



33,291 consultations are provided to the Syrian Refugees in primary health care services

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS:

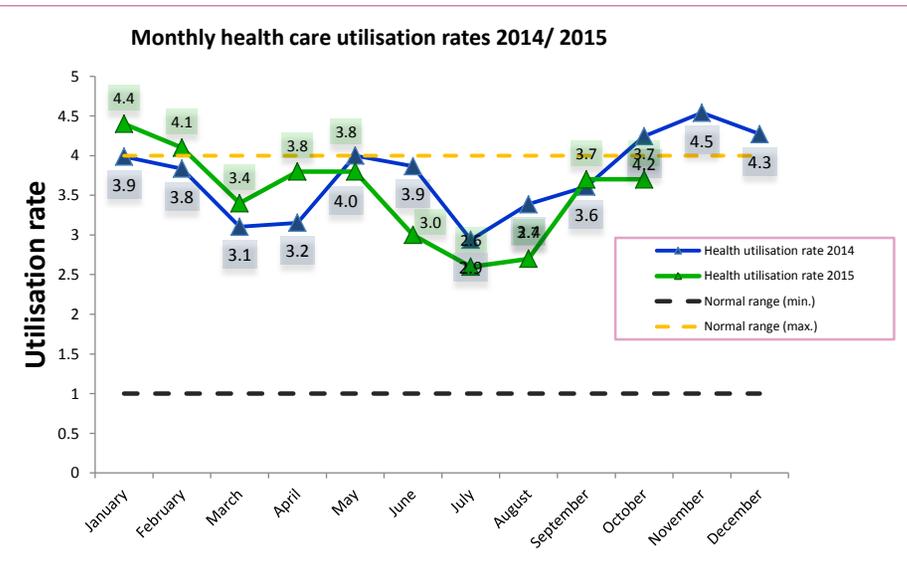
- In October a total of 33,291 patient consultations (compared to 23,810 in September) were conducted in Primary Healthcare Facilities (PHCs) in the refugee camps. This translates to a significant increase of 39.8% compared to the previous month. The increase is a result of the fact that computation is based on the HIS calendar whereby four weeks were considered in October, whereas five weeks have been used in September. An average consultation rate of 3.7 consultations/ refugee/ year was registered (expected range: 1-4). Major cause for the consultations remained Upper Respiratory Infections, Diarrhoea and Skin Infections. 1,063 patients (compared to 798 in September) were referred to secondary and tertiary for further investigations and /or hospitalization. During the same period, a total of 1,030 patients (compared to 958 in September) attended mental health services.
- The cholera outbreak in Iraq continued to pose a threat inside the country. Since the start of the outbreak on 15 September 2015, a total of 2,173 laboratory confirmed cholera with 2 deaths from 15 out of 19 governorates (as of 31st October). It is however worth noting that the trend of cholera cases started declining in the last two weeks of October. Over the last seven days of the reporting month, only one confirmed cholera case was reported from the northern governorates (Kirkuk, Duhok, Erbil and Sulaymaniyah). Ten cases have been reported in KRI (8 Erbil and 2 in Duhok) since the epidemic started. WHO and partners (including UNHCR) will support the DoH to conduct a cholera vaccination campaign between 02-04 November in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. An estimated 80,000 refugees in selected camps will be targeted during the oral cholera vaccine (OCV). Targeted refugee camps include: Arbat, Domiz 1, Domiz 2, Basirma, Darashakran, Kawergosk and Qushtapa. Another 80,000 IDPs in camps will be targeted as well in KRI during this campaign.



UIMS Doctor administering oral treatment at Al-Obaidi PHC, Al-Obaidi camp, Anbar governorate

NEEDS ANALYSIS:

- Departure of some of the health staff to Europe is posing a major challenge. Partners in various PHC facilities are facing the same challenge. This has contributed to staff shortage for healthcare service provision.
- Partners face increasing constraints to raise the needed funds to maintain health services for refugees. Continued support for health care services provided by the Ministry of Health and humanitarian actors is a key priority to prevent excess morbidity and mortality among the displaced Syrian populations.



IRAQ RESPONSE INDICATORS: OCTOBER 2015

