

## Introduction



As NATO continues to search for a drifting sea mine in the Misurata port, humanitarian ships are anchored offshore awaiting access to the port to deliver needed supplies and to evacuate migrant workers and wounded patients to Benghazi. IOM appealed to NATO and the Libyan authorities to allow its evacuation ship, the Red Star One, to dock in Misurata. The ship is anticipated to dock tomorrow morning, with the standby mechanism to utilize fishing boats to evacuate migrant workers to the IOM ship if unable to access the port.

Recently, as boats have accessed the port, shelling is said to have generally intensified. Today, however, following intense NATO strikes of Gaddafi force targets around the city, shelling of the port is said to have largely stopped.

With ongoing fighting in Misurata, wounded civilian and combatant patients continue to require urgent medical care. Yesterday, the hospital received 22 wounded (three in a critical situation) and five dead.

In the Western Mountain region Yefren and Qalaa districts are reported to be suffering shortages of humanitarian supplies due to siege conditions imposed by Gaddafi forces. Heavy fighting is also reported nearby Yefren. Zintan was reportedly hit by 60 rockets yesterday, with heavy shelling continuing today. As a result of the conflict, many residents of Zintan and nearby Jadu are reported to have fled to Tunisia. Unconfirmed reports indicate that Gaddafi troops are advancing from the Sinawin area, south of Nalut, towards the Dehibat-Wazin border which is still under rebel control.

In Benghazi, a car blast today occurred in the commercial zone of the city, without causing any major damage and with few minor injuries

### **As of May 03, 2011:**

#### **LIBYA/TUNISIA BORDER AREA**

Tunisian border authorities reported 2,490 border crossings into Dehibat on May 2, with most refugees travelling to Tataouine and bypassing the camps. As of May 1, a total of 3,305 Libyans were in the Dehibat area camps, with 2,157 at the UNHCR Remada camp and 1,148 at the UAE Red Crescent Dehibat camp. The UAE Red Crescent donated a large medical tent to International Medical Corps which has been set up outside the hospital for the continuation of health post activities in Dehibat. The team is also planning to shortly distribute a large amount of needed medical supplies to the Dehibat camp clinic.

At the Ra's Ajdir border crossing today, more than 3,000 migrant workers are reported to have crossed into Tunisia. At the Ra's Ajdir transit facility, International Medical Corps is now the only organization providing health services.

#### WESTERN LIBYA

International Medical continues to provide support for IOM evacuations and provide needed supplies to Misurata.

Misurata health facilities are experiencing a major shortage of ICU beds, with none currently available. An urgent appeal is being made for decompression of ICU units, through further medical evacuations and provision of a field hospital. International Medical Corps is exploring additional methods in planning to respond to this urgent issue.

On April 30, medical staff performed more than 14 major operations and stabilized more than 34 critically injured patients who came directly from the front line. In addition to ongoing emergency care, medical staff are currently preparing patients that need to be evacuated from Misurata to Benghazi on the IOM ship waiting to dock. A team of International Medical Corps staff will travel on board with these patients. At this time, evacuations are planned for 33 patients, including four who require ICU care.

Medical staff yesterday visited the area near the port where approximately 900 third country nationals (TCNs) are stationed and provided primary health care, conducting examinations for more than 65 patients. Two were transferred to the hospital for further treatment. The majority of TCN's are living in hand made tents, with the Libyan Red Crescent providing small provisions of food and water supplies.

#### EASTERN LIBYA

The International Medical Corps Benghazi-based team continues to provide ongoing medical support to Misurata, through support to IOM Evacuation Missions and delivering of needed supplies. The team is currently preparing supplies for the next shipment to Misurata.

International Medical Corps is currently responding to a potential outbreak of Nosocomial Acinetobacter infection in the Benghazi hospitals among wounded evacuees from Misurata. Two cases have been confirmed at the Benghazi Medical Center (BMC). Other reports of possible infections (including ventilator-associated pneumonia, wound infections and sepsis) have not yet been confirmed. The specific organism that has been identified at BMC is multi-resistant to most conventional antibiotics and sensitive only to Colistin, which is in short supply. International Medical Corps' team is sourcing additional antibiotic doses, and informing WHO and the Benghazi Health Cluster of the issue.

A meeting was today held with the MOH and NGOs and donors in Benghazi to update and provide information to the MOH on the impact of the crisis on the health care system. International Medical Corps will be providing a Technical Advisor to the MOH to provide further analysis and assist in establishing health policies.

International Medical Corps continues its efforts to establish a rehabilitation center in Benghazi for amputees and the MOH today requested the program to be implemented as soon as possible. A working group for the rehabilitation centre efforts is also planned to be established.

The team also continues its efforts to establish an effective and supportive program addressing SGBV, procurement efforts to provide NFIs for IDPS and continue its efforts to source a 2-3 month supply of urgently needed ARV and TB medications for the Benghazi Center of Infectious Diseases and Immunity.



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