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PRCS Report Update

From Saturday, October 7, 2023, at 06:00 AM

Until Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 14:00

According to PRCS president to declare emergency status and raise the degree of alert and readiness, PRCS is working round the clock with its full humanitarian and physical power since the **twelfth day** in a row and is still responding to accelerations on the ground.

Emergency Operations Room in PRCS HQ is still continuing to work using 24/7 system until this moment.

Gaza:

Despite the threats by Israeli occupation forces to evacuate Al Quds Hospital, still the hospital works on providing its services to the wounded, injured and the displaced as part of its national and humanitarian responsibility.

- The Palestinian Ministry of Health announced that hospitals and health centers are witnessing a state of actual collapse due to the lack of medical equipment and the lack of fuel allocated to operate them.
- A very serious and major violation committed by the Israeli occupation forces today, as they directly targeted the courtyard of Al-Ahli Arab Hospital (The Baptist Hospital) in the heart of Gaza City, which led to a very large number of victims, exceeding **500** people, most of them are displaced children and women (the number is unofficial and the research is still ongoing until this moment). This is as thousands of citizens had previously forcibly taken refuge in the hospital seeking safety after the Israeli occupation threatened them by targeting their homes and residential areas.
- The Israeli threat to hospitals and medical centers to be targeted still exists, including Al-Quds Hospital, Al-Shifa Hospital, Al-Awda Hospital, Kuwaiti Hospital, Public Service Hospital, Kamal Adwan Hospital, in addition to the Beit Hanoun and Al-Durrah Children's Hospitals being out of service.
- Today, the Israeli occupation also targeted a school affiliated with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Refugees (UNRWA) in Al-Maghazi refugees camp, east of the Central Governorate, which is used as sheltering center for displaced people, which led to the martyrdom of **6** displaced people.
- **The Israeli occupation forces threat for several hospitals to evacuate still continues until this moment.**
- The Palestinian Ministry of Health declared an actual collapse in the hospitals and medical centers as a result of lack of medical supplies and fuel to operate these facilities.

- The Israeli occupation forces continues to target residential towers & buildings and Facilities on the heads of its residents, in addition to mosques, streets and civilians in various regions of the southern governorates, which led to a large number of casualties, including children and women. That is in addition to the displacement of civilians seeking safety.
- The emergency operations room team in addition to a number of administrative team were transferred to PRCS's headquarter in Khan Yunis city, "Al Amal City". That is due to the Israeli occupation's threats for all residents living north of Gaza, in addition to international organizations, health, and humanitarian institutions, with the necessity of evacuating to the South of the Gaza immediately, as the mentioned area will not be safe anymore. Administrative work is currently being overtaken from Khan Yunis Governorate, while ambulances and emergency services remain the same, in Gaza and North Gaza governorates in addition to Al-Quds Hospital services.
- PRCS EMS stations are working with its extreme capacity to response to current accelerations, as the number of ambulances working in the field reached **(34)** ambulances, **(3)** ambulance on call and special missions (in addition to **160** EMS staff, driver, first responder, volunteer, and administrative staff).
- **The number of cases since the beginning of accelerations according to official sources by Palestinian Ministry of Health, reached to more than the following:**

Gaza Strip	(3,200) Martyr	Child (940)	Injury (13,000)	Child (3,053)
		Woman (1,032)		Women (2,586)

PRCS since the beginning of accelerations dealt with:

Case (5161)	Martyr (1204)
	Injury (3957)

PRCS hospital received the following since the beginning of accelerations:

Al Quds Hospital	(581) cases	(577) injury (4) martyr	(9) transferred intensive care cases
Al Amal Hospital	(486) injury		

The number of health personnel victims reached (37) martyrs, from various specialties: (doctor, paramedic, and nurse).

PRCS dealt since the beginning of war accelerations with more than (8,000) civilian who fleet from their homes to the following locations:

- Al Quds Hospital
- PRCS HQ in Tal Al Hawa neighborhood in Gaza
- Al Amal Hospital in Khan Yunis

(Were blankets, mattresses, drinking water and hygiene kits were distributed)

Since the beginning of the war and accelerations, the headquarters of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society- PRCS in Gaza City, Al-Quds Hospital, the Society's branch in Khan Yunis Governorate, and Al-Amal Hospital have witnessed the exodus of thousands of citizens, seeking safety, due to the continued threats of the Israeli occupation to the civilian population by targeting their homes. The two sites are witnessing a very severe state of overcrowding, exceeding its capacity.

Dozens of displaced people sleep in front of the PRCS's entrance, administrative offices, and patient rooms, while and the number of displaced people in the PRCS's headquarters in Gaza and Khan Yunis is estimated to more than 10,000 citizens (distributed as following: main HQ in Gaza 7,000 citizens, Khan Yunis branch 3,000 citizens). This increase in displaced number comes as a result of increased Israeli threats, the latest of which was today to evacuate Sheikh Ajlin area southwest of Gaza City, which led to the displacement of approximately 2,000 citizens towards Al-Quds Hospital and PRCS's main headquarter in Gaza, in addition to a live testimonies of displaced people saying they received calls from the Israeli officer warning them from targeting Al-Quds Hospital and ordering them to leave towards the southern Gaza Valley area.

