

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

09-22
February
2022

Past editions: [26 January–08 February](#); [12-25 January](#); [All](#). Help support our work by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link: bit.ly/09-22Feb2022HealthBMNB

Explore our [Attacked and Threatened: Health Care at Risk](#) interactive global map to see incidents where health workers were killed, kidnapped or injured and incidents where health facilities were damaged or destroyed.

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.



New: Violence Against Vaccinators and Vaccination Campaigns

A new series on the last five years of violence against vaccinators and vaccination programmes. The first blog post is available as a [PDF](#) or as a blog post on the [RIAH website](#). [Subscribe for updates](#).

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

09 February 2022: In Katwa health zone, Mususa commune, North Kivu province, armed men broke into Tulizeni Health Centre and looted patients' belongings. **Source:** [La Prunelle](#)

10 February 2022: In Musimba town, Lubero territory, North Kivu province, armed bandits broke into the local health centre and injured a female nurse. **Source:** [Radio Moto](#)

Ethiopia

11-15 February 2022: In Mekelle city and special zone, Tigray region, on behalf of WHO, WFP has airlifted 10 tons of medical supplies - including antibiotics, medicine for malaria and diabetes, treatment for severe acute malnutrition, supplies for reproductive health, and PPE - by air for the first time since July 2021. Nonetheless, severe fuel shortages continue to hamper distribution to health facilities across the region. Further humanitarian flights were planned for the subsequent week.

Sources: [AP](#), [The New Arab](#) and [Xinhua](#)

South Sudan

10 February 2022: In Mir Mir locality, Unity state, an aid worker was killed in crossfire, a women and girls safe space was reportedly looted, and a health and nutrition facility was forced to temporarily shut. **Sources:** [OCHA](#) and [UN News](#)

12 February 2022: In an unspecified location, Unity state, a clearly marked humanitarian vehicle came under fire en route to a health facility, injuring three health workers. **Source:** [OCHA](#)



Abyei Special Administrative Area, South Sudan-Sudan

10 February 2022: In Agok town, Abyei special administrative area, a South Sudanese nurse working at an MSF hospital was killed inside his home amid an outbreak of intercommunal violence which left around 70,000 people, including several MSF staff members, forcibly displaced, prompting MSF to suspend its operations at the hospital. **Sources:** [Eye Radio](#), [MSF](#) and [Radio Tamazuj](#)

11 February 2022: In Agok town, Abyei special administrative area, Save the Children suspended all programmes, including health, food, education and child protection services after gunmen stormed the area and torched homes and shops, forcing much of the local population to flee to other parts of Abyei. **Source:** [Radio Tamazuj](#)

Sudan



Violence Against or Obstruction of Health Care in Sudan

Marches of the Millions protests have been taking place across Sudan after the military coup on October 25. Over 70 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.

Incident reports: [11-25 January](#); [01 December 2021-10 January 2022](#); [17-30 November](#); [All](#).

Join our [Sudan mailing list](#) for regular updates.

08 February 2022: In El Fasher city, North Darfur state, security services of the El Fasher Specialised Hospital for Women and Obstetrics beat and threatened staff with weapons. In response, hospital staff launched a complete strike, calling on the authorities to provide protection against repeated attacks by security services. **Source:** [Radio Dabanga](#)

18 February 2022: In Khartoum, more than 100 anti-coup detainees at the Soba Prison have been refused medical care amid the fourth day of a hunger strike. **Source:** [Radio Dabanga](#)

Asia

Myanmar



Violence Against or Obstruction of Health Care in Myanmar

On February 1, 2021, the Myanmar armed forces seized control of the country. Since then, hundreds of people have been killed and many injured during nationwide Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) protests and violent crackdowns on those opposing the coup.

Doctors and nurses have been served with warrants and arrests for providing medical care to protesters, ambulances have been destroyed, and health facilities have been raided.

This [report](#) includes information on six documented incidents between 09-22 February 2022.

Previous incident reports: [26 January - 8 February](#); [12-25 January](#); [All](#).

Analysis reports: [One-Year Anniversary Update](#); [December 2021](#); [All](#).

Join our [Myanmar mailing list](#) for regular updates. If you have additional information on an incident documented here, or a new incident, please get in [touch](#).

Europe

Turkey

17 February 2022: Members of the union of doctors Hekim-Sen started a two-day nationwide strike over low pay and poor working conditions. **Source:** [PM](#)

Ukraine



Violence Against or Obstruction of Health Care in Ukraine

24 February-02 March 2022

Russian troops invaded Ukrainian territory on 24 February. The initial strategy is believed to have been rapid capture of large populated areas, notably the capital Kyiv and Kharkiv, a city of around 1.4 million inhabitants. These however largely remain in Ukrainian hands and, likely in consequence, Russian forces have started to resort to much more extensive use of explosive weapons in these populated areas.

Insecurity Insight's monitoring for the period 24 February-02 March 2022 has identified reports of **24 incidents** where explosive weapons damaged hospitals. A doctor, ambulance driver and medical student have been reportedly killed in attacks. The armed violence has also hindered access to health care or forced health care providers to change how they were able to provide services. The conflict has also affected supply of drugs and other key medical supplies with crucial shortages for patients with long-term care needs.

As the violence has impacted health workers, hospitals, ambulances and patients, a number of medical organisations have released statements of concern: The International Council of Nurses and Physicians for Human Rights and the European Federation of Nurses Associations

If you have additional information on an incident documented here, or a new incident, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Join our Ukraine mailing list for future updates. Visit our website. Follow us on Twitter.

Middle East and North Africa

Occupied Palestinian Territories

13-16 February 2022: In Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood, East Jerusalem, West Bank, Israeli soldiers fired rubber-coated steel bullets, teargas and stun grenades at Palestinians protesting Israeli discriminatory policies and the forced displacement of Palestinian families. At least 35 people, including paramedics and a journalist, were injured. **Source:** MAP

18 February 2022: In Beita town, Nablus governorate, West Bank, unidentified perpetrators attacked first responders and ambulances of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society during demonstrations. **Source:** Twitter

Syrian Arab Republic

15 February 2022: Near Ghariya al Sharqiya town, Daraa governorate, gunmen assassinated a male nurse and another person who was with him in a car. **Source:** SNHR

The Americas

Mexico

16 February 2022: In Jiquipilas town, Chiapas state, a Mexican Red Cross ambulance was caught in crossfire between armed groups, and partially caught fire. The paramedics on board were unharmed. **Source:** Twitter

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

16 February 2022: In Jagannathpur upazila, Sunamganj district, Sylhet division, a woman was drugged and gang raped at the backroom of the Ovi Medical Hall by the owner of the drug store and two other men. After the woman threatened to report them, they strangled her and dismembered her

body with the intention of hiding the remains in a pond. The perpetrators were arrested two days later. **Source:** [Dhaka Tribune](#)

Sri Lanka

As reported on 12 February 2022: Thousands of health workers continued to take part in a strike to demand better promotional prospects, salary scales and allowances, leaving only emergency services functioning at public hospitals and many routine services put off. In response, the Sri Lankan Government invoked a 1979 law prohibiting stoppages, which would allow courts to hand down five-year jail terms and confiscate assets of those who refuse to work. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#) and [Dhaka Tribune](#)

The Philippines

18 February 2022: In San Juan city, Lone district, National Capital region, a female doctor and human rights advocate was arrested from her home by Philippine authorities and subsequently detained in Bayugan city, Agusan del Sur province, Caraga region, after being red-tagged as a doctor of the armed group New People's Army. **Sources:** [CHR](#) and [InterAksyon](#)

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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