

Ukraine

Emergency type: Protracted Emergency
Reporting period: January-March, 2021

2021 HRP Overview



1.3 million people the Health Cluster aims to assist in 2021



142,402 people benefited from healthcare services in the first three months of 2021¹



20 projects approved for 2021 HRP

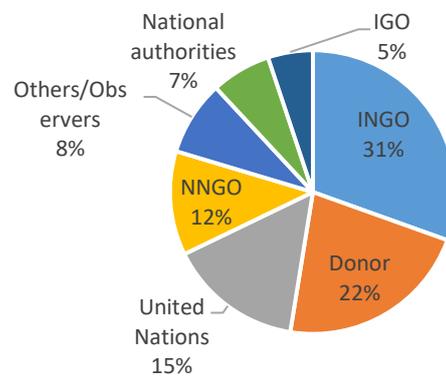


USD 28,7 million funds requested

USD 522,655 funds received (1,8% of requested)

Health Cluster 2021

Number of partners: 59



Health Cluster – Summary

Health Cluster completed data collection and analysis for the preceding year (2020), which included detailed mapping of humanitarian assistance and achievements reported by health cluster partners. In summary, almost 2 million people benefitted from healthcare services in 2020, including 1.2 million people who received COVID-related assistance.

Health Cluster completed data collection as part of the first round of COVID-19 reporting. In partnership with WASH Cluster, the cluster is conducting mapping of COVID-19 related activities and supplies with a six-weeks interval and has designed new template with updated list of health facilities.

Health Cluster conducted a series of Questions and Answers (Q&A) sessions on relevant topics related to healthcare, including health reform, COVID-19 vaccination, infection prevention and control (IPC), changes in humanitarian goods importation etc.

Health Cluster in partnership with WHO developed Public Health Situation Analysis (PHSA) for Donetsk & Luhansk Oblasts, GCA. PHSA is part of the Public Health Information Services (PHIS) tools of the Global Health Cluster and provides all health sector/cluster partners with a common and comprehensive understanding of the public health situation in a crisis in order to inform evidence-based collective humanitarian health response planning.

¹ This number represents reports from partners from January-February 2021 and is a subject to change considering different timings and methodologies of some reporting.

Health Cluster in partnership with WHO completed data collection as part of the COVID-19 Laboratory Capacity and Readiness assessment in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts, GCA. The latter aims to evaluate functionality of the four COVID-19 laboratories in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts; identify strengths and gaps and develop an action plan.

Health Cluster in partnership with WHO, PUI, MDM, UNICEF and MSF completed Rapid Hospital Readiness and Capacity Assessment in twelve COVID-19 designated hospitals and health facilities in Donetsk oblast, GCA. The report is currently being finalized and will be shared with cluster partners shortly. This assessment completes a series of rapid preparedness and hospital capacity assessments conducted earlier in Luhanska oblast, GCA.

Health Cluster facilitated an ad-hoc session with other clusters and partners to discuss the ongoing crisis in Stanytsya Luhaska (Schastya raion). The participants discussed experience and vision on the issue and agreed on a number of action steps, including a joint appeal to humanitarian community and government authorities. Health Cluster and partners will continue to monitor the situation closely and shape the response in accordance to the needs of the affected communities.

HNO and HRP 2021

2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) have been released.

Based on over 100 assessments conducted by the humanitarian partners, the HNO provides a shared understanding of the humanitarian situation in Donetska and Luhanska oblasts. In 2021, an estimated 3.4 million people living on both sides of the “contact line” require humanitarian assistance and protection to live a life of dignity.

Responding to evidence of needs described in the HNO, the HRP presents the coordinated, strategic inter-agency response to assist some 1.9 million conflict-affected people on both sides of the “contact line”. The response seeks to save lives, ensure people’s access to basic services, and strengthen the protection of those affected by the armed conflict and COVID-19. The HRP consists of almost 100 humanitarian projects that altogether seek US\$168 million.

