

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

03-16
November
2021

Past editions: [20 October-02 November](#); [06-19 October](#).

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Violence Against Health Care in Sudan

Marches of the Millions protests have been taking place across Sudan after the military coup on October 25. At least 15 people have been killed and many others injured by live ammunition and tear gas fired by security forces during the protests. The violence has impacted health workers, hospitals and ambulances. Two doctors have been killed, hospitals have been raided and wounded demonstrators prevented from receiving medical treatment at hospitals. In addition, at least two health workers have been detained.

Please see this [report](#) for information on documented incidents between 26 October and 16 November 2021. You can also download this data on [HDX](#). If you have additional information on an incident, or on a new incident, please do not hesitate to get in [touch](#).

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

30 October 2021: In Sakoani village, Kantchari department, Tapoa province, Est region, an ambulance was attacked by Nusrat al Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM) militants. The driver was briefly detained before he was released. The ambulance was seized. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

06 November 2021: In Goudoubou village, Dori town, Séno province, Sahel region, a pharmacy was looted by Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) militants. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

08 November 2021: In Pandrideni village, Fada Ngourma city and department, Gourma province, Est region, three health workers and nine civilians were abducted by JNIM militants. All were released shortly after. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Cameroon

As reported on 02 November 2021: In Douala city, Wouri department, Littoral region, a dozen political prisoners receiving treatment at the Laquintinie Hospital were chained to their hospital beds by prison guards. **Source:** [Mimi Mefo Info](#)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

03 November 2021: In Kambe locality, Djugu territory, Ituri province, armed CODECO militants vandalised a health facility, looted medicines and hospital beds during an attack on the village. **Source:** [Radio Okapi](#)



03 November 2021: In Virakpa locality, Djugu territory, Ituri province, armed CODECO militants vandalised a health facility, looted medicines and hospital beds during an attack on the village. **Source:** [Radio Okapi](#)

04 November 2021: In an undisclosed location, a health facility was searched and health supplies were taken. **Source:** [WHOSSA](#)²

11 November 2021: In Kisunga village, Bashu chieftaincy, Beni territory, North Kivu province, suspected ADF militants looted and set fire to a health centre and a number of houses during an armed incursion into the village. During the attack, six civilians were reportedly killed and several health workers were kidnapped. **Sources:** [Radio Okapi](#) and [UNOCHA](#)

15 November 2021: In Chabusiku village, Ituri province, Patriotic Force and Integrationist of Congo (FPIC) militia set fire to a health facility during an attack on the village, leading to the death of 18 civilians. **Source:** [Radio Okapi](#)

Nigeria

03 November 2021: In Magumeri town and LGA, Borno state, ISWAP fighters raided a clinic and stole towels, chairs and bedspreads, before setting surrounding grass on fire, amid a wider assault on the community. No drugs were looted. **Sources:** [Sahara Reporters](#) and [WHOSSA](#)²

Asia

Afghanistan

02 November 2021: In Kabul, a motorcycle-borne Islamic State Khorasan Province suicide bomber detonated his explosives at the gate of the Sardar Mohammad Daoud Khan Military Hospital. Subsequently, four armed actors stormed the hospital and killed several people. The attack was followed by a second explosion at the same gate. Taliban fighters arrived at the scene via helicopter and engaged in a firefight. At least 25 people, including the perpetrators, were killed, and 50 more wounded. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#), [Garowe Online](#) and [h4ckerz](#)

18 November 2021: The body of a prominent male psychiatrist from Mazar-e-Sharif who had been abducted two months prior was found. He was the only Pashto-speaking psychiatrist in Northern Afghanistan. **Source:** [Twitter](#)

Myanmar

03 November 2021: In Natchaung village, Kale township, Sagaing region, SAC forces reportedly fired on an ambulance aiding injured civilians, injuring two medics. **Source:** [Khit Thit News](#)

03 November 2021: In an undisclosed location, violence with heavy weapons was reported at health staff housing. **Source:** [WHOSSA](#)²

