

# Attacks on Health Care

Monthly News Brief

March 2019

## 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

#### *Democratic Republic of the Congo*

**03 March 2019: Update:** In Butembo city, North Kivu province, an Ebola Treatment Centre that was attacked by unidentified perpetrators on 27 February 2019 has resumed operations after a temporary shutdown and is now managed by the Health Ministry in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF. **Sources:** [Reuters](#), [The Telegraph](#), [Thomson Reuters Foundation](#) and [UN News](#)

**08 March 2019:** In Lubwasi town, North Kivu province, suspected ADF forces burned down a health clinic and several houses during an attack on the town. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup> and [Actualite](#)

**09 March 2019:** In Butembo city, North Kivu province, Mai Mai militiamen attacked the recently re-opened Ebola Treatment Centre in an apparent effort to foment chaos amongst local communities, killing a police officer, and wounding one or more health workers. **Sources:** [News 24](#), [NPR](#), [Reuters](#) and [Xinhua](#)

**10 March 2019:** In Butembo, unspecified armed perpetrators raided an Ebola treatment centre, wounding health workers and killing a policeman. **Source:** [UN-OCHA](#)

**24 March 2019:** In Kalemie town, Tanganyika province, an unidentified armed group fired shots at a hospital vehicle carrying representatives of the World Bank and Panzi Hospital. The passengers fled and the perpetrators looted the vehicle. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

### Mali

**30 March 2019:** In Boya Goundya town, Gao region, suspected Ganda Izo militiamen attacked a medical centre and abducted

This monthly digest comprises threats and violence as well as protests and other events affecting the delivery of and access to health care.

It is prepared by Insecurity Insight from information available in open sources.

**Editorial team:**  
Christina Wille, Laurence Gerhardt and Helen Buck  
Insecurity Insight

**Research team:**  
James Naudi  
Insecurity Insight

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two health workers. No further details specified. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

## Asia

### *Afghanistan*

**03 March 2019:** In Rustaq village, Takhar province, a doctor was killed by armed militants in unspecified circumstances. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

### *Indonesia*

**03 March 2019:** In Nabire town, Papua region, a Papuan man visiting his son at Siriwini Hospital was assaulted by nine military officers after requesting to stay several minutes longer with his son. The officers, wearing combat boots, kicked the man in the head and chest until he passed out and was dragged out of the hospital. The incident is part of a series of assaults on indigenous Papuan people by military officers. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup> and [Human Rights Papua](#)

**22 March 2019:** In Nabire town, Papua region, a Papuan farmer visiting a relative at the Siriwini Hospital was set upon by members of the Denzipur 112 Infantry Unit who beat him with their fists and with a stick. Indigenous Papuan people are reportedly avoiding health facilities due to the threatening presence of military forces. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup> and [Human Rights Papua](#)

## Middle-East and North Africa

### *Libya*

**12 March 2019:** In Benghazi city, unidentified gunmen opened fire at a clinic, causing panic amongst staff and patients. No further details specified. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup> and [Libya Observer](#)

### *Syrian Arab Republic*

**General:** In Idlib governorate, a renewed wave of attacks by the Assad regime on schools, hospitals and civilian infrastructures began, leading to the deaths of at least 170 civilians despite a ceasefire deal brokered in September 2018. The region is home to approximately 3 million internally displaced Syrians. **Source:** [Guardian](#)

**09 March 2019 (DOA):** In Saraqib city, Idlib district and governorate, a Russian warplane bombed the Alwaleed Hospital. **Source:** [Mohamed Alyosef](#)

**09 March 2019:** In Saraqeb town, Idlib governorate, missiles reportedly fired by Assad regime forces struck Al-Hayat hospital, a blood bank and an ambulance response unit, leading to the hospital's temporary closure. **Source:** [Guardian](#)

### *Occupied Palestinian Territories*

**22 March 2019:** In unspecified locations, Gaza, the IDF directly targeted medical personnel and ambulances with teargas canisters on three separate occasions amid the weekly protests near the Israeli militarised border fence. **Source:** [Al Jazeera](#)

### *Yemen*

**26 March 2019:** In an unnamed rural area, Kitaf wa Al Boqe'e district, Sa'dah governorate, a missile of unclear origin hit a petrol station near the entrance to the Save the Children-supported Kitaf

Hospital, killing seven people, amongst whom were a health worker and his or her two children, as well as a security guard. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#), [AP](#), [BBC](#), [Save the Children](#) and [SBS](#)

## 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.

Aid in Danger

### Africa

#### *Democratic Republic of the Congo*

**General:** In North Kivu province, false perceptions about Ebola treatment and health workers amongst local communities, coupled with insecurity, continued to hamper humanitarian efforts to respond to the Ebola outbreak. **Sources:** [Devex](#), [Reuters](#), [Roll Call](#) and [VOA News](#)

### Europe

#### *Portugal*

**08 March 2019:** At the call of the Sindicato Democrático dos Enfermeiros de Portugal, thousands of nurses held a protest over their poor working conditions, affecting the provision of public healthcare across the country. **Source:** [The Portugal News](#)

### Middle-East and North Africa

#### *Yemen*

**13 March 2019 (DOA):** In Kushar and Aflah Al Yaman districts, Hajjah governorate, fighting continued to prevent people from fleeing to areas where they can access food, water, medical treatment and other aid, as well as preventing aid organisations from reaching families near or across frontlines. **Source:** [NRC](#)

### The Americas

#### *Venezuela*

**25 – 27 March 2019:** In Caracas and other unspecified states, simultaneous power cuts, which the Maduro Government claims to be the result of sabotage by the opposition to overthrow President Maduro, affected hospitals, water and other services. **Source:** [BBC](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#)