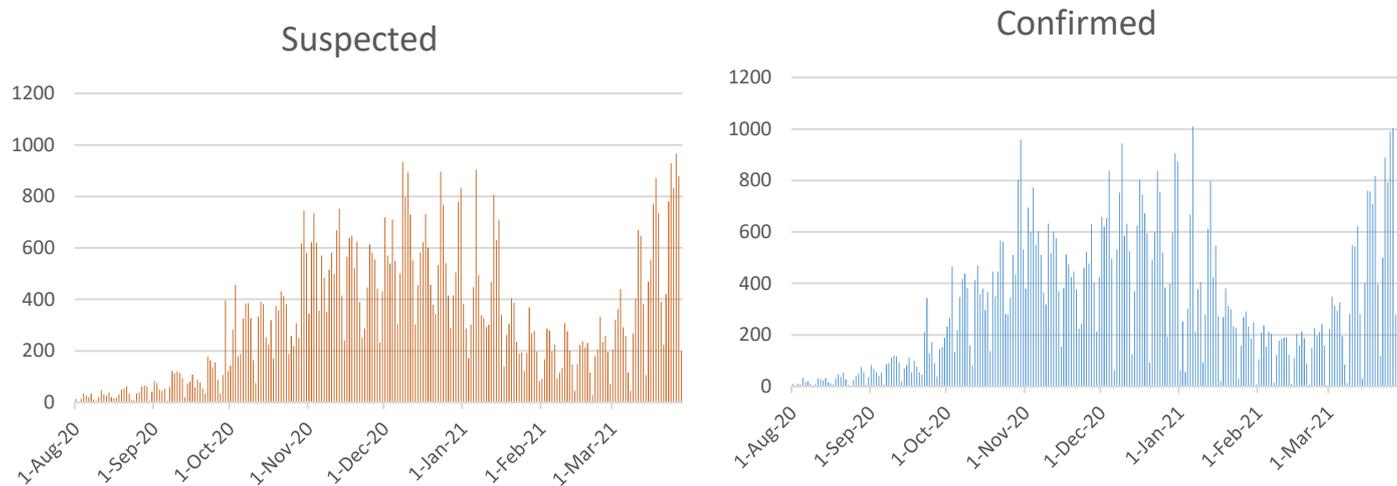
Health Cluster expresses great appreciation to all cluster partners who contributed to the sectoral analysis and response efforts.



COVID-19 situation overview

Epidemiological situation in ECA

n Government-Controlled area (GCA) numbers continue to rise. **In Donetska oblast** number of confirmed cases has doubled since last month (57,998 cases as of 30.03.2021 comparing to 25,792 cases on 16.12.2020). According to the UPHC, in Donetska oblast, cumulative test positivity rate is 23.9%. Number of suspected cases is 60,058 confirmed – 57,798, (thus, case positivity rate is 97%), 47,103 recovered and 1,247 died as of 30 March. As for health care workers, there are 2,223 confirmed cases, of which 1,998 recovered and 34 died. **In Luhanska oblast**, 18,754 suspected cases have been reported, of which 17,027 are positive (91% - case positivity rate, 11.3% - test positivity rate), 14,843 recovered and 517 died. As for health care workers, there are 1,203 confirmed cases, of which 1,092 recovered and 12 died.



Donetska oblast, GCA

Suspected	Confirmed	Recovered	Deaths	Active	14-day incidence rate	Case fatality rate	Active cases per 100,000 population	Number of available beds	Bed occupancy rate
60058	57998	47103	1247	9648	404.1	2.2%	540.4	3857	43.9%

Luhanska oblast, GCA

Suspected	Confirmed	Recovered	Deaths	Active	14-day incidence rate	Case fatality rate	Active cases per 100,000 population	Number of available beds	Bed occupancy rate
18754	17027	14843	517	1667	224.7	3%	269.5	1432	30.9%

In Non-Government Controlled Area (NGCA) the situation is less clear than in GCA. In addition, no case-based data is being provided, limiting the possibility of further analysis. In Donetsk, 28,950 cases have been reported as of 30 March, including 21,044 recovered and 2,235 died. In Luhansk, 3,664 cases have been reported on 30 March, including 3,030 recovered and 317 died. High infection rate among healthcare workers remain one of the of the major concerns reported in NGCA. For health care workers in Donetsk NGCA, 126 cases have been reported.*²

Donetska oblast, NGCA

Confirmed	Recovered	Deaths	Active	New cases including arrived from GCA	New cases including arrived from Russia	Case fatality rate	Cases among health care workers
28950	21044	2235	5671	108*	16*	7.7%	135*

² * signifies that the number may not be representative of the real situation due to lack of information available.

