

Bekaa Health Coordination Meeting			
Date	22 October 2020	Time	1100- 13:00
Location	UNHCR Zahle premises- through Webex	Duration	1 h 30 min
Chair	Mona Kiwan - UNHCR		
Attendance	Attendance sheet shared with the minutes		

1.0	COVID 19	ACTION	DUE DATE
1.1	<p>Situation Update</p> <p>Total Cases in Lebanon 65,577 cumulative positive cases, 1241 positive cases reported yesterday the 21st of Oct. Average positivity rate 11.1% for the past 2 weeks 536 total deaths For refugees, 1253 cases in Lebanon, 99% are Syrian refugees In Bekaa: 227 refugee cases, 18% of refugees affected by Covid-19 in Lebanon 6 deaths of Syrian refugees reported in Bekaa from Covid-19 7 recent Informal Settlements affected by Covid 19, with one positive case in each ITS UNHCR supporting with the settlements case investigation; not a high cross contamination level seen so far in the 7 IS</p> <p>Level 3 isolation: Health partners updates</p> <p>So far Zero referral for L3 facility for the two L3 facilities prepared in Qaraoun and Hadath Baalbeck. WHO will support in recruiting the nurses in Hadath Baalbeck as soon as location will be activated with a minimum of cases to be 5 RI recruited and trained the 8 nurses for Qaraoun L3 facility. WHO identified and trained a team of nurses for isolation sites; they can be deployed once the need is there.</p>		

Hospitals preparedness for COVID 19: testing and hospitalization

Private sector is vigilant about integrating Covid-19.

-Al Mayyas Hospital- opened a Covid-19 department- 8 simple beds and 2 ICU beds open.

-Bekaa Hospital is opening a Covid ward in 2 days.

-Tel Chiha Hospital has a plan for that as well.

- Riyak Hospital opened Covid-19 section, 10 simple beds and 10 ICU beds.

*UNHCR did an assessment last week for the Hospital to support with additional 5 ICU beds.

Financial challenges and lack of human resources exist still. Hospitals reporting challenges in that they are unable to procure equipment for ICU beds.

*Moreover, UNHCR supported Baalbeck Hospital in additional 10 ICU beds that will be ready in the upcoming couple of days. The hospital will have a total of 21 ICU beds. No dialysis capability.

The need for ICU beds is reported and issues of access to ICU beds is experienced by Lebanese and Refugees patients.

WHO reported per MoPH that there are currently 68 regular beds for Covid and 15 ICU beds across 4 hospitals in Bekaa. Regular beds are 50% occupied, ICU beds are 100% occupied.

For the referral pathway for isolation sites, WHO shared a draft in last health sector meeting.

Discussions are ongoing with all relevant stakeholders to identify the challenges and available gaps and further fine tune the roles of each entity involved.

There is a total of 7 hospitals however in the Bekaa for Covid-19 patients:

Rayak Hospital, Dar El Amal Hospital, Baalbeck GVT Hospital, MSF Hospital in Barelias, Al Mayyas Hospital, Zahle Governmental Hospital, Machghara Hospital.

For Syrian refugees UNHCR is contracted so far with Dar El Amal, Zahle Gvt Hospitals and Baalbeck Gvt Hospital for PCR and admission.

MSF Barelias Hospital: patients are only approaching when they need ICU and not regular admission; the delay of arrival could increase mortality rate. Majority of cases are Lebanese,

Baalbeck Governmental Hospital has plan for dialysis possibility

UNHCR will support Riyak Hospital in 5 ICU beds.

	<p>they admit all nationalities however, most admission is from Barelias and surrounding areas. No dialysis capacity- referral takes 2-3 days, difficulty referring to external ICUs as well.</p> <p>Community Health Volunteers engagement in COVID 19: role in prevention & preparedness and response</p> <p>Spreading awareness about Covid-19 ongoing by the health OVs and CHV managed by different partners Refugees reported that MoPH hotline is unreachable, refugees reported difficulty paying for the PCR tests as well. IMC reported that some families crossing Lebanese-Syrian borders in North Bekaa are not doing tests and considered a threat when arriving to ISs, IMC will report to UNHCR Protection Officer and UNHCR PHU should this become a trend.</p> <p>Possibility for refresher training through partners by WHO for CHVs and OVs about PPEs.</p> <p>MdM community outreach teams in North Bekaa provide awareness sessions on Covid-19 preventive measures. They distributed masks through MMUs and awareness on how to wash those masks.</p> <p>MH interventions for COVID 19 MdM Outreach Team provided anxiety awareness sessions amid Covid-19 in Baalbeck. Mental Health Working Group took place on Tuesday the 20th</p> <p>Gaps and needs ICU beds capacity in the Bekaa- ICU beds currently 100% occupied.</p>	<p>IMC and MTI to summarize number of OVs and CHVs who need to be trained for a refresher session on PPEs use and safe disposal</p> <p>-UNHCR will share WHO guidelines “ Home care for patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 and management of their contacts” -MTI and IMC to kindly extract key messages to be used by OVs and CHVs so to be reviewed and used by all OVs and CHVs</p>	
2.0	Health Partners’ Programs Updates	ACTION	DUE DATE
2.1	Access to vaccination, SRH, chronic medicines, and other programs		

	<p>SAMS running a project with LHF for providing top up contributions for lifesaving non Covid-19 patients (Syrians, Palestinians and vulnerable Lebanese). The project provides financial support for the patients to reduce the barriers to access hospital care.</p> <p>Support per patient up to \$450 USD for Lebanese and up to \$500 for Syrians and Palestinians, they should be under 18yo and medically and socio-economically vulnerable. For Syrians and Lebanese there are no specific medical cases, for Palestinians only cardio-vascular intervention. 10-11 case capacity a month.</p> <p>MdM will support 3 PHCs in central and West Bekaa: Machghara Hospital, Tebrol Govt. PHC and Sawa'ed Al Aamal PHC in Kfarzabad- tentatively.</p> <p>IMC have started supporting Qabelias PHC on 15th and Baalbak on 22nd of Oct; until end of Dec 2021. They are in process of adding new PHCs to be determined later.</p> <p>MSF will be closing Baalbeck and Majdel Anjar clinics.</p> <p>UNICEF Measles campaign started on the 15th in Hasbaya as a pilot and is expected across other governorates. They are preparing micro plans with different actors/ sectors. Training for OVS ongoing.</p> <p>Campaign will start on Nov 2 until end of December- with Covid-19 precautions in the Bekaa (not Baalbeck-Hermel).</p>	<p>-Hotline will be established for SAMS project on non-covid19 patient share financial support.</p> <p>-Presentation will be shared with the minutes</p> <p>UNICEF Measles campaign will start across Bekaa.</p>	<p>November 2nd</p>
3.0	AOB	ACTION	DUE DATE
3.1	<p>- Partners informed of possibility of UNHCR donating an amount latrines and tanks for health facilities.</p> <p>-SOP s related to winterization: emergency response and relocation were discussed with the support of UNICEF WASH sector coordinator</p>	Partners to raise need of latrines of tanks.	Today

