



WHO Romania Monthly Newsletter

May 2024 Highlights

- *WHO Romania, together with the Order of Nurses & Midwives and the Ministry of Health, celebrated the International Day of the Midwife with an event titled 'Renewing Midwifery Tradition for a Healthy and Sustainable Future'.*
- *WHO Romania launches GBV Training of Trainers program to strengthen the capacity of the Romanian health system to support survivors.*
- *WHO Romania organises workshop for national partners to strengthen surveillance for zoonotic disease.*

Emergency Response



Stress Management Workshop

Rates of exhaustion and burnout in the Romanian medical community have risen dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic and Ukrainian refugee crisis. In response, WHO Romania has conducted a series of workshops 'Doing what Matters in Times of Stress' for medical personnel across the country.

The final workshop in Iasi was attended by 84 participants from Vaslui County Emergency Hospital, Regional Institute of Oncology and Saint Maria Children Emergency Hospital.

The sessions aimed to equip healthcare workers with strategies and skills to manage stress effectively, maintain well-being in high-pressure environments and to communicate conflict-free, so that they can continue to provide high quality care to Ukrainians and Romanians alike.





[GBV Training of Trainers](#)

Gender based violence (GBV) sadly remains a pressing issue in conflict zones and for those displaced from their homes, and Ukrainian women fleeing the war have been particularly vulnerable.

In May, WHO Romania launched a 2-day GBV Training of Trainers (ToT) for hospital managers and health professionals. The curriculum enhances participants' understanding of clinical-legal frameworks, WHO's protocols for managing cases of rape and intimate-partner violence and how to develop health facility protocols.

Further trainings will be rolled out during June and July 2024, ensuring that the Romanian health system is capacitated to support both Ukrainian and Romanian GBV survivors.

[GBV Prevention Training](#)

WHO Romania also held a 3-day training on GBV Prevention and Empowerment through Self-Defense (ESD).

Empowerment through Self-Defense is a comprehensive, evidence-based system for violence prevention which takes a holistic approach to Self-Defense, personal safety, and empowerment.

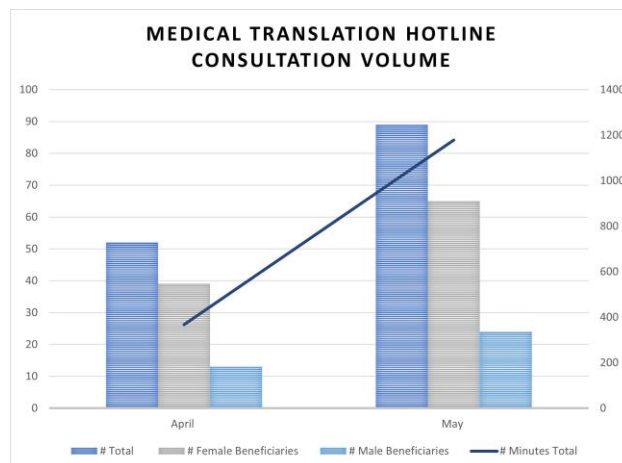
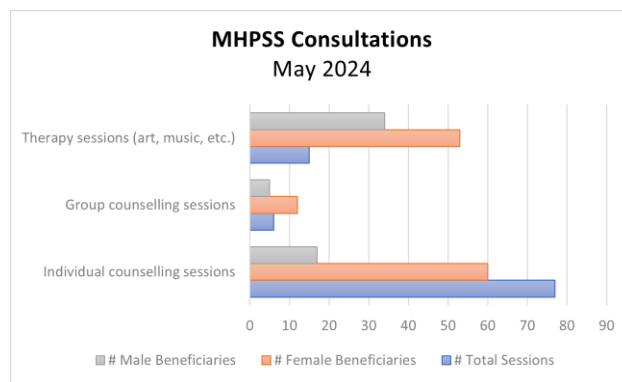
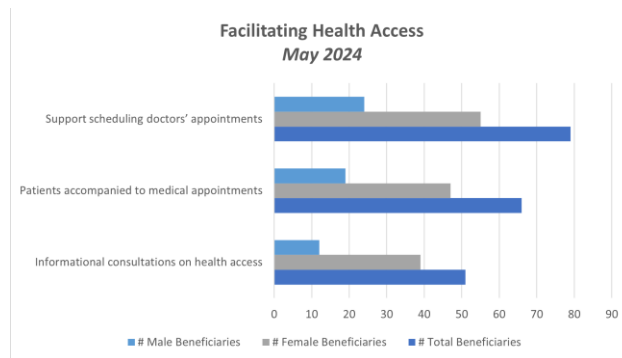
Created in response to high GBV rates in conflict zones, ESD trainings are a strategic activity to discuss GBV risks in community settings as well as a key prevention strategy to interrupt and respond to violence in all forms.



