

# Attacks on Health Care

Monthly News Brief

June 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

#### Cameroon

**Throughout June 2019:** In unspecified Anglophone locations, armed separatists set fire to an unspecified number of shipments of food, medicine and bedding which was being escorted by the Cameroon Armed Forces, claiming that they will never accept aid from the Cameroonian Government. **Source:** [VOA](#)

#### Democratic Republic of the Congo

**Throughout June 2019:** In North Kivu and Ituri provinces, heightened insecurity and distrust of health workers continued to hamper Ebola containment efforts. **Sources:** [BBC](#) and [VOA](#)

**05 June 2019:** In Beni city, North Kivu province, an unidentified armed group attacked a convoy of health workers from an Ebola response team. One person was injured. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**24 June 2019:** In Mulekera neighbourhood, Beni, North Kivu, a communal militia attacked Ebola response team, injuring four people and burning their vehicle. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>, [AP News](#), [Daily Herald](#) and [BBC](#)

**25 June 2019:** In Lukaya, Kinshasa, Ebola response base was attacked by Mayi Mayi. No further details specified. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

#### Mali

**Throughout June 2019:** In Douentza cercle, Mopti region, insecurity caused by armed groups continued to prevent inhabitants of several unnamed villages from reaching health care services and aid groups from reaching those in need of assistance. **Source:** [MSF](#)

#### Niger

**15 June 2019:** In Tchoungoua village, Diffa region, suspected ISWAP/Boko Haram militants abducted a man (practitioner of traditional medicine) and a woman. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

#### South Sudan

**02 June 2019:** In Bor town, Jonglei state, a female national INGO aid

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.

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worker was assaulted by a male national aid worker at the Bor PoC site. The assault reportedly occurred because the female aid worker refused demands to medically treat the male colleague's wife. The female aid worker received medical treatment and the male aid worker was subsequently arrested by UNPOL. **Source:** [AWSD](#)<sup>2</sup>

### ***Sudan***

**03 June 2019:** In Khartoum, in the midst of a military crackdown on demonstrators, members of the Rapid Support Forces stormed and forcibly shut several hospitals treating injured protesters and looted them. The perpetrators also set alight and destroyed an unspecified number of tent clinics and raped at least two female medical personnel. **Sources:** [Fox News](#), [Manila Bulletin](#), [PHR](#), [TNH I](#), [TNH II](#) and [VOA](#)

## **Asia**

### ***Afghanistan***

**Throughout June 2019:** In Taliban-controlled and other unnamed insurgent areas, a Taliban-imposed ban on WHO and Red Cross activities, coupled with security threats, continued to prevent Polio workers from launching vaccine campaigns. **Source:** [Reuters](#)

## **Middle East and North Africa**

### ***Libya***

**03 – 06 June 2019:** In Tripoli, two ambulances were hit under unspecified circumstances, resulting in the complete destruction of one of the vehicles. **Source:** [Xinhua](#)

**06 June 2019:** In Al-Swani district, Tripoli, shelling from an unspecified source hit a field hospital, injuring an unspecified number of health workers. **Source:** [Xinhua](#)

### ***Occupied Palestinian Territories***

**10 June 2019: Update:** In the West Bank, a Palestinian medic shot by Israeli forces in May 2019 succumbed to his wounds. **Source:** [The New Arab](#)

**29 June 2019:** In Al-Issawiya neighbourhood, East Jerusalem, Israeli soldiers raided and searched the Al Makassed Hospital before arresting two Palestinians for unspecified reasons. **Source:** [Wafa](#)

### ***Syrian Arab Republic***

**Throughout June 2019:** In Idlib governorate, as Syrian Government and Russian forces continued to launch targeted attacks on hospitals and clinics, some aid workers decided to stop sharing their locations with warring parties and the UN for fear of being targeted. **Sources:** [Independent](#) and [Reuters](#)

**01 June 2019:** In Ihsem town, Idlib governorate, a local medical point was partially destroyed, and its equipment damaged by Syrian regime warplanes who fired missiles nearby. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**02 June 2019:** In Balyoun village, Idlib governorate, the director of the Syrian Civil Defence (SCD) Centre of Balyoun was injured during a missile attack by Syrian regime warplanes. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**03 June 2019:** In Kafranabel city, Idlib governorate, the al Khatib Hospital was partially destroyed and its equipment damaged after being shelled by Syrian regime forces. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**04 June 2019:** In Ma'aret Harma village, Idlib governorate, a Syrian regime warplane launched missiles near to SCD team, slightly damaging the team's emergency response vehicles – one fire truck and one ambulance. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**06 June 2019:** In Madaya village, unspecified sub-district and district, Idlib governorate, suspected Russian warplanes fired missiles near a team member of the SCD, injuring him. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**10 June 2019:** In Kafranabel city, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces launched missiles at the Dar al Salam Obstetrics Hospital, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**12 June 2019:** In Maarrat al-Nu'man town, sub-district and district, Idlib governorate, unspecified perpetrators killed two ambulance workers of the SCD under unclear circumstances. **Source:** [ABC News](#)