- The displacement of a very large number of citizens from the border areas in the governorates towards the heart of cities was recorded in shelter centers or with host families, as the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) announced that its centers received more than 400,000 displaced people in its shelter centers, while official sources announced the number of displaced people has increased to more than 600,000 displaced people in different regions.
- As the Israeli occupation targeted schools in addition, more than 18 school was sent out of service as a result of it being severely damaged, while 150 schools were damaged to varying degrees, which exacerbated the suffering of the displaced and their overcrowding in shelter centers.

In-kind donations received by PRCS:

- Hygiene kits, Qty. (550), from CARE International, distributed on the displaced at PRCS headquarters
- Food parcels, Qty. (5,000) including (Tuna cans, beans cans, canned foods, Mortadella, dates, sugar), from PCRFF organization, and were deposited in PRCS's warehouses in Gaza and Khan Yunis. Will be distributed as part of the food and nutrition program for the displaced at the PRCS's headquarters.

PRCS community awareness committees dealt with the following since the beginning of war and accelerations:

Interventions	2,450		
Beneficiaries	58,127	Males (19,000)	Females (39,127)

Psycho- social team continues to provide psychological first aid- PFA services for the crews working in current events, as the following:

Beneficiary	(1617)
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Violations:

The violations against PRCS crews and facilities in Gaza strip witnessed (17) violations since the beginning of war and accelerations resulting (4) EMS martyrs, (5) EMS injuries, in addition to (8) severe damage to PRCS ambulances, PRCS facilities and HQ in northern Gaza and emergency operation room.

- Extreme violation crossing all red lines, the occupation forces directly targeted an ambulance belonging to Palestinian Red Crescent Society - PRCS, North Gaza Governorate leading to the **martyrdom of three EMS staff: Khalil Al-Sharif - Yousry Al-Masry - Ahmed Dahman.**
- In a separate extreme violation and despite that EMS staff receiving the green light to respond east of Gaza City, the occupation forces targeted an ambulance belonging to PRCS East of Gaza City, which led to the **martyrdom of another EMS staff Hatem Awad, bringing the number of martyred PRCS EMS staff to (4) in less than half an hour.**

The Palestinian Red Crescent Society- PRCS received an order from the Israeli occupation forces to evacuate the Society's Al-Quds Hospital in Gaza City. The first deadline for the evacuation was set at 06:00 AM on Saturday morning, 10/14/2023, and then at midday on Saturday, a new deadline for the evacuation was given. Approximately 16:00 pm on Saturday, 10/14/2023.

Challenges

Medicines, medical and relief supplies

- As a result of Israeli aggression on Gaza strip, a huge number of injuries was witnessed and dealt with by PRCS EMS and its hospital crews, in addition to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians. By the continuity of closure for all land crossing points, and while no coordination is available to provide a safe humanitarian corridor, all of PRCS services are facing a depletion in its strategic and reserve stocks without replenishing of medicines, medical supplies, and relief supplies.
- The occupation forces demand the evacuation of several hospitals and health centers, including Al-Quds Hospital, Al-Awda Hospital, Kuwaiti Hospital, Public Service Hospital, and Kamal Adwan Hospital, in addition to Beit Hanoun and Al-Durrah Children's Hospitals being out of service.
- The bombing by the occupation forces on 10/15/2023 led to the destruction of the infrastructure surrounding of Al Quds hospital, which posed a major challenge for ambulances to respond to distress calls. It also led to the displacement of another large number of civilians in the vicinity of hospital to the hospital headquarters in search of safety. This increased the number of displaced people at the PRCS headquarters and Al-Quds Hospital to more than 4,500 citizens.
- **The Israeli occupation bombed UNRWA warehouses in northern Gaza, which exacerbates the catastrophic humanitarian reality and deprives citizens of any aid.**
- The tasks of retrieving the martyrs face great difficulty in light of the lack of tools and equipment necessary to remove the rubble, while hundreds of martyrs are still under the rubble of their homes which were bombed by the occupation without prior warning.

The official authorities call on the international community to work on opening the Rafah land crossing (the only port for travel) as to save the lives of the wounded and injured, and to bring in urgent medical supplies, fuel to hospitals and medical centers.

Fuel

As a result of the increasing the electric power cut duration in Gaza Strip, PRCS is continuing its work in its headquarters, hospitals and vehicles using mechanical electricity generators in order to ensure that the call of humanity is met. Due to the closure of the crossings and the entry of fuel to Gaza Strip, PRCS has used more than 80% of its reserve and strategic stock, as if the catastrophic situation continues, many services will be disrupted. The basic strategic and reserve fuel stock, noting that the continuity of this disastrous situation may lead to disable of many PRCS basic service, most of important are central operations, Emergency services, hospitals in addition to all logistics of the relief operation.

