

LIBYA HEALTH EMERGENCIES AND HUMANITARIAN UPDATE



World Health Organization

Health Sector Monthly Bulletin

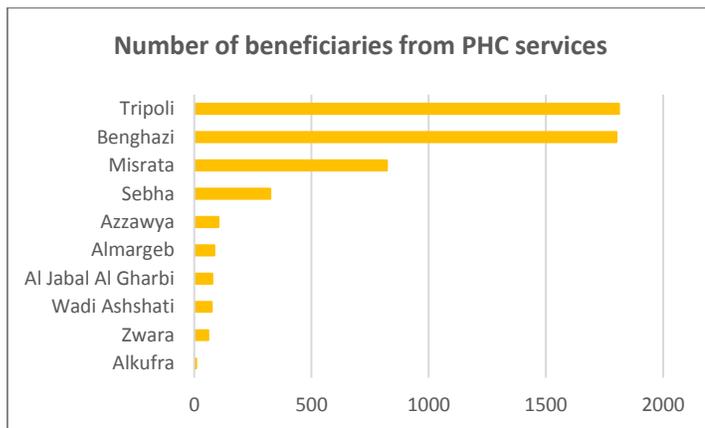
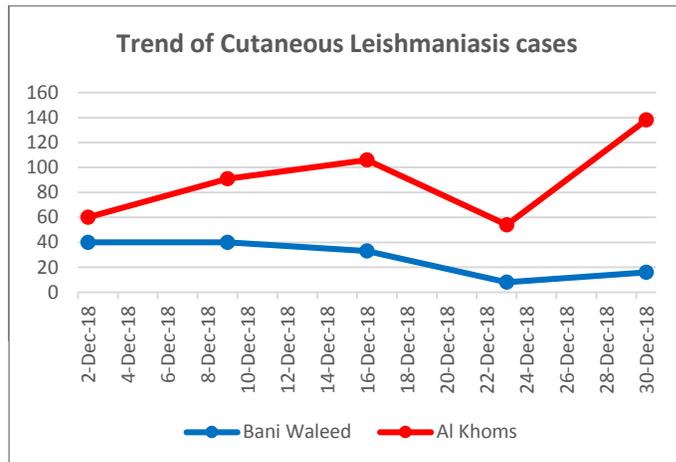
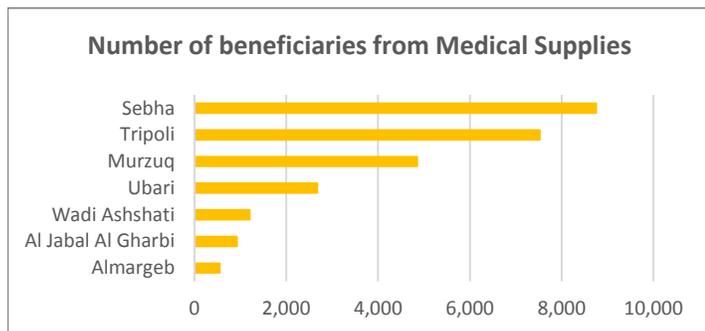
December 2018

39 Health facilities benefit from medical supplies

12 Detention centers reached by PHC services

5.2K PHC consultation

26.4K Beneficiaries from medicines and supplies provision



NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION CAMPAIGN

The World Health Organization (WHO), along with Ministry of Health National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) and UNICEF, launched a national immunization campaign that lasted between 8 and 15 December in all districts, targeting more than 2 million children throughout Libya, including children in detention centers and displaced settlements.

The campaign reached 1,423,957 children aged between 0 and 6 years with the Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) and 2,654,466 children aged between 9 months and 15 years with Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccines while 2,657,441 received vitamin A supplementation.

EARLY WARNING SURVEILLANCE

In October 2018, 116 sentinel sites submitted their weekly reports through Early Warning and Alert Response Network (EWARN), generating 97 suspected alerts.

