

Health Sector Jordan

Monthly Report

Report date: 15 December
2014

Period covered: November 1st–30th 2014



Population data

Total active Syrians registered with UNHCR in Jordan (as of 6 December 2014)	620,214
Number of Syrians waiting to be registered with UNHCR	0
Number of persons registered in Zaatari (as of 6 December 2014)	82,805
Number of Syrians registered in Emirati Jordanian Camp (as of 6 December 2014)	4,161
Number of Syrians registered in Azraq Camp (as of 6 December 2014)	10,836
Number of new arrivals between 1 st –30 th November	67

Operational highlights and situation updates

- The number of Syrian new arrivals continues to decrease, with only 67 for the month of November, compared to 332 for the month of October – which was already a significant reduction from the month of September, which saw 5,686 new arrivals.
- As of 20 November, following a decision by the Cabinet, registered Syrian refugees are no longer entitled to access free health services at MoH facilities.
- MoH has agreed to integrate EPI activities into the IMC primary health centres; this is in order not to miss any opportunities for vaccination and will be under the supervision of MoH
- Health Sector 3RP/JRP figures show that overall budget for Health component of appeal is USD72,694,443 (USD54,489,446 for refugees and USD18,204,997 for resilience) (not including the government component of the JRP); this is a reduction of over USD20 million compared with the RRP6 mid-year review.
- In November, UNFPA supported family planning logistics training for NGOs. NGOs participating in the logistics training can be enrolled in the national logistics system, obtain supplies from MoH and report back to them.

New arrivals

- In November at Raba Sarhan, ICRC screened 288 refugees, and provided 139 health care consultations. A total of 44 patients were referred to other facilities for follow-up care.
- During November, 113 new arrival children aged 6 months to 15 years were vaccinated against measles, with a coverage rate of 100%; 118 children aged 0 to 15 years were vaccinated against polio with a coverage of 100% (1 child received the IPV); and 35 children aged 6 months to 5 years were provided with Vitamin A.
- IOM's medical team provides "fitness-to-travel" health checks for all refugees at Raba Sarhan Transit Centre (RSTC) before they move to the camps. In November, 296 refugees were fit to travel and 61 cases were referred to the responsible organization for follow-up.
- From 1–27 November, 20 children under five were screened at RSTC, and no cases of malnutrition were found.

Coordination and assessments

Coordination

- **Monthly Mental Health and Psychosocial Services (MHPSS)** meeting held on 19 November at the Ministry of Health. Main outcomes: 1) Operation Mercy briefed the group on their newly implemented programme which includes MHPSS, WASH and Protection activities and started in September in Zarqa and Ashrafiah. 2) IMC presented on the MHPSS and Protection Assessment of displaced Syrian adolescents, which aims to understand current coping strategies, resilient traits, and protective strategies that adolescents use for MHPSS problems, as well as ascertain the scope of violence experienced by Syrian adolescents – focusing on perceived discrimination.
- **Monthly Reproductive Health (RH)** meeting held on 20 November at UNFPA in Amman. Main outcomes: 1) The final version of the family planning logbook, with feedback incorporated after the pilot in October, was shared with the group. 2) Members broke into smaller groups to revise the core messages, which were later sent to UNFPA for consolidation. 3) Group agreed to provide feedback on common indicators which will then be used in 2015 for group reporting. 4) UNFPA shared checklist of risk factors which can be used in the camp to identify low and high risk pregnancies.
- **Monthly Health Coordination Meeting** held on 27 November at UNHCR in Amman. Main outcomes: 1) UNHCR presented a temporary policy to mitigate the effects of the cessation of free healthcare for registered Syrian refugees. 2) On 2 December, WHO and UNICEF will undertake a three-day Ebola preparedness mission in Jordan. A report will be shared with the government two weeks after completion of the mission. 3) The SGBV sub-working group presented the GBV Information Management System (GBV IMS), as the Health Sector has been identified as a pre-approved actor to receive the monthly reports generated by the system, which include GBV trends. 4) UNHCR presented a summary of the Health Sector 3RP/JRP figures: overall budget for Health: USD72,694,443 (USD54,489,446 for refugees and USD18,204,997 for resilience), not including the government component of the JRP. This is a reduction of over USD20 million compared with the RRP6 mid-year review. 6) IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF and MoH will liaise regarding providing vaccinations for newly arrived Iraqis registering with UNHCR at the Khalda office.

