

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

29 June-12
July 2022

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Attacked and Threatened: Health Care at Risk

Since the start of the year and until 14 July, at least 98 health workers have been killed, 86 kidnapped and and further 67 injured. In addition, health facilities have been attacked at least 220 times. Explore our interactive global map to see where incidents were reported, who the perpetrators were and the weapons used..

How to use the map:

- Click on a country to show key statistics on perpetrators of violence, weapons use, the number of health workers killed, injured and kidnapped (KIK), and health facilities damaged or destroyed.
- Zoom in on a country to show yellow squares. Click on these to display the incident description.

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

01 July 2022: On the road between Sebba, Yagha and Dori towns, Seno region, suspected IS Sahel or JNIM militants robbed a motorcycle and mobile phones from a health worker. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

04 July 2022: In Dori town, Seno region, suspected IS Sahel militants stole an ambulance. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

05 July 2022: In Douroula town, Mouhoun region, suspected JNIM militants attacked the town, setting fire to an ambulance. One person was killed and several others wounded in the attack, and a bar and shops were set on fire, as well as motorcycles and bicycles looted. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Cameroon

04 July 2022: In Mada district, Far North region, unidentified perpetrators attacked the Mada District Hospital, killing a security guard and wounding several other people, including patients. The hospital buildings and vehicles were then set on fire. **Source:** [HumAngle](#)

Central African Republic

23 June 2022: In Lawane quarter, Russian state-linked mercenaries from the Wagner Group detained a 30-year-old pharmacist on suspicion that he was providing health care to a rebel leader. He was taken away, tortured and executed. His body was found on 03 July by passers-by around the Ouaka River. **Source:** [HumAngle](#)

Violence against or obstruction of health care in the CAR in 2021

In October 2021, the Russia-linked Wagner Group, supported by FACA troops, attacked a village in Bossangoa district, Ouham prefecture and looted a health centre. Shops were also destroyed, livestock was stolen, and three civilians were killed in the attack. This was just one of the 107 incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in the CAR in 2021, according to the SHCC. Read the full factsheet [here](#).

Democratic Republic of the Congo

04 July 2022: In Kimeni village, near Butembo, North Kivu province, Mayi Mayi militia killed a nurse near the health centre he worked at. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

06 July 2022: On the Tshikapa-Kamonia road, Kapola village, Kasai province, armed men attacked and shot at a Red Cross vehicle. No injuries were reported. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

07 July 2022: In Lume area, Ruwenzori sector, Beni territory, North Kivu province, unidentified perpetrators attacked a church clinic, where they burned at least 13 people to death, including four patients and three infants. According to a military spokesman, the perpetrators were Dido armed men from the Mai-Mai militia group. However, civil society groups claim that the attack was carried out by the Allied Democratic Forces. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#), [Black Enterprise](#) and [HumAngle](#)

Mali

07 July 2022: Between Parou and Songobia, Bandiagara villages, Mopti region, suspected JNIM militants reportedly stole an ambulance along with its occupants. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

07 July 2022: Between Tonka, Goundam and Niafounke, Niafunke towns, Tombouctou region, an armed group aboard motorcycles reportedly fired gunshots at the vehicle of the Technical Director of the Dofana village health centre. The health worker escaped unharmed, and the assailants fled the scene. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Violence against or obstruction of health care in Mali in 2021

According to the SHCC, at least 29 health workers were kidnapped in 2021. The majority of victims were employed by health INGOs and in most cases were abducted in groups of up to three or four people. Kidnappings commonly took place while staff were travelling to provide health care to remote areas of the country; often the vehicles they were in were seized by their abductors. Read the full factsheet [here](#).

Nigeria

01 July 2022: Update: In Maru local government area, Zamfara state, the Chief Medical Doctor of the Dansadau General Hospital, who was abducted by armed bandits on 28 June, was rescued by security forces. **Source:** [Eons Intelligence](#)

Sudan

30 June 2022: In Khartoum state, security forces attempted to raid hospitals and attack medical staff treating protestors injured during the 30 June March of the Millions. **Source:** [Radio Dabanga I](#) and [Radio Dabanga II](#)

05 July 2022: In Tegmala, South Kordofan state, an ambulance was set on fire during a demonstration by the relatives of victims killed during looting by masked gunmen. **Source:** [Radio Dabanga](#)

Asia

Afghanistan

04 July 2022: In Sayed Jamaluddin town, Bagrami district, Kabul, a doctor who was also the Director of Ibn-Sina Private Institute was shot dead by gunmen. The motive for the incident is unknown and no group has claimed responsibility for his killing. The doctor was a controversial figure on social media because of his religious discussions and self proclamation of being a philosopher. **Source:** [Khaama](#)