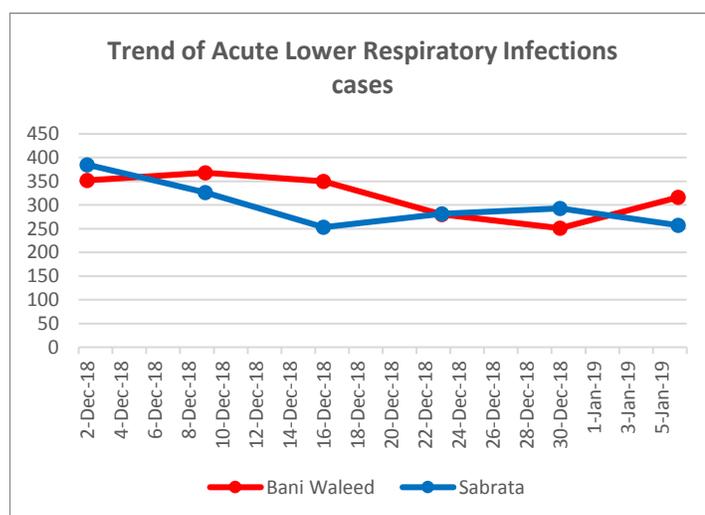


Figure 1. Launch of the vaccination campaign in Libya, by the MoH / NCDC, WHO, UNICEF and IOM. Source: WHO Libya

HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

World Health Organization

With the financial support of the Office of the United States Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), 101 patients benefited from primary health care (PHC) services supported by WHO between 01 to 05 and 26 to 31 December 2018 in Tawergha. The service package covered management of communicable and non-communicable diseases, child health care and urgent medical care.

Premiere Urgence Internationale

Premiere Urgence Internationale (PUI) provided PHC consultations, including care for communicable and non-communicable diseases, reproductive health care and psychosocial support to 2,192 Internally Displaced People (IDP) and host communities, through four mobile medical teams that were deployed to 10 pre-existing health facilities as well as seven IDP camps in central Benghazi area as well as Alabyar, Gemienis, Suloug, Toukra and Benina in Benghazi. The psychosocial support activities have specifically targeted children through recreational activities conducted in the IDP settlements. Moreover, PUI collaborated with NCDC in the national MR and Polio vaccination campaign in Benghazi.



Figure 2. Psychosocial session with children in Al Hlees IDP camp
Source: PUI

International Medical Corps

International Medical Corps (IMC) provided PHC services including care for communicable and non-communicable diseases, urgent medical care, maternal and neonatal care as well as child health care in 10 districts which are Tripoli, Azzawyah, Almargeb, Alkufra, Misrata, Al Jabal Al Gharbi, Sebha, Benghazi, Zwarra and Wadi Ashshati.

These services were delivered to 689 refugees and migrants in 12 detention centers, 254 urban refugees and migrants in the community centers located in Tripoli, and to 7 rescues from the sea. Moreover, IMC provided consultations to 1,688 IDPs and host communities in IDP settlements in Tripoli, Benghazi and Misrata and in polyclinics through six mobile medical units that operated in 13 health facilities in Tripoli, Misrata, Sebha and Wadi Ashshati. Finally, IMC provided community health sensitization to 2,898 individuals through community health workers who arranged awareness raising sessions and house visits to target populations in Tripoli, Benghazi, Misrata and Sebha.



Figure 3. IMC mobile medical unit providing medical services in the Tammina polyclinic in Misurata
Source: IMC

European Committee for Training and Agriculture

The European Committee for Training and Agriculture (CEFA) organized psychosocial support (PSS) sessions in Sebha for 350 people in Manshia community centre and for 273 children in two schools.

Furthermore, an awareness campaign on Acquired Immune-deficiency Disease Syndrome (AIDS) prevention was organized by CEFA in Sebha city on the 6th and 8th of December 2019. The event took place in Abdel-Kafi popular theatre and on the 18th of December in Abdel-Kafi medical center. 500 people were reached through this campaign.

PROVISION OF MEDICINES AND EQUIPMENT

CEFA has provided medicines and medical equipment to four PHC centres in Sebha: Abdel-Kafi, Al Manshia, Al Qahira and Al Karama PHC centres. The distributed medicines and equipment will support the health services related to Surgery, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics-Gynecology, Pediatrics, Emergency and Trauma care as well as care for communicable and non-communicable diseases, and will cover the needs of 88,000 people.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Learning Exchange Study Tour on SIAMED Software

As a follow-up to the SIAMED software installation and training that took place between 25 March and 7 April 2018 in Tripoli, a learning exchange study tour on the use of WHO's Model System for Computer-assisted Drug Registration (SIAMED) software was organized by WHO Libya between 3 and 6 December 2018 in Tunis with the financial support of European Union (EU). Eight technical officers in charge of medicines registration in the Pharmacy Administration Department of the Libyan Ministry of Health and three technical officers from WHO attended the learning exchange study tour. Trainees were shown the procedures for issuing new marketing authorizations, making renewals and amendments and rejecting authorizations. The participants benefited from an enhanced understanding of all aspects of the registration process.