Luhanska oblast, NGCA

Confirmed	Recovered	Deaths	Active	New cases, including arrived from GCA*	New cases, including arrived from Russia*	Case fatality rate
3364	3030	317	317	-	-	9.4%

Public health situation

Ukraine witnessed a record number of hospitalizations since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ukraine reported a sharp increase in the number of new COVID-19 cases across the country as of March 11, 2020, that is 9,084 against 6,377 registered a day earlier, and 3,377 registered a day before. This also includes a record number of hospitalizations (4,250) since the beginning of the pandemic.³

COVID-19 crisis has exacerbated the human rights concerns faced by healthcare workers in Ukraine and created new vulnerabilities related to their working conditions and social protection. According to the latest OHCHR study on the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on healthcare workers in Ukraine published in February 2021, healthcare workers lack healthy and safe working conditions, in particular due to lack of sufficient personal protective equipment, effective infection prevention and control mechanism at the workplace and mental health and psychosocial support services. Health care workers also lack adequate social protection. Out of the more than 60,000 cases of health care workers infected by COVID-19 by February 2021, only a small percentage have been recognized by the authorities as work-related, impeding the workers' right to compensation.⁴

The ongoing decentralization reform in Ukraine (started since 2014) has impacted provision of essential health services in some districts of Donetsk and Luhanska oblasts. After the formation of new districts in January 2021, the state administrations of the former districts were discharged and temporary administrative entities to be headed by the Military and Civil administration have not been established. Consequently, funding from the local budget for healthcare and social services in the area was suspended, affecting provision of essential services to the conflict-affected population. To bring attention to the issue Health, WASH and Protection Clusters have drafted a joint [advocacy note](#) on the impact of the ongoing decentralization process in communities.



More about the impact of decentralization reform on healthcare services in Stanytsia Luhanska, Shyrokyi, Nyzhnotepel ATCs incorporated in the new Schastia district (former Stanitsa Luhanska district) in Luhansk oblast (GCA) is available [here](#).

Government response

Government of Ukraine developed a plan for mass vaccination in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The document highlights situation with COVID-19 pandemic in Ukraine, coordination mechanism for vaccination plan implementation at

³ COVID in Ukraine: Daily cases, deaths continue dramatic rise. (2021, March 11). COVID-19 - UNIAN. <https://covid.unian.info/covid-in-ukraine-daily-cases-deaths-continue-dramatic-rise-11348680.html>

⁴ The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. *Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on healthcare workers in Ukraine*. 2021. <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ukraine/document/impact-covid-19-pandemic-healthcare-workers-ukraine>.

national and regional levels, state of COVID-19 vaccine development, targeted priority groups as well phases and timelines for of vaccination response. The detailed roadmap (NDVP) to the introduction of a vaccine against the acute respiratory disease COVID-19 caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, and implementation of mass vaccination in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Ukraine for 2021-2022 can be downloaded [here](#).



Vaccination against COVID-19 in Ukraine began on February 24. The first vaccine which arrived to Ukraine contained 500,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccine, developed at the Serum Institute factory in India. As of today, Ukraine expects the following deliveries of vaccines: Pfizer - more than 100 thousand doses; Sinovac - about 2 million doses; AstraZeneca (CoviShield) - almost 4 million doses; NovaVax - 15 million doses with a delivery date approximately in July this year. The Ministry of Health of Ukraine expects to carry out four stages of vaccination against COVID-19 by the end of autumn. According to the Minister of Health, almost 21 million Ukrainians will have access to safe vaccines. To read latest information on vaccination in Ukraine, please follow the newly developed information portal vaccination.covid19.gov.ua, developed by the Ministry of Health in Ukraine.