- **Nutrition Sub-Working Group** met on 12 November at Save the Children Jordan. Main outcomes: 1) Nutrition survey report was finalized and shared with the government, once approval is received will be launched in December. 2) Consolidated indicators were presented and members agreed to meet in small groups to further discuss. 3) UNICEF is supporting MoH in moving forward with the baby-friendly hospital initiative which was included as a major component of next year's planning; six hospitals will be targeted in 2015. 4) UNFPA, SCJ and IMC agreed to coordinate training sessions of clinic staff in order to reinstate mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screening of pregnant and lactating girls and women, as identified cases of malnutrition can now be treated with Plumpy Nut.
- **Community Health Task Group** met on 19 November at Jordan Red Crescent Society, chaired by IFRC. Main outcomes: 1) IFRC will continue to chair the group for the next three months, with Medair as co-chair. 2) Immunization core messages are now finalized, and NCD and GBV core messages will continue to be worked on with the respective task force and sub-working group. 3) ToR for CHV supervisors was finalized. 4) Funding for the JRCS/IFRC CHV project ended on 15 November; 71 CHVs were trained this year in NCDs, personal hygiene, respiratory infections, immunisations and violence prevention, and if any organisation is looking for new CHVs, they can get in touch with JRCS and/or the IFRC health coordinator. 5) IRC has been funded by UAE to recruit 80 CHVs. 40 CHVs in Mafraq will start in mid to late December and another 40 CHVs in Irbid will start in January with the launch of the caravan/mobile clinic. 6) Medair is developing an iron deficiency leaflet.

Health Services

Zaatari

- Noor Hussein Foundation in collaboration with IRD conducted a campaign for hearing and visual aids targeting children not attending schools and persons above 50 years old; the campaign took place on 5–6 November. A total of 112 hearing tests were done, and 111 hearing aids will be given; a total of 280 visual exams were conducted, and 264 persons will be provided with eye glasses.
- Lice campaign in the schools was concluded with 4,400 bottles of lice shampoo given; stock is still available in JHAS clinic which can be given to clinics in need. The health education component is being done by UNICEF to mothers, teachers, and students.
- Polio campaign eighth round took place in the period of 2–6 November for children under five. A total of 18,038 were vaccinated. The campaign is a collaborative effort between MoH, UNHCR, UNICEF, and IRD CHVs. Rapid convenient assessment showed 99.5% coverage.
- Saudi clinic has moved all its activities to District 5.
- UNHCR helped in having all agencies with lactating mothers in their organization to establish a breastfeeding hour so women could either go back home to breastfeed or receive their children for lactation in their working premises.
- Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT): In total 92 children under five visited and received ORT at ORT corners in the camp; 130 children received 153 Oral Rehydration Sachets (ORS); and 22 children were referred to doctors.

Azraq

- In total one child under five was rehydrated at the ORT corners; 126 children received ORS and none were referred to doctors.
- IFRC hospital has been open now for four weeks. One per cent of cases are being referred to tertiary services. Elective surgeries have started in the hospital including circumcision (average five per week); dental services will start by end of the year.
- MoH has agreed to integrate EPI activities into the IMC primary health centres; this is in order not to miss any opportunities for vaccination and will be under the supervision of MoH.
- MOH staff allocated for Azraq started in November.
- There is an average of 2 new moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) cases identified in the camp each week; these are identified during screening in the health facilities.
- Respiratory tract infections increased to 53% of total OPD consultations in week 46 (one-third of those are children under 5).