The official authorities launched an urgent emergency appeal to the international community and international relief organizations, calling for urgent intervention due to the running out of fuel for the only power plant in Gaza, in addition to the closure of Rafah land crossing, scarcity of fuel supplies, water outage, which heralds a humanitarian disaster affecting most of the vital sectors, most notably health, water and environment sectors.

Communications

- PRCS ambulance service's means of communication and the **VHF** waves are constantly subjected to deliberate interference by the occupation, as they receive calls, insults and hurled in Hebrew. In addition, PRCS lines are deliberately occupied for long periods to disrupt the ambulance service.

- As a result of the repeated Israeli bombing in the vicinity of PRCS's HQ and ambulance centers, the emergency number **101** for ambulance service witnessed repeated malfunctions, which posed a major challenge in the process of responding to civilians' distress calls.
- Difficulty communicating with the central emergency operations room at the HQ, and in between the PRCS's branches in Gaza Strip as a result of targeting landline networks and cellular communication towers.

The collapse of Jawwal's communications company network, led to a loss of communication with all colleagues who use this cellular network. This is a dangerous indicator of the possibility of collapse for the rest networks available, which will lead to a complete loss of communication with Gaza.

West Bank

- The number of PRCS ambulanced working in the field is (59), with (114) EMS staff & driver, and (56) first responder volunteer.
- The Disaster Risk Management Department activated (7) advanced medical points, with an operational capacity of (10) volunteers at each medical point.
- The total number of cases that PRCS EMS/ Ambulance teams have dealt with in the West Bank since Saturday, October 7, 2023 is (1319), in addition to (21) martyrs until Wednesday 18 October 2023, 14:00. That is while PRCS crews dealt with (6) injuries during Wednesday 18 October 2023, (6) of those cases were injuries and (1) martyr. The following table shows further injuries details:

Governorate	Martyr	Live bullets/ Transport	Gas/ Field	Gas/ Transport	Shrapnel/ Transport	Beat/ Transport
Hebron		3	0	0	1	0
Nablus	1	1	0	0	0	1

Violations against PRCS services:

Since the beginning of Israeli military attack on Gaza Strip and declaration of a state of war, the Palestinian Red Crescent Society- PRCS crews have faced many challenges and violations in the West Bank, where (35) incidents were reported and resulting (46) violations in West Bank, distributed as follows:

Violation	#		
Access prevention	15		
Access obstruction	12		
Violations against crews, distributed as following:	14		
Detention	Threaten by: weapon/ verbal	9	7
Violations against ambulances, distributed as following:	5		
Gun shot	Stones throwing	4	1
TOTAL	46		

These violations resulted damage to (5) ambulances, while no injuries were recorded among the EMS crews.

PRCS Disaster Risk Management Department in the West Bank:

PRCS Disaster Risk Management Department in the West Bank continues to provide relief assistance to Gaza workers who have been displaced by Israeli forces from their workplaces in the occupied territories to West Bank governorates (Ramallah, Al Bireh, Tubas, Qalqilia, Nablus, Jerusalem), as relief items (Mattresses, Blankets, Hygiene Kits, Kitchen sets, Towels) were provided for (345) individual.

Psycho- social and Mental Health Department:

PRCS's Psycho-social and Mental Health Department provided its services to "Gaza workers who were deported by the occupation forces to the West Bank governorates," where their number reached (1,720) beneficiaries in shelter centers. In addition to a daily sponsored guidance publication on social media pages, where the number of beneficiaries reached (59,151) through:

- Publishing awareness messages
- Psychological first aid- PFA
- Psychosocial support in times of war and crises.
- Providing assistive tools through the Rehabilitation Department
- Daily guidance posts on social media

Occupied Jerusalem:

- The number of ambulances currently operating in the field is (18) ambulances, (27) EMS staff and driver, and (50) first responder volunteer.
- PRCS’s crews in occupied Jerusalem dealt with (110) cases, including (5) martyrs and (105) injury, following are further information:

Governorate	Area	Martyr	Fall & Burns		Shrapnel		Gas		Rubber		Live bullets	
			transport	field	transport	field	field	transport	field	transport	field	transport
Jerusalem	Shufat camp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Wadi Al Jouz	0	2	1	2	0	16	0	0	0	0	0
	Bab Al Amoud	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ezariya	0	0	0	1	0	13	0	0	0	0	1
	Jerusalem	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Jeeb	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Biddo	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	Silwan	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
	Qalandia	2	0	0	4	0	12	0	0	3	2	15
	Esawiye	2	0	4	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	3
Total	5	3	8	7	1	46	2	2	4	2	30	

Three incidents were reported resulting 4 violations against PRCS in Occupied Jerusalem, distributed as the following:

Violation type		Number of violations
Access block		2
Violations against PRCS crews, distributed as bellow		2
Detention	Threaten (weapon/ verbal)	
Violations against ambulances, distributed as bellow		
Gun shot	Stone throwing	
Total		4