As reported on 05 November 2021: In Hlaingthaya township, Yangon, a female nurse was shot and killed by unidentified perpetrators. **Sources:** [ACLED](#)¹ and [BBC Burmese](#)

09 November 2021: In Pekon township, Taunggyi district, Shan state, SAC forces indiscriminately shelled the town, damaging Pekon People's Hospital. **Source:** [Khit Thit News](#)

10 November 2021: In Pathein town, township and district, Ayeyarwady region, SAC forces sealed off the Shwe Kyun Clinic, alongside two tea shops, and the Pyin Nyar Parami Charity School. **Source:** [Myanmar Now](#)

12 November 2021: In Pone Kyun village, Dawei township, Taninthayi division, SAC forces raided a residence in search of a nurse associated with the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM). After failing to find her, her two teenage siblings were arrested. **Sources:** [Delta News Agency](#) and [Khit Thit News](#)

13 November 2021: In Nyaungshwe township, Shan state, the SAC government has cut off electricity, including to a hospital and COVID-19 treatment center. **Source:** [Tachileik News Agency](#)

13 November 2021: In Maubin township, Ayeyarwady region, SAC officials forced medical personnel at Maubin Hospital to falsely report the cause of death of a civilian that was tortured to death by police. **Source:** [Twitter](#)

14 November 2021: In Monywa township, Sagaing division, an ambulance driver was arrested and the vehicle seized after returning from transporting a pregnant patient to a maternity clinic. **Source:** [DVB News](#)

14 November 2021: In Kyaikkami township, Mon state, a CDM-affiliated doctor was arrested by SAC forces. **Source:** [Twitter](#)

16 November 2021: In Phalantaung village, Hpa-An township, Kayin state, Border Guard Forces (BGF) occupied and destroyed a local clinic and a motorcycle belonging to the clinic. Doctors and health workers at the facility fled in response to the attack. **Sources:** [Karen Information Center](#) and [Twitter](#)

16 November 2021: Near Sagaing township, Sagaing region, SAC forces captured nine female People's Defence Force (PDF) medics during a morning assault on a PDF camp. **Source:** [Myanmar Now](#)

Violence Against Health Care in Myanmar

At least 297 reported attacks and threats to health care have occurred during the last eight months of the Myanmar military's brutal crackdown on its democratic opposition. Over 210 health workers have been arrested and hospitals have been raided at least 87 times.

Read the [report](#), download the [data](#), explore the Attacked and Threatened: Health Care at Risk [global map](#).

Europe

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

14 November 2021: In Liverpool city, Merseyside county, England, a taxi carrying a man pulled up outside the Liverpool City Women's Hospital and the passenger detonated a homemade suicide device, killing himself and injuring the driver. Three men aged 21, 26 and 29 have since been arrested under the Terrorism Act. **Sources:** [BBC I](#), [BBC II](#) and [The New Arab](#)

Ukraine

13 November 2021: In Donetsk, Russian armed forces reportedly targeted and damaged two ambulances marked with Red Cross insignia. **Source:** [Twitter](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Occupied Palestinian Territories

26 October 2021: Between Burin and the Yitzhar settlements, West Bank, three Red Cross workers were assaulted by a number of Israeli settlers who pepper-sprayed them as they surveyed damage done to Palestinian olive groves. **Source:** [Times of Israel](#)

Syrian Arab Republic

06 November 2021: In Idlib governorate, a British doctor survived an assassination attempt when an IED planted under his car by an unidentified source detonated. **Source:** [DOAM](#)

As reported on 10 November 2021: According to a released report by Physicians for Human Rights, health workers detained by government forces for providing care to injured protesters during 2011-2012 were 91 percent less likely to be released from jail than their counterparts detained for political reasons. **Source:** [The New Arab](#)

