

Minutes Health Coordination Meeting 31st August 2016

Attendants: UNHCR, IFRC, HRC, Finnish RC, Humedica, MDM Suisse, Greece, Belgium, MSFB, WAHA, Save the Children, SAMS, Team Rubicon, EKEPI, St. Elisabeth University, Praxis, IMC, IRC, DRC, Nurture Project International

1. Lack of Medicines in the North

There is a lack of medication for chronic diseases: the hospitals do not issue medications to the patients discharged or seen in out-patients, this includes anti TB drugs. NGOs must pay for all secondary health drugs unless the prescription includes a tax number which is called AΦM in Greek. Generally there are sufficient funds to buy medicine but there is a shortage in Greek pharmacies of specific medications as well. There is a particular shortage of some medicine such as anti epileptic and Valium. In addition, the ECHO list does not include anti-hypertensive and feeling is that ECHO should also have a flexibility in regards to antidepressants.

We must continue to advocate with donors to relax controls on type of medicines we can purchase.

2. Vaccinations Campaign and EPI

EPI activities / routine vaccinations required in all camps. Vaccination campaigns have covered most children, but due to constant moving of PoCs, a number of children have not been immunized. The best way to catch all children is to establish EPI activities in the camps. More over many parents of new born children in the camps ask doctors why their children cannot be vaccinated on a regular basis.

3. Mental Health

Indications that from Kordelio/Cherso there is no quick Psychiatric referral system. There is a lack of psychiatrists in general. Psychiatric referrals are lengthy everywhere.

4. Long Term Campsites

Some problems in Serres: drinking water and food given by the army. Not enough distributions. CARITAS helped in sending chemical toilets.

Next coordination meeting will take place on the 15th September 2016 at 14:00, same venue