Urban

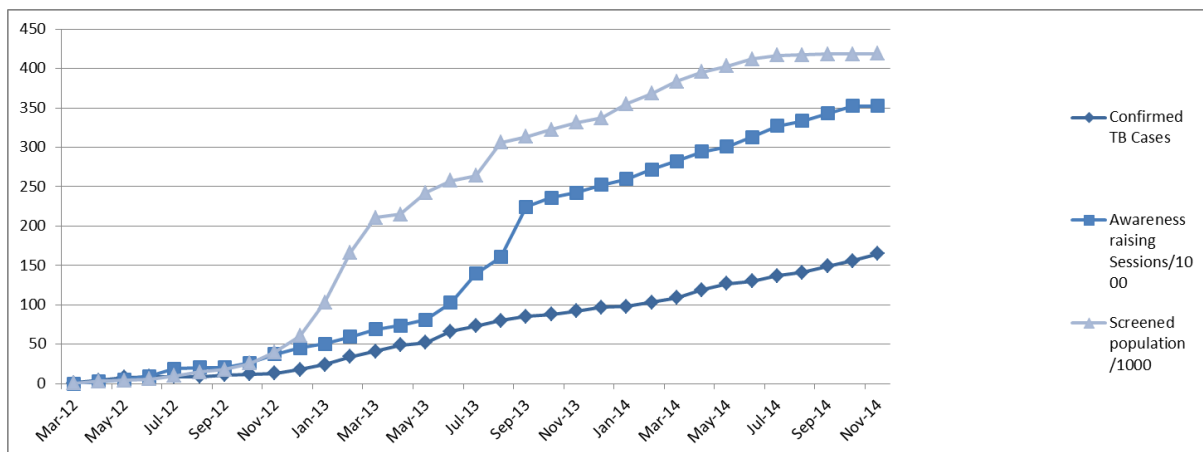
- As of 20 November, following a decision by the Cabinet, registered Syrian refugees are no longer entitled to access free health services at MoH facilities. Syrian refugees are now charged the same fees as non-insured Jordanians, which is around 35–60% of what non-Jordanians pay. The rates are highly subsidized and might be affordable for non-vulnerable individuals; however, this is expected to add considerable hardship for many refugees. UNHCR has been closely following up on the issue with the government and other agencies, and issued a temporary policy on 26 November to mitigate the immediate effects of the cessation of free services. The impact of this policy will be monitored and further adjustments in UNHCR's policy will be communicated.
- On 3 November, MoH, WHO and UNICEF held a workshop in Amman for medical doctors working with partner agencies regarding Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) surveillance. The national approach toward the detection, reporting and overall AFP surveillance for polio was discussed with special focus on: polio outbreak response situation in the Middle East; situation of polio in Jordan; strategies of polio eradication and AFP surveillance; and role of NGOs and informal health facilities in PEI. The main goal of the training was to encourage doctors to report any suspected case of AFP, to enhance NGO participation in AFP surveillance. A similar training is being planned for Azraq and Zaatari.
- JHAS is consolidating its help desks in Jarash and Ajloun. Help desk staff were briefed on UNHCR policies and guidelines. Installations of signs on the main road is underway, a coordination meeting was set up with MoH hospitals management staff and accountants, help desks were provided with UNHCR posters of key health messages and coordination with other NGOs and setting up a referral mechanism with them is underway.

Immunization

- The national polio vaccination campaign started on 30 November in all governorates for children under the age of 5 years. 579,184 SMS were sent by UNHCR to 144,796 numbers on the 30th to all refugees with numbers registered in the UNHCR database. Another round will be sent out on the 1st of December. In preparation, partner agencies were requested to assist in refugee mobilization and were provided with brochures and posters. A total of 24 agencies participated in mobilization. Furthermore, UNHCR coordinated with MoH to have mobile vaccination teams in registration centres and partner clinics (JHAS clinics).
- In Zaatari camp, a total of 465 children received their first shot of BCG vaccine and 359 children were fully immunized.
- In Azraq camp, five children were fully immunized.

