	03-955168 70-408457	nghusayni@internationalmedicalcorporps.org
IOCC	Dima Ousta	03-899321	dousta@iocc.org
IOCC	Linda Shaker Berbari	03-418430	lberbari@iocc.org
IOM	Kaisa Kontunen	76-777106	kkontunen@iom.int
IOM	Abdalla Mkanna	76-777103	amkanna@iom.int
International Alert	Ilina Slavova	71-923812	islavova@international-alert.org
Makassed	Dania Hajjali	03-040861	danialhajjali@hotmail.com
Makassed	Reem Rabah	03-717087	rabahreem@hotmail.com
Medair	Dr. Boris Mugrditchian	70-134894	healthpm-leb@medair.org
Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP)	Wafa Dakwar	71-674635	wafa.dakwar@map-uk.org

Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP)	Marta Petagna	03-406565	marta.petagna@map-uk.org
MoPH-MH	Rabih El Chammay	03-390935	rabihelechammay@gmail.org
MoPH-MH	Wissam Kheir	03-020664	wissamkheir@hotmail.com
MoPH - PHC	Wafaa Kanaan	70-982290	wafakan@hotmail.com
MoPH - PHC	Rabha Charaf Eddine	03-629647	rabha.zreik@gmail.com
MoPH - ESU	Dr. Nada Ghosn	03-214520	esumoh@moph.gov.lb
MSF Belgium	Liesbeth Leysem	76-136745	msfocb-beirut- medco@brussels.msf.org
PCRF	Mona Al Kayali	70-794443	alkayali@pcrf.net
PUAMI	Marie Amelie Degail	76-520981	lib.pm-health.emr@pu-ami.org
Save the Children	Dr. Sally Kaid	71-586893	sally.kaid@savethechildren.org
UNHCR	Alice Wimmer	76-500274	wimmer@unhcr.org
UNICEF	Najwa Rizkallah	70-669925	nrizkallah@unicef.org
UNICEF	Zahraa Noureddine	70-842863	znoureddine@unicef.org
UNICEF	Amalia Mendes	76-894799	ammendes@unicef.org
UNICEF	Farah Mazloun	76-774449	fmazloun@unicef.org
UNICEF	Rindala Berro	03-638399	rberro@unicef.org
UNFPA	Christelle Moussallem	76-923227	moussallem@unhcr.org
URDA	Hiba Moumne	71-436060	hiba.moumne@igatheyya.com
URDA	Tarek	76-058482	medical.igatheyya@gmail.com
WFP	Catherine Said	76-320653	catherine.said@wfp.org
WHO	Denise Assaf	01-612007	assafd@who.int
WHO	Edwina Zoghbi	01-612007	zoghbie@who.int
WHO	Alissar Rady	70-111735	radya@who.int
WHO	Lucie Sagherian	01-612007	sagherianL@who.int
YMCA	Cynthia Kheir	03-184462	cynthia.kheir@ymca-leb.org.lb