The Americas

Haiti

Between 31 October - 1 November 2021: In Milot commune, Acul-du-Nord arrondissement, Nord department, the Sacré-Coeur Hospital was attacked by several gang members armed with machetes and guns. The perpetrators intended to kill a patient that had been injured during a voodoo ceremony, in order to prevent the victim from receiving treatment. The gang members opened fire on the hospital and set parts of the facility on fire, smashing the windows of more than a dozen vehicles and ambulances, and beating health workers. Temporary closure of the hospital was announced after the attack. **Sources:** [Le Nouvelliste](#), [Haiti Standard](#) and [Mag Haiti](#)

Flash Analysis and Prediction by Vigil Insight

12 November 2021: As Haitian gangs grow in influence, the humanitarian space for NGOs is shrinking. As the influence of larger gangs grows, the risks that NGOs and international personnel are targeted rises. This [report](#) includes an analysis of the current security situation in Ethiopia and the implications for aid organisations working there, with predictions and mitigation measures.

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

Bangladesh

04 November 2021: In Gulshan district, Dhaka, a female doctor filed a case with the Gulshan Police Station against the Head of News at Ekattor TV, accusing him of raping her during their seven-to-eight-month relationship. She had reportedly also been forced to get an abortion abroad, after he impregnated her. **Source:** [New Age](#)

05 November 2021: In Dhaka, police arrested the Director of the Mind Aid Psychiatry and De-Addiction Hospital in connection with a case of a police officer who died at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital, after he was rushed from the Dhaka Central Jail, Keraniganj. **Source:** [New Age](#)

09 November 2021: In Bogra city and district, Rajshahi division, a ward boy (care worker) at the Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College removed the oxygen mask of a 17-year-old boy, causing the death of the patient. This incident happened after the ward boy demanded a Tk200 tip from the family of the patient for taking him to the surgery department and one of the relatives gave him Tk50 less. Police arrested the ward boy on 11 November. **Sources:** [New Age I](#), [New Age II](#) and [New Age III](#)

India

06 November 2021: In Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra state, a fire of unidentified origin broke out at the ICU of a newly built COVID-19 hospital. Of two dozen patients inside, 11 lost their lives. They were mostly aged over 60. **Source:** [New Age](#)

06 November 2021: In Jangaon district, Telangana state, a doctor was attacked at a children's hospital by family members and relatives of a child who died when brought to the hospital in critical condition. The doctor suffered blunt force injuries. The Indian Medical Association, Telangana chapter which has condemned the attack and asked authorities to take stringent action. **Source:** [The Hindu](#)

Europe

Italy

04 November 2021: In Bologna city, Emilia-Romagna region, unidentified perpetrators spray-painted walls and damaged several service vehicles parked outside a health facility belonging to the Special Units for Continuity of Care (USCA). The attack was motivated by the current COVID-19 measures, including mandatory vaccination for health workers and green pass restrictions on all workplaces. **Source:** [Bologna Today](#)

The Netherlands

20 November 2021: Near the Hague, an ambulance carrying a patient was hit by a rock, smashing the window. **Sources:** [BBC](#) and [Police Unit The Hague](#)

Spain

As reported on 30 October 2021: In Tarajal, Ceuta, a male Red Cross worker was attacked when he was leaving a Red Cross warehouse at night. He was approached by four minors, one of whom was armed with a knife, who attempted to steal his motorbike and phone. The victim sustained injuries to his face. **Source:** [El Faro Ceuta](#)

Ukraine

05 November 2021: In Mykolaiv city, raion and oblast, people broke the barrier of a communal infectious disease hospital and knocked down the doors of its ER, with a car carrying a seriously ill patient with low oxygen levels following them. The perpetrators attacked doctors and nurses, and demanded that they are given oxygen. **Source:** [TGSL](#)

The Americas

Haiti

As reported on 10 November 2021: In Port-au-Prince and beyond, a severe lack of fuel has forced MSF to reduce its medical activities, with staff treating only patients with life-threatening conditions. The fuel shortage has also affected companies supplying oxygen, forcing hospitals to reduce or halt admissions. **Source:** [AP](#)

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.

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¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 12 November 2021

² [WHOSSA](#) accessed 16 November 2021. Four incidents reported for the period 03-16 November 2021.