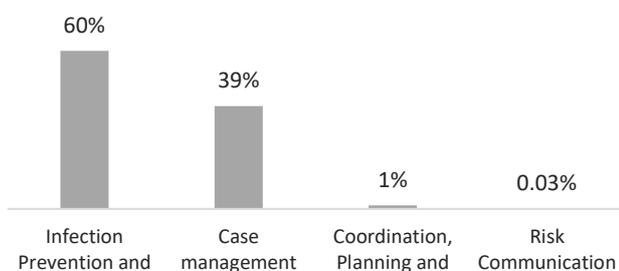
Key Cluster Updates and Initiatives

Joint Health and WASH COVID-19 reporting

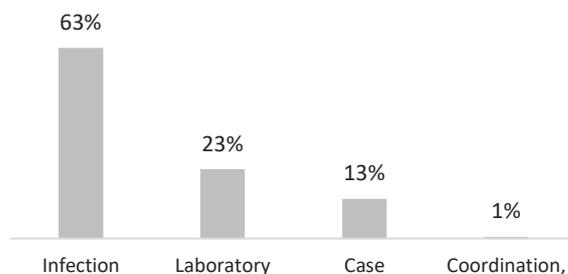
Health Cluster completed data collection as part of the first round of COVID-19 reporting. In partnership with WASH Cluster, the Cluster initiated mapping of COVID-19 related activities and supplies with a six-weeks interval and has designed new template with updated list of health facilities. Analysis from the first round of COVID-19 reporting which covers the period of January-February 2021 is presented below:

COVID-19 Response – January-February 2021

Disaggregation of Total Beneficiaries by Pillars (GCA)



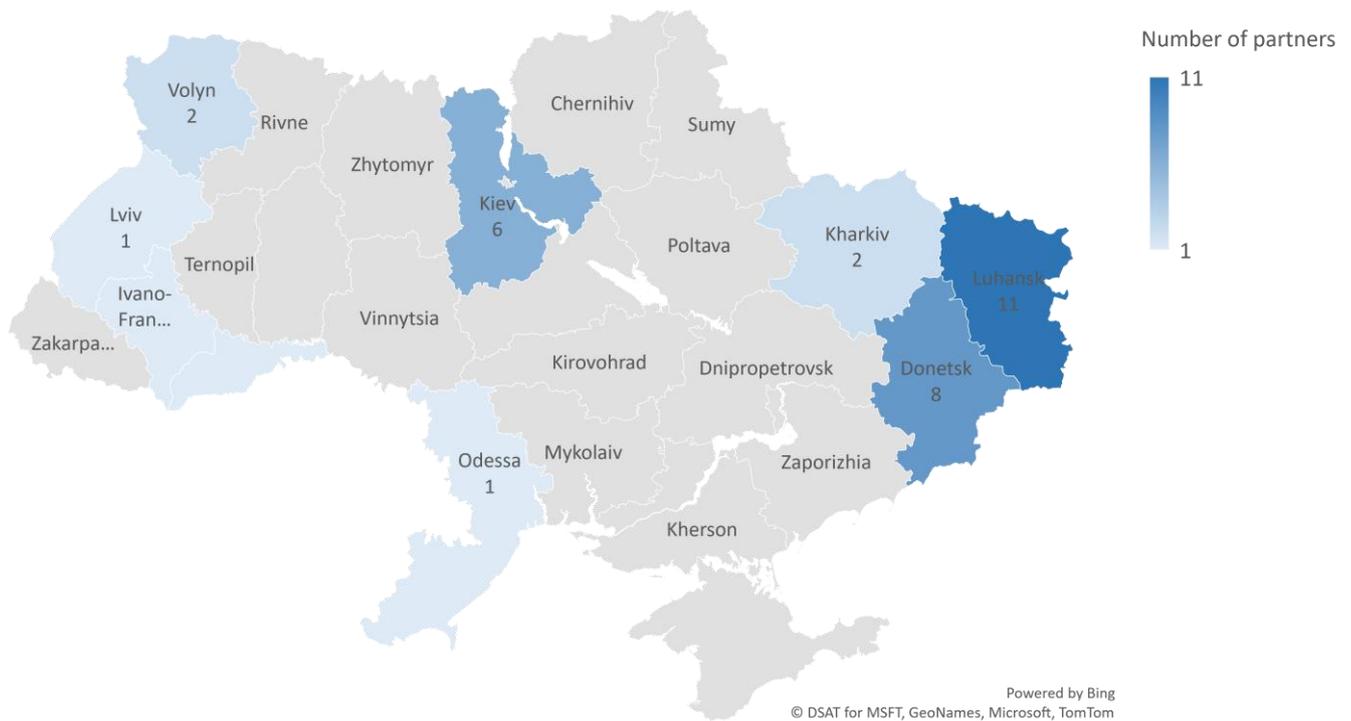
Disaggregation of Total Beneficiaries by Pillars (NGCA)