Tuberculosis

- In November, IOM medical team delivered TB awareness sessions for 12,293 refugees and members from the host community making the total from 28 March 2012 up to date 364,457 (53% male and 47% female). Total number of refugees screened this month was 33, making the total screened from 28 March 2012 418,753 (48% males, 52% females; 25% under 15 years old).
- Nine new TB cases were diagnosed: 4 pulmonary and 5 extrapulmonary under directly observed therapy. The total number of TB cases since March 2012 is 165: 106 pulmonary TB (including 4 MDR cases) and 52 extrapulmonary; out of the 165, 106 cases have completed their treatment successfully.



Graph 1: Cumulative TB Screening, Awareness Raising Sessions and Detected TB Cases among Syrian Refugee from 28 March 2012 to 30 November 2014 Jordan

Mental Health

- The MHPSS sub-working group received feedback on the 4Ws report from group members, and the report will be finalized and published in early December.
- The MHPSS group in Zaatari is finalizing plans for stress management training for staff who had been complaining of burnout. The training will first be piloted with MHPSS service providers there, before being expanded to other service providers.
- IMC announced the planned opening of mental health clinics in Jerash and Ajloun, with MoH; also opening new clinics in Karak and Tafilah, with MoH.

Reproductive Health

- UNFPA and UNHCR met with the Director of Communicable Diseases in MoH to discuss hepatitis B screening in pregnant women, which is part of the national health strategy. In principle, MoH has no objections to screening being done in the camps, but there is currently a shortage of Hepatitis B immunoglobulin. Further discussions are being held about the laboratory strategy necessary to support implementation.
- In Zaatari camp, 178 newborn baby health kits and 177 mother kits were distributed to newborn babies and their mothers. In addition, 682 pregnant women and 945 non pregnant women received TT+2 shots.
- In Azraq camp, 29 newborn baby health kits and 29 mother kits were distributed to newborn babies and their mothers. In addition, 10 women received TT+2 shots.
- Civil Defence has placed RH services staff at the border, although all staff members are male for the time being.
- In November, UNFPA supported three MISP trainings for MoH staff: reproductive health protocols training for NGOs; and family planning logistics training for NGOs. NGOs participating in the logistics training can be enrolled in the national logistics system, obtain supplies from MoH and report back to them. In total, 32 gynaecologists, GPs, nurses and midwives attended the trainings. UNFPA also supported IFH to conduct reproductive health protocols, MISP, CMR, and family planning counselling trainings during October and November 2014, attended by different NGOs, INGOs (including UPP/JWU and MDM) and CBOs.
- UNFPA team is currently developing a miscarriage line listing registry which will be shared in the next RH meetings.
- Due to referral issues with normal MoH channels, JHAS started referrals to Al Najah or Greek Hospital, for limited normal or caesarean section cases.

Nutrition

- SCJ is currently following up on 32 cases of MAM in Azraq camp, and 65 cases in Zaatari camp.
- The new infant and young children feeding caravan in Azraq camp supported by UNICEF and implemented by SCJ is receiving a good turnout of mothers coming for counselling. After the opening of the IFRC hospital in the camp every woman who delivered in the camp has been given direct support by SCJ to initiate and continue breast-feeding.
- SCJ conducted an IYCF training at the IFRC hospital in Azraq.

Secondary and Tertiary Care

- ICRC has increased availability of chronic disease medication at the Eastern border, to avoid interruption of treatment for refugees spending long periods of time there.
- The Exceptional Care Committee was held on 26 November; 121 cases were reviewed. These includes 62 cases submitted by JHAS (56 Syrian and six Iraqi), of which 46 were approved, 11 were denied and five are still pending. Caritas submitted 59 cases (52 Iraqi, four Sudanese, three other 3), of which 33 were approved, eight were denied, and 18 are pending vulnerability assessment. There were a total of 192 cases emergency cases, as follows: JHAS 107 cases (102 Syrian, four Iraqi and one Sudanese); Caritas 85 cases (62 Iraqi, 19 Sudanese, three other, one Syrian).