Attacks on Health Care
Bi-Monthly News Brief

12-25 January 2022

Past editions: 29 December - 11 January; 15-28 December; All.

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Explore our Attacked and Threatened: Health Care at Risk interactive global map to see incidents where health workers were killed, kidnapped or injured and incidents where health facilities were damaged or destroyed.

Visit our website, join our mailing list, follow us on Twitter. Get in touch to report an incident or if you have additional information on an incident we have reported on.

SHCC Attacks on Health Care
The section aligns with the definition of attacks on health care used by the Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC).

Africa
Burkina Faso
15 January 2022: In Koflande village, Mangodara department, Comoé province, the village health centre was vandalised by militants presumed to be from Jama'at Nasr al-Islam wal Muslimin (JNIM). The militants also fired gunshots in the air and interrogated residents. Source: ACLED

19 January 2022: In Sanba village, Barsalogho department Sanmatenga province, JNIM militants briefly detained several nurses, seized an ambulance, and opened fire at the market. Source: ACLED

Central African Republic
20 January 2022: Along the road between Batangafo and Kabo towns, a clearly marked MSF vehicle with staff and patients onboard was ambushed by a group of armed men wearing military fatigues. Staff were threatened, mistreated and violently robbed. Source: MSF

Democratic Republic of the Congo
12 January 2022: In Bandera village, Kalemie town, Tanganyika province, a male laboratory worker was kidnapped. His body was found dead in a river two days later. Source: La Prunelle

12 January 2022: In Lwanoli village, Watalinga chieftaincy, Beni territory, North Kivu province, Allied Democratic Forces militants looted health supplies from the Lwanoli Hospital before burning it down. No patients or staff were reported injured. Sources: Actualité and Radio Moto

15 January 2022: In Petsi, Djugu territory, Ituri province, a health centre was attacked. Source: UNICEF

20 January 2022: In Mugogo village, South Kivu province, an administrator of the local health zone was kidnapped and tortured by local Ngumino armed militants while on his way to reopening Katanga Hospital, which had been closed since February 2020 due to insecurity. The militants reportedly attacked the administrator for opening a hospital in an area occupied by their Bafulliru enemies. Source: La Prunelle
As reported on 22 January 2022: In Komanda health zone, Ituri province, health authorities have withdrawn from a total of eight health areas out of the 17 that make up Komanda health zone due to insecurity, with severe consequences for the ability of residents in these areas to access lifesaving medicine and health care. Source: Radio Okapi

Ethiopia
As last reported on 18 January 2022: In Amhara and Tigray regions, the de-facto blockade on humanitarian aid and medical supplies imposed by the Ethiopian Government has forced hospitals to shut down. Doctors have replaced disinfectants with salt to clean wounds, and reused single-use items, such as gloves, surgical materials and chest drains. Some health facilities cannot provide routine vaccines, and patients are receiving expired medication. Moreover, WFP convoys have been unable to reach Tigray since mid-December, resulting in an all-time low number of distribution activities. Sources: The New Arab I and The New Arab II

Mali
12 January 2022: On Bazi Haoussa village, Ansongo commune, town and subdivision, Gao region, a motorbike ambulance was stolen from the Community Health System by armed men. Source: Studio Tamani

Nigeria
As reported on 11 January 2022: In Jos city, Plateau state, unidentified perpetrators kidnapped a male director of the provincial Health Ministry. Source: Sahara Reporters

Around 14 January 2022: In Bui, Yobe state, Islamic State West African Province (ISWAP) militants looted the town's Primary Health Centre. Source: Twitter

Sahel

Cécile Thiombiano Yougbaré’s Speech At The UN
Cécile Thiombiano Yougbaré from the Citizens Coalition for the Sahel spoke in the Security Council, citing SHCC data in her call to address violence in the region. Watch her video here.

Please get in touch if you are interested in curated datasets or if you have made a public statement that you would like us to include in our Bi Monthly News Brief.

South Sudan
19 January 2021: In Malakal town, Upper Nile state, two health workers were arrested by police for allegedly rejecting the ministry’s new director-general. According to the police, the two are being held on administrative grounds. In response to their detention, several health workers in the town went on strike. Source: Radio Tamazuj

Sudan

Violence Against or Obstruction of Health Care in Sudan: 11-25 January 2022
Marches of the Millions protests have been taking place across Sudan after the military coup on October 25. Over 70 people have been killed and many others injured by live ammunition and tear gas fired by security forces during the protests.

The violence has impacted health workers, hospitals and ambulances. This report includes information on eight documented incidents between 11-25 January 2022.

