

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

06-19
October
2021

Past News Briefs: [22 September- 05 October](#); [08-21 September](#). Help support our work by sharing this resource with your networks. Please copy and paste this link: bit.ly/6-19Oct2021HealthBMNB

Visit our [website](#), join our [mailing list](#), follow us on [Twitter](#). Get in [touch](#) to report an incident or if you have additional information on an incident we have reported on.

297 Reported Attacks and Threats to Health Care During Eight Months of Myanmar Military's Brutal Crackdown

This [research](#) brief highlights:

- alarming developments in the military's ongoing crackdown on the medical profession and the anti-coup movement;
- personal testimonies by nurses on how the conflict is impacting them;
- analysis on the security situation for aid organizations working there; and,
- recommendations to UN member states.

The data cited in this brief can be downloaded on [HDX](#). Selected events can also be viewed on the [global map](#) on threats and violence against health care.

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

Burkina Faso

11 October 2021: On the Matiacoali-Fada axis, near Fada N'Gourma town, Fada N'Gourma commune, Gourma province, Eastern region, a group of gunmen stopped and hijacked an ambulance belonging to the Fada N'Gourma commune. A patient who was inside the ambulance at the time of the attack was transferred into a public transport vehicle for the rest of the journey. The ambulance driver managed to escape back to Fada N'Gourma. **Source:** [minute.bf](#)

Cameroon

As reported on 05 October 2021: In the localities of Bounderie, Kangueleri, Homaka, and Limani, Far North region, attacks on health establishments by Boko Haram militants have deprived around 10,000 to 15,000 people of health care services over the past three years. **Source:** [Mimi Mefo Info](#)

As reported on 12 October 2021: In Fako and Manyu divisions, South-West region, armed militants carried out four attacks on health facilities. These attacks included the abduction of health personnel for ransom, the looting of assets, and the removal of medical patients from ambulances. **Source:** [OCHA Cameroon](#)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

05 October 2021: In Kalau village, near Beni city, North Kivu province, in the early hours of the morning unidentified perpetrators looted a medical dispensary and kidnapped a female nurse. The nurse was freed later that same day after a ransom was paid. **Source:** [Wiki Rumours](#)



05 October 2021: In Kalongwe town, South Kivu province, armed men ambushed and kidnapped four people, including three INGO health workers. All three were freed on 09 October. **Source:** [Actualité I](#), [Actualité II](#), and [La Prunelle](#)

08 October 2021: In Cahu district, Bagira commune, South Kivu province, a group of armed gunmen attacked a hospital. The perpetrators were targeting a specific doctor who was not present at the hospital premises at the time of the attack. The armed group attacked the doctor's female colleague instead and looted goods from the building, including money and a computer, as well as patients' belongings. **Source:** [La Prunelle](#)

As reported on 19 October 2021: In the East of the country, according to the Congolese regional association for supply of essential medicines (ASRAMES), insecurity is an obstacle to the delivery of medicines to the local population. **Source:** [Radio Okapi](#)

Nigeria

02 October 2021: On Kaura Namoda road, Shinkafi town, Zamfara State, suspected militants shot and killed a male MSF nurse as he was on his way home. Two other civilians were killed and one injured in the attack. **Source:** [Humangle](#)

South Africa

04 October 2021: In Estcourt area, Uthukela district municipality, KwaZulu-Natal province, two paramedics - one male and one female - were attending to a shooting victim in their ambulance when they were shot at from outside the vehicle. The female paramedic died at the scene while her male colleague remains in critical condition in hospital. **Source:** [News24](#)

South Sudan

05 October 2021: In Pibor town, Pibor Administrative Area, dozens of aid workers were withdrawn from the town following threats targeted against them by local youth, who accused them of taking jobs which should be given to locals. As a result of the evacuation, vaccination efforts had to be delayed due to a lack of trained vaccinators. **Sources:** [Eye Radio](#) and [Radio Tamazui](#)

Asia

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

As reported on 07 October 2021: Several humanitarian organisations — including the Norwegian Red Cross and the First Steps Health Society — have reported difficulty in sending COVID-19 aid to North Korea. **Source:** [Radio Free Asia](#)

India

05 October 2021: In Srinagar city, Jammu and Kashmir union territory, suspected pro-independence militants entered a pharmacy and shot dead the owner of the pharmacy. The killing is suspected to have been motivated by anti-Hindu sentiment. **Source:** [BBC](#)

Myanmar

07 October 2021: In Pyay township, Bago region, SAC forces entered Pyay Hospital and arrested a staff member. **Source:** [Twitter](#)

08 October 2021: In Htigyaing township, Sagaing region, SAC soldiers arrested seventeen people, including one doctor. The victims were reportedly related to a politician and are being held in Monywa. **Source:** [Kachin News](#)

12 October 2021: In Lumbang village, Falam township, Chin state, armed SAC forces stationed themselves overnight in a hospital while attacking the village, firing on households and looting private property. **Source:** [Zalen News](#)

14 October 2021: In an undisclosed location, a health worker was reportedly abducted. **Source:** [WHOSSA](#)²

14 October 2021: In Seik Khun village, Shwebo Township, Sagaing region, a doctor affiliated with the Civil Disobedience Movement and nine other civilians were arrested by armed SAC forces for alleged connections to the People's Defense Force (PDF). The arrested doctor had been actively involved in charity treatment of COVID patients. **Source:** [Khit Thit Media](#)

17 October 2021: Near Sadaung village, Sagaing township, armed SAC forces attacked a PDF training camp, arriving in stolen ambulances. **Source:** [Myanmar Now](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Occupied Palestinian Territories

07 October 2021: In Khirbat Al-Mufqara village, West Bank, three masked Israeli settlers tried to harm an injured three-year-old Palestinian boy by throwing rocks at him while he was being transported to hospital in an ambulance with his uncle. The toddler, his uncle and four other people had previously been injured when Israeli settlers pelted his home with stones, striking him on the head. **Source:** [The New Arab](#)

Yemen

13 October 2021: At Al Abdiyah district, Marib governorate, a hospital was hit by artillery shells. **Source:** [CIMP](#) and [WHOSSA](#)¹

The Americas

Mexico

07 October 2021: in Oaxaca de Juarez, Oaxaca, armed individuals in a car opened fire at the head of the Children's Hospital. The director was injured and received medical attention. **Source:** [ACLED](#)²

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.

Asia

India

14 October 2021: In Pitambar area of New Delhi, Delhi state, a group of a woman who had lost her child during an emergency C-section attacked two doctors in Kuber Hospital and Urology Centre. The doctors were hurt and a case has been registered. **Source:** [Indian Express](#)

This Bi-Monthly News Brief comprises threats and violence as well as protests and other events affecting the delivery of and access to health care. It is part of the Attacks on Health Care project by Insecurity Insight. It is prepared from information available in local, national and international news outlets and online databases. The incidents reported are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of health care and have not been independently verified. All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

This document is funded and supported by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) of the UK government through the RIAH project at the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute at the University of Manchester, the European Commission through the 'Ending violence against healthcare in conflict' project and by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of Insecurity Insight and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID, the U.S. Government, the European Commission, the FCDO or Save the Children Federation, Inc

Insecurity Insight. 2021. Attacks on Health Care Bi-Monthly News Brief, 08-21 September 2021 06-19 October 2021. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/6-19Oct2021HealthBMNB



¹ [WHOSSA](#) accessed 22 October 2021. Two incidents reported for the period 06-19 October 2021.

² Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 22 October 2021