Top-6 supplies delivered (GCA & NGCA)



COVID-19 Response – Partners presence



Donetska oblast (GCA)

- International Committee of the Red Cross
- International Organization for Migration
- Mental Health Service
- National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy
- Malteser International
- Medicos del Mundo
- Medecins Sans Frontieres
- Premiere Urgence Internationale
- Triangle Generation Humanitaire

Luhanska oblast (GCA)

- International Committee of the Red Cross
- International Organization for Migration
- Mental Health Service
- National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy
- Malteser International
- Medicos del Mundo

Rest of Ukraine (GCA)

- National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (Kyivska, Kharkivska, Volynska)
- Malteser International (Kyivska, Kharkivska, Volynska)
- United Nations Population Fund (Kyivska, Chernivetska, Ivano-Frankivska, Lvivska, Odeska)

Donetska oblast (NGCA)

- Premiere Urgence Internationale
- World Health Organization

Luhanska oblast (NGCA)

- Medicos del Mundo
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- World Health Organization

Public Health Situation Analysis (PHSA)

Health Cluster in partnership with WHO developed Public Health Situation Analysis (PHSA) for Donetsk & Luhanska Oblasts, GCA. PHSA is part of the Public Health Information Services (PHIS) tools of the Global Health Cluster. It provides all health sector partners with a common and comprehensive understanding of the public health situation in a crisis in order to inform evidence-based collective humanitarian health response planning. PHSA is a synthesis of currently available data to characterise: **i. Epidemiologic conditions; ii. Existing health needs; iii. Possible health threats faced by conflict-affected population. iv. Humanitarian response.** The latest version of the Health Situation Analysis (PHSA) is available [here](#).

Public



Public Health Situation Analysis – Ukraine:



Initiated in December 2020 by the Health Cluster team



Scope of the assessment:
**Donetska & Luhanska Oblasts
Eastern Ukraine**



Methodology:
Secondary data review



Subject to regular update based on changes in the situation and availability of public data.



Rapid Hospital Readiness and Capacity Assessment in twelve COVID-19 designated hospitals and health facilities in Donetsk oblast, GCA

With the recent increase of COVID-19 cases in conflict affected regions of eastern Ukraine, impact on health services has reached concerning levels. As a consequence, Health Cluster in partnership with WHO, PUI, MdM, UNICEF and MSF initiated assessment of capacity and readiness of twelve COVID-19 designated hospitals and health facilities in Donetsk oblast, GCA:



1. Mariupol COVID-19 city hospital #9
2. Mariupol Ambulance hospital
3. Volnovakha hospital
4. Kramatorsk hospital #3
5. Kostiantynivka Infectious hospital
6. Myrnohrad Infectious hospital
7. Pokrovsk Clinical Hospital of Intensive Care
8. Krasnohorivka hospital
9. Toretsk hospital
10. Velyka Novosilka hospital
11. Bakhmut hospital
12. Avdiivka hospital

The assessment was based on a WHO validated tool, previously used in Ukraine and other countries, with some adaptation to local context. The detailed assessment report is currently being finalized and presents findings in ten sections: 1) Hospitals general information, 2) Incident Management System, 3) Surge Capacity, 4) Infection Prevention & Control, 5) Case Management, 6) Human Resources, 7) Continuity of essential health services and patient care, 8) Surveillance, early warning and monitoring, 9) Communication, 10) Logistics and management of supplies, 11) Essential support services. The report is currently being finalized and will be shared with cluster partners shortly. This assessment completes a series of rapid preparedness and hospital capacity assessments conducted earlier in Luhanska oblast, GCA.