Past editions: 01 December 2021-10 January 2022; 17-30 November; 26 October-16 November.

Join our Sudan mailing list for regular updates.
Asia

Afghanistan
12 January 2022: In Kabul, gunmen kidnapped a neurosurgeon of the Jamhoriat Hospital as he was returning home from work. Sources: Afghan Islamic Press, Pajhwok Afghan News and Tolo

17 January 2022: In Kazemi area, Herat city and province, Taliban militants opened fire towards a car at a checkpoint, killing the driver and a local doctor. Source: Khaama

Myanmar

 Violence Against or Obstruction of Health Care in Myanmar: 12-25 January 2022
On February 1, 2021, the Myanmar armed forces seized control of the country, following a general election that the National League for Democracy party won by a landslide. Since then, hundreds of people have been killed and many injured during nationwide Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) protests and violent crackdowns on those opposing the coup. Doctors and nurses have been served with warrants and arrests for providing medical care to protesters, ambulances have been destroyed, and health facilities have been raided.

This report includes information on 22 documented incidents between 12-25 January 2022.

Previous incident reports: 15 December 2021 and 11 January 2022.
Previous analysis reports: One-Year Anniversary Update; December 2021. October; August; May; April; All.

Join our Myanmar mailing list for regular updates.

Pakistan
25 January 2022: In Kohat area, Peshawar city, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, gunmen shot and killed a policeman providing security for polio vaccination workers. The perpetrators fled the scene, and no one claimed responsibility for the attack. There were no polio workers harmed in the attack, a day after Pakistan launched a nationwide anti-polio campaign. Source: AP

Middle East and North Africa

Syrian Arab Republic
11 January 2022: Near al Tayyana village, al Mayadin district, Deir ez-Zor governorate, unidentified perpetrators killed a male surgeon in a drive-by shooting at the steps of a hospital. Source: The New Arab

11 January 2022: In Umm Walad town, al Musayfirah sub-district, Daraa district and governorate, a doctor was kidnapped by four masked men while returning to his home. Source: SOHR

12 January 2022: In al Hol camp, al Hasakah district and governorate, unidentified perpetrators stabbed and wounded an Ethiopian doctor. Source: The New Arab

Yemen
13 January 2022: In Hizyaz town, Sanhan district, the 48 Hospital was damaged in airstrikes. Four civilians were injured. Source: CIMP

16 January 2022: In Taizz, Salh district, the al Thawrah Hospital was hit by artillery shells. Source: CIMP

19 January 2022: In al Wahdah district, Amanat Al Asimah governorate, the Ibn Sina Hospital was damaged in airstrikes. Source: CIMP

19 January 2022: In al Wahdah district, Amanat Al Asimah governorate, the C-Plas Hospital was damaged in airstrikes. Source: CIMP

19 January 2022: In al Hajab area, Ain district, Shabwah governorate, a hospital was hit by airstrikes. Source: CIMP
Global Health Insecurity

These events go beyond the definition used by the SHCC to cover a wider range of events that affect the provision of health care including events perpetrated by patients or relatives of patients, private individuals and criminals as well as significant strike action or protests by health care personnel.

Asia

India

06 January 2022: In Madurai district, Tamil Nadu state, a doctor and other staff members including nurses of a private multi-speciality hospital were threatened and assaulted by two relatives of a patient. Police arrested both men. Source: Times of India

07 January 2022: In Jamui district, Bihar state, a midwife was assaulted by a colleague for not reporting to work for a day. Following this incident, other health workers have threatened to boycott vaccination duty. Source: NDTV

20 January 2022: In Lamuhi village, Ballia district, Bihar state, a health worker was verbally abused and attacked by a man who he was trying to convince to get the COVID-19 vaccine. The man was later convinced to take the jab and police arrested him on the charges of breaching peace and altercation. There have reportedly been several further incidents of vaccine hesitancy at a time where there is a surge in COVID cases in the country. Sources: India Today and Times of India

The Americas

Brazil

25 January 2022: In Taubaté, São Paulo, a health worker was filmed using an empty syringe while vaccinating a 11-year-old boy against COVID-19 at a makeshift vaccination centre set up at a gas station. Source: Daily Mail

This Bi-Monthly News Brief comprises threats and violence as well as protests and other events affecting the delivery of and access to health care. It is part of the Attacks on Health Care project by Insecurity Insight. It is prepared from information available in local, national and international news outlets and online databases. The incidents reported are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of health care and have not been independently verified. All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

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