**14 June 2019:** In Raqqa city, a paramedic was killed by unidentified perpetrators when an IED exploded near to al Rashid Park in the city suburbs. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**14 June 2019:** In Ihsem town, Idlib governorate, after having been severely damaged on 01 June 2019, a local medical point was fully destroyed when Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles at the centre. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**14 June 2019:** In Kafr Zita city, Hama governorate, a medical facility was bombed by suspected Russian warplanes, leaving the facility and its equipment partially damaged. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**15 June 2019:** In Heesh village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles at Heesh dispensary, partially destroying the building and the equipment contained inside. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**17 June 2019:** In Idlib city and governorate, the director of al Hekma hospital was summoned to a courthouse for unspecified reasons by Hay'at Tahrir al Sham, who subsequently detained him before leading him to an undisclosed location. No further details available. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**20 June 2019:** In Ma'aret al Numan, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes fired a missile at an ambulance of the Violet Organisation while the team was attending to the injured of a previous shelling, killing three paramedics and one civilian. The ambulance was destroyed. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**26 June 2019:** In Khan Sheikhoun, Maarrat al-Nu'man district, Idlib governorate, suspected Russian warplanes fired missiles near a SCD ambulance in the neighbourhood of al Beira as a rescue team was aiding the wounded of a previous bombing, killing two SCD workers, injuring four others, and severely damaging the vehicle. **Sources:** [ABC News](#), [SNHR I](#) and [SNHR II](#)

## **Yemen**

**22 June 2019:** In Halimah, Hazm district, Ibb governorate, a doctor was shot and killed by an armed unidentified individual. According to the source, the doctor was visiting a relative for a wedding celebration. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

## **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**

### **Eritrea**

**Throughout June 2019:** The Eritrean Government continued to deny the Human Rights Council's Special

Rapporteur on Human Rights in Eritrea access to the country. **Source:** [Africa News](#)

**12 June 2019:** The Eritrean Government shutdown 22 clinics run by the Roman Catholic Church in an apparent retaliation against the Church for issuing a statement in April 2019 calling for political reforms to stem the tide of migration to Europe. The government shutdown left thousands of Eritreans without healthcare. **Source:** [BBC](#)

### **Sudan**

**20 June 2019:** At Ibrahim Malik Hospital in Khartoum, RSF forces beat a doctor and threatened his co-workers with weapons after they refused to falsify a report for them. **Source:** [Dabanga Sudan](#)

## **Asia**

### **India**

**10 June 2019:** In Kolkata city and district, Presidency division, West Bengal state, the relatives of a deceased patient at the Nil Ratan Sircar Medical College and Hospital attacked and assaulted three junior doctors following a dispute. In response, doctors launched a regional strike to demand better security. Subsequent remarks by a chief minister, which included a warning that junior doctors would be evicted from their hostels for failing to return to work, triggered a nationwide reaction. **Source:** [Times of India](#)

**14 June 2019:** In West Bengal, New Delhi and Maharashtra states, upon the call of the Indian Medical Association, nearly 30,000 doctors went on a one-day strike, in response to an attack on three junior doctors in Kolkata on 10 June. Later in the day, the association asked for the protests to continue over the weekend and announced a nationwide withdrawal of non-essential services in all healthcare institutions on 17 June. **Sources:** [Reuters](#) and [Times of India](#)

**26 June 2019:** In Ranchi city and district, Jharkhand state, the Indian Government ordered the deployment of 100 police personnel at the Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences, in response to an attack on three junior doctors in Kolkata on 10 June. **Sources:** [Reuters](#) and [Times of India](#)

### **Pakistan**

**14 June 2019:** In Tajori Bazaar, Lakki Marwat district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, an armed man shot and injured a retired doctor over a land dispute. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

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

<sup>2</sup> The AWSO database does not include the names of individual victims or the agencies affected by an incident. This is done in consideration of the victims and their families who may not wish to have the names publicised in this format and to afford equal respect to the many victims for whom this information is not available.