Leishmaniasis Case Management Training Workshop

WHO conducted an Intensive training on cutaneous leishmaniasis case management in Tunis. The training started on 19 and concluded on 21 December 2018 in Tunis. One of world's leading experts on the disease facilitated the training that targeted seven Libyan doctors from Tawerga, Benghazi and Tripoli.

Cutaneous leishmaniasis is a major public health problem in Libya and the recent spread of a severe form of the disease in Tawerga necessitated the provision of special training in dealing with patients.



Figure 4. Training on Leishmaniasis case management in Al Rabta hospital - 19 to 21 December 2018 - Tunis. Source: WHO Libya

Training Workshops for PHC staff in Sebha

Two training workshops were organized by CEFA in Tunis between the 5th and the 7th and from the 12th to the 14th of December 2018 for 30 health workers from four PHC centers in Sebha. The trainings aimed to strengthen the health staff capacities in management of chronic diseases and obstetric diseases, as well as antenatal care.



Figure 5. Training session on management of non-communicable diseases, conducted by CEFA on December 2018 in Tunis. Source: CEFA.

Libyan Supply Chain Technical Guidelines

A technical workshop on developing guidelines for medicines selection, procurement, storage and distribution in Libya was held between 17 and 19 December in Tunis. The workshop came as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen supply chain management systems in Libya being conducted by the WHO, with EU funding support. The workshop was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Health's Pharmacy Administration and Medical Supply Office (MSO), Libyan Customs, the National Centre for Disease Control and the University of Tripoli's Faculty of Pharmacy.



Figure 6. The training workshop on forecasting and quantification in Libya - December 22, 2018 – Tripoli. Source: WHO Libya

Setting comprehensive guidelines to regulate the selection, procurement, storage and distribution of medicines is an essential step towards a safe, quality assured and efficient medical supplies. The meeting resulted in a consensus on medical supply system guidelines being reached. The guidelines will now be submitted for ministerial approval and final endorsement.

Medicines Forecasting and Quantification in Libya

WHO in partnership with EU organized a training workshop on medicines forecasting and quantification to health workers in Tripoli on 22 and 23 December 2018. A similar training was conducted in Tobruk on 25 and 26 December and on 29 and 30 December. In the southern municipalities, the training will be held in Sabha and Wadi Ashshati in January 2019.

The training has been divided into phases and covered health facilities across the country. The first phase covers 10 hospitals, 7 polyclinics, 63 primary health care facilities and 54 public health units in six municipalities - Hay Alandalus and Janzour municipalities in the west of Libya, Al-Bayda and Tobruk municipalities in the eastern and Sabha and Adiri municipalities in the southern region.



Figure 7. Workshop on Libyan Supply Chain Technical Guidelines - December 17, 2018 - Tunis. Source: WHO Libya

STUDY ON LIBYAN MEDICAL AND ALLIED HEALTH EDUCATION AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

On 6 December 2018, The Health Information Centre, Ministry of Health and Education, in partnership with WHO, presented the findings of a study on the current status of medical and allied health education and training institutes in Libya.

The seminar was attended by deans of universities, senior academics from medical, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry and medical technology institutes and the National Health System Development Centre. It was also attended by the members of the Special Committee for Medical Health Education.

The study found that there are 27 health education-related universities, 18 medical schools including one private, 15 dental schools including three private, nine nursing schools, 11 pharmacy schools including one private, three health sciences schools, three public health schools and 11 medical technology schools. There are also 15 centers for the medical professions, 14 intermediate nursing schools, a medical workforce development center, the Libyan Board of Specialty and the Libyan branch of the Arab Board of Specialty is also functional.

A detailed analysis of current health workforce production and estimates for 2,030 were presented, and Libya's health workforce compared with similar and more developed countries. The study found out there is a current overproduction of the health workforce, a projected shortage of nurses and specialists, limited faculty in medical education institutes, and a below average rating of education accreditation standards in all faculties.

For Further Information

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