WHO Health Programs - Data Insights for May 2024

- 292 primary health consultations for Ukrainian refugees by WHO supported family doctors.

- 96 individual and 6 group psychosocial support sessions as well as 15 art & music therapy sessions for 87 Ukrainians delivered by WHO cultural mediators.
- 196 Ukrainian supported to access national health services through personalised guidance and advice from WHO cultural mediators, including scheduling of medical appointments.
- The health translation hotline, launched in April, attracts increasing demand, with interpretation support provided for 89 beneficiaries during medical consultations.



National Recovery & Resilience Plan (NRRP)



Human Resources in Health

Secretary of State dr Alexandru Rogobete and WHO kick-started the activities to address the health workforce crisis, following the Human Resources in Health Strategy 2022-2030 and the Sectoral Action Plans. The focus will be on recruitment and retention in underserved areas of the country. The roll out of activities will begin in July.

Health Service Management

WHO Romania is closely working with the National Institute for Health Service Management (NIHSM) and the Consortium of Universities on the new curricula for health service management. 40 out of 60 modules have been completed and the adaptation and translation of the remaining curricula continue until July 2024.



Country Office Events & Communications



International Day of the Midwife

Midwives play a crucial role in maternal and newborn health. Unfortunately, in Romania, their capacity is often under-utilised.

To highlight the essential role of midwives and in celebration of the International Day of the Midwife, WHO Romania supported the the Order of Nurses and Midwives and the Ministry of Health during the celebratory event 'Renewing Midwifery Tradition for a Healthy and Sustainable Future'.

The event, opened by WHO Representative Dr Clarinval and supported by HE the Swedish Ambassador Therese Hyden, provided a platform to discuss avenues to improve the capacity of midwives to address needs and challenges in Romania as well as the importance of promoting the role of midwives in maternal and newborn health.



Integrated Surveillance for Zoonotic Diseases

Since over 70% of diseases originate from animals, it is important for countries to adopt the One Health approach, which involves close collaboration between human, veterinary and environmental health.

To promote information sharing and cooperation between relevant sectors, WHO Romania convened members of the Autoritatea Nationala Sanitara Veterinara si pentru Siguranta Alimentelor¹ (ANVSA), NIPH and MOE for a workshop on 21 May 2024.

The workshop, which was chaired by representatives of WHO, the World Organization for Animal Health, and the Food and Agriculture, sought to establish a pathway to strengthen the integrated surveillance system for zoonotic diseases in Romania.

¹[https://www.facebook.com/ansvsa?_cft__\[0\]=AZVPnCdvbywNCCKGk7uSVA8sLCmKSH3QNNQsqk6BinGoBeCILLrFSiR-BXgAj_f7Ag-3oQI8D1Xpe9U7FeBuDNXAZMUL46N74LhEpU1Z4P9U47O07L-SgZOqwjSCB9sgTLa-9QWoqTX7IHfJrAuQIHAA64pIFPpCLRb-cZlap0QB5it0182dlrofQB3VLpyTdVMhiteEzAglz2MljltDTBwCy&_tn=-\]K-R](https://www.facebook.com/ansvsa?_cft__[0]=AZVPnCdvbywNCCKGk7uSVA8sLCmKSH3QNNQsqk6BinGoBeCILLrFSiR-BXgAj_f7Ag-3oQI8D1Xpe9U7FeBuDNXAZMUL46N74LhEpU1Z4P9U47O07L-SgZOqwjSCB9sgTLa-9QWoqTX7IHfJrAuQIHAA64pIFPpCLRb-cZlap0QB5it0182dlrofQB3VLpyTdVMhiteEzAglz2MljltDTBwCy&_tn=-]K-R)



EU4Health Kick-off Meeting

The first steering committee meeting of the joint DG SANTE – WHO/Europe vaccination project **“EIA 2030 monitoring and accountability framework for high quality data towards evidence-informed decision-making”** was held in Budapest on 28 May.

WHO Romania attended the event, along with counterparts from Bulgaria, Poland, and Hungary. The meeting provided an opportunity for participating countries to present their planned immunisation activities for year-1 of the project.



Further Activities

- WHO Romania has initiated an oral health project with the Department of Public Health in Iasi with the aim to assess and improve the oral health status of school children in the county.
- Following a series of visits to the six Regional Procedures and Accommodation Centers for Asylum Seekers across the country, WHO Romania procured a range of essential medical equipment which will be distributed to the centres in the coming months.
- WHO Romania attended the 3rd Romanian Healthcare Conference & Expo on 28 May and shared best practices in European countries as well as ways in which WHO can support prevention and health promotion for cancer in Romania.

Keep in touch

World Health Organization Country Office in Romania

Organizația Mondială a Sănătății Biroul pentru România Primaverii 48 A, Bucharest

who.int/romania²

Facebook³, Twitter⁴, Instagram⁵

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