This assessment completes a series of rapid preparedness and hospital capacity assessments conducted earlier in Luhanska oblast, GCA.

Questions and Answers (Q&A) Session on Healthcare Reform in Ukraine

Health Cluster in partnership with WHO conducted a Q&A session dedicated to healthcare system reform in Ukraine. As part of the discussion, invited experts Dr. Elina Dale, Adviser on Health Policy at WHO Ukraine, and Ms. Anastasiya Brylova, Officer on Service Delivery at WHO Ukraine covered a number of relevant topics, including:

- 1) Health reform as part of the overall public sector reform process
- 2) Key measures of UHC and policy trade-offs
- 3) Health reforms: achievements and challenges
- 4) What's next? Key highlights

Presentation and minutes from the meeting is available [here](#).



Questions and Answers (Q&A) Session on Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) and WASH



Health Cluster in partnership with WHO and WASH Cluster conducted a Q&A session dedicated to IPC and WASH. The session was facilitated by Mr. Mark Buttle, WASH Cluster Coordinator, and Dr. Arkadii Vodanyk, Infection prevention and control focal point at WHO Ukraine.

Mr. Mark Buttle covered a number of important questions, including why it is important to use hygiene approaches for IPC, what could WASH offer to improve health outcomes and what assistance has been provided by WASH Cluster partners.



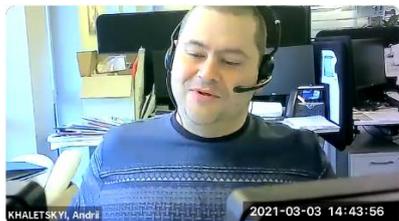
Dr. Arkadii Vodanyk, WHO explained the essence and relevance of Infection prevention and control (IPC), presented core components of IPC programmes at the national and acute healthcare facility levels, highlighted strategies to prevent or limit COVID-19 transmission in healthcare settings and shared observations from the WHO expert visits on IPC. Presentations and summary of the meeting is available [here](#).

Questions and Answers (Q&A) session on vaccination and new regulations of humanitarian importation

As part of the Q&A, WHO Representative in Ukraine Dr. Jarno Habicht briefed participants about the National COVID-19 Vaccination Deployment Plan by the MOH which contains information on the order, target groups and the vaccination process. He also provided update about the existing agreements and sources of vaccination in Ukraine and answered participants' questions related to prospects of vaccination in the eastern conflict area.



UNICEF Representative in Ukraine Ms. Lotta Sylwander addressed the issue of widespread disinformation, highlighted the importance of routine vaccination campaign and provided update on various UNICEF efforts in the field of vaccination, including setting up logistics systems, providing trainings to people involved in the vaccination process and strengthening routine vaccination component. Detailed minutes from the meeting are available [here](#).



In addition, Ms. Yuliia Drobakha, Country Response and Partnership Consultant at WHO Ukraine, and Mr. Andrii Khaletskyi, Supply Chain Officer at WHO Ukraine, presented key changes in the process of humanitarian importation. More details can be found [here](#).

Questions and Answers (Q&A) session on medical waste management

On 17 March Mr. Mark Buttle, WASH Cluster coordinator, facilitated a session on medical waste management. The session discussed the importance of the topic in line with ongoing vaccination campaign (if one syringe weighs 10 g then 80 million doses of vaccine will create 800 tons of sharps waste), existing medical waste categories, as well as challenges and opportunities for better disposal and management of waste in healthcare facilities. To download materials from the session, please follow [this](#) link. International guidance on hygiene-related IPC at Health Facilities in Ukraine during the COVID-19 outbreak can be found [here](#).



Questions and Answers (Q&A) session on the impact of COVID-19 on TB services



On 31 March Dr. Georgii Dymov, National Professional Officer (Tuberculosis) at WHO Ukraine briefed partners about the impact of COVID-19 on TB services in Ukraine. Among the key challenges highlighted were availability of outpatient TB treatment, logistics of biological material for TB diagnosis and TB treatment monitoring, providing counseling and information services to patients during outpatient TB treatment, availability of social and legal support services, gender aspects during outpatient TB treatment, as well as providing inpatient treatment for patients with

TB/COVID-19 and COVID-19. Full presentation from the meeting is available [here](#).

Webinar on support for rehabilitation self-management after COVID-19 related illness

Support for Rehabilitation Self-Management after COVID-19-Related Illness



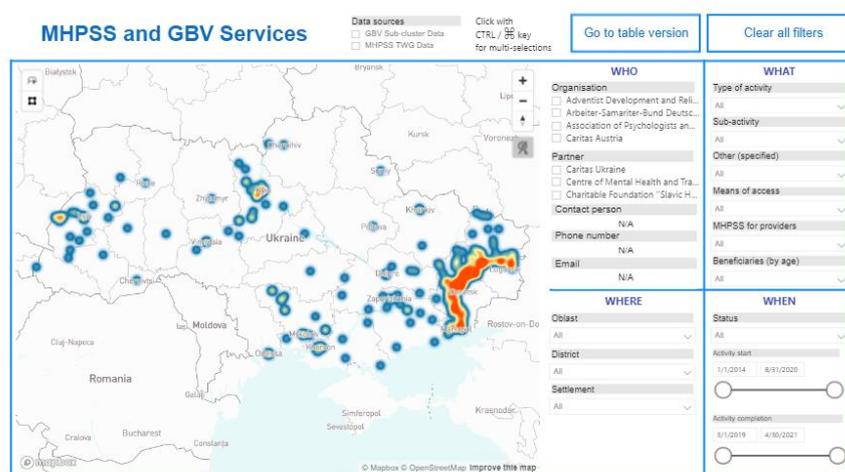
Health Cluster in partnership with WHO conducted the online webinar ‘Support for Rehabilitation Self-Management After COVID-19-Related Illness’. The meeting was attended by over 80 participants – representatives of international organizations, national NGOs and health facilities. The session was presented by Justine Gosling, a registered Physiotherapist in the UK who has been working with COVID-19 patients and is a consultant in the Rehabilitation unit at the WHO European region office.

To access the guideline on supporting rehabilitation after COVID-19-related illness produced by WHO Europe in seven languages (including Ukrainian and Russian) please follow [this link](#).

Update from the MHPSS TWG

MHPSS TWG continues to effectively function and coordinate main humanitarian stakeholders. In January 2021, the group met for the developing next steps in planning for the year and prioritized the topics and areas of needed support and knowledge exchange. It is planned to continue coordination between cluster system for the mapping services and visualizing them as well as release of several products to highlight partners' work in the fields in changed challenging modalities during MHPSS COVID-19 response.

The map on mental health and psychosocial support and prevention of gender-based violence services was updated according to the partners' feedback: it contains the contact information of the organizations for the referral purposes and has the table view for easier use and access of relevant information. The map is being under constant editing and feedback collection process for improvement of use. The next cycle of map updates is planned for April and will be followed-up by the mapping workshops for the MHPSS TWG partners.



The group maintain regular updates and decides upon the working plan for 2021 taking into account the transition planning of cluster system, as well as developing learning plan on the knowledge gaps of partners. The topics and needs are varied from monitoring and evaluation framework to scalable psychological interventions and tele MHPSS. The regular coordination meeting of MHPSS TWG was held on March-25 and was focused on presenting the priority topics for the learning plan and its development.

Useful Links and Resources

- [Updated Health Cluster Page on Humanitarian Response Info website](#)
- [Monitoring COVID-19 vaccination: Considerations for the collection and use of vaccination data](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccine checklist: for frontline health workers planning a COVID-19 vaccination session.](#)
- [Roadmap to improve and ensure good indoor ventilation in the context of COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccination: supply and logistics guidance](#)
- [Definition and categorization of the timing of mother-to-child transmission of SARS-CoV-2](#)
- [Community needs, perceptions and demand: community assessment tool for COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19: Occupational health and safety for health workers](#)
- [Interim Guidance on Public Health and Social Measures for COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Operations in Low Capacity and Humanitarian Settings](#)
- [IASC Key Messages to Fast-Track Health and Aid Workers and Supplies at Borders and in Countries](#)

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