Myanmar

19 June 2022: In Sittwe town and township, Rakhine state, a 38-year-old male health care worker was abducted from Rakhine state health department office by SAC forces for allegedly providing insecticide-treated nets to the Arakan Army. He had been working as a medical technician working in a laboratory at the vector-borne disease control unit in Maungdaw town and township, Rakhine state. **Source:** [Democratic Voice of Burma](#) and [Narinjara News](#)

29 June 2022: In an undisclosed location, nine health workers were reportedly killed. **Source:** [WHOSSA](#)²

01 July 2022: In Dakkhinathiri town and township, Nay Pyi Taw region, a medical doctor was among the 18 civilians charged or arrested for political activism through social media. The charges could amount to 37 years imprisonment, with all of the doctor's properties and assets seized as state property. **Source:** [Facebook](#) and [Myanmar Ministry of Home Affairs](#)

04 July 2022: In Hpapun district, Karen state, a hospital and clinic buildings were damaged by a Myanmar military airstrike against the Arakan Army base in the Karen National Union (KNU) Brigade No. (5) area. **Source:** [Khit Thit Media](#), and [Radio Free Asia](#) and [Radio Free Asia II](#)

04 July 2022: In Ye-U town and township, Sagaing region, a traditional medicine hospital was targeted with explosive weapons by the local People's Defence Force. The target of the attack was reportedly the Myanmar military, who were allegedly occupying the health facility at the time. **Source:** [Khit Thit Media](#)

09 July 2022: In Thlanrawn village, Falam township, Chin state, the house of a nurse was damaged by artillery fire during the clashes between Myanmar military and local defence forces in the area. **Source:** [Mizzima](#)

09 July 2022: Near the jetty in Kyun Gyi village, Shwegyin township, Nyaunglebin district, Bago region, a four-year-old patient and his mother struck a landmine on their way to a hospital in Ka Nyin Kyo town, Kyauktaga township, Bago region. **Source:** [Radio Free Asia](#) and [Myanmar Ministry of Home Affairs](#)

11 July 2022: On Monywa-Mandalay highway, near Khin Mun village, Chaung-U township, Sagaing region, a landmine detonated when a group of seven ambulances with patients on board drove over it. The rear windscreen of an ambulance was broken but no injuries or casualties were reported. **Source:** [Eleven Media](#)

Pakistan

02 July 2022: In Frere area, Karachi city, Sindh province, at least two men assaulted and reportedly tortured two polio workers, including a woman, for conducting polio vaccination drives in the area. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

02 July 2022: In Madakhel area, Mir Ali tehsil, North Waziristan district, Bannu division, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, gunmen opened fire on a team of polio vaccinators, critically injuring a health worker. The attackers fled the scene after police officers escorting the team fired back.

Source: [People's Daily Online](#)

03 July 2022: In Mir Ali town, North Waziristan district, Bannu division, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, gunmen shot and killed a polio vaccinator during a vaccination drive. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Violence Against Vaccinators and Vaccination Campaigns

Several years ago, polio vaccinators in Quetta, Pakistan were shook by the murder of two colleagues. Armed men on a motorcycle shot a mother and daughter in a 'drive-by' style shooting as they were administering polio drops to children. Both women died on their way to hospital. This attack is not an isolated incident.

This Attacks on Vaccination Campaigns blog series analyses Insecurity Insight's data on attacks to health care to explore where they took place, who was affected, who was responsible, how these attacks may have changed in recent years, and how they relate to public health and politics.

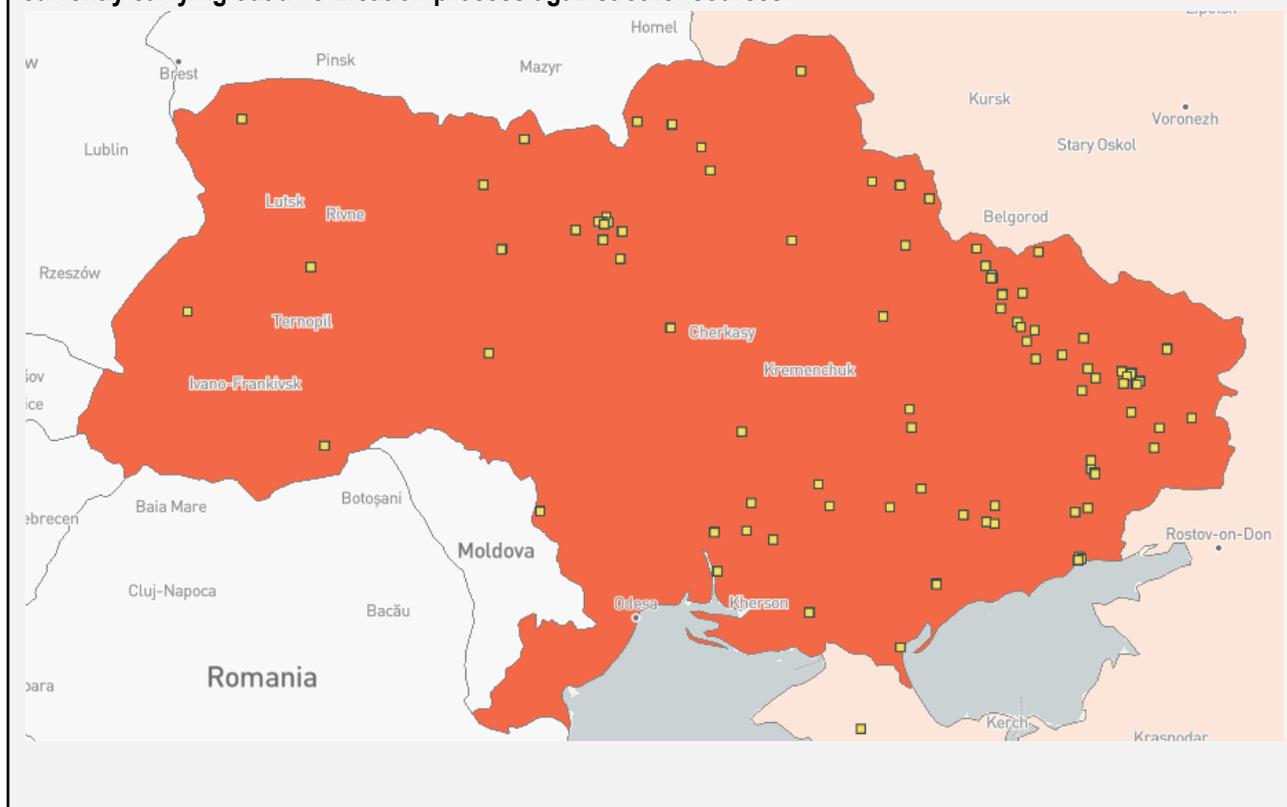
Read the blog on the [RIAH website](#) or as [PDF](#) here.

Europe

Ukraine: Latest Data Release

The 24 February-14 July 2022 data on incidents of violence against or obstruction of health care in Ukraine is now available for download on [HDX](#) or to explore on our [interactive map](#).

Our data includes available information on who the perpetrators were and what weapons were used. We are currently carrying out a verification process against other sources.



Middle East North Africa

Occupied Palestinian territory

29 June 2022: In an undisclosed location, an incident of psychological violence/threat of violence/intimidation with weapons at a health facility involving health workers, patients and supplies was reported. **Source:** [WHOSSA](#)²

Violence against or obstruction of health care in the oPt in 2021

169 incidents of violence or obstruction against health care were perpetrated in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (oPt) in 2021, according to a new Arabic-language oPt factsheet published today by the [Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition](#) (SHCC), based on data collated by coalition member [Insecurity Insight](#). Read the factsheet here: [Arabic](#) | [English](#). Download the [data](#) cited in the report.

Syrian Arab Republic

05 July 2022: In Eastern Jurdi town, Deir ez Zor governorate, SDF launched a security operation and detained a doctor for unknown reasons. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

08 July 2022: In northwestern Syria, Russia vetoed a bid to extend for 12 months a United Nations Security Council (UNSC) mandate to deliver food, medical supplies and other humanitarian aid to rebel-held areas through the Bab al-Hawa Crossing Point. On 12 July, the UNSC agreed to extend the mandate by six months, following the council's inability to agree on any further extension - Russia vetoed any measure longer than six months. The potential closure of the last aid corridor from Turkey would have deprived 4.1 people of life-saving assistance, a potential crisis which will return in January 2023 when the next vote occurs. **Sources:** [AFP](#), [BBC](#), [The New Arab I](#), [The New Arab II](#), [The New Arab III](#) and [The New Arab IV](#)

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.

Africa

Kenya

28 June 2022: In Murang'a town and county, health workers threatened to launch a strike on 03 July to protest two month delays in payment of salaries by the county government. **Source:** [People Daily](#)

Asia

Bangladesh

As reported on 30 June 2022: In Chittagong city, district and division, the accounts officer of the Chattogram General Hospital, in conspiracy with three suppliers, attempted to release a forged supply bill, prompting the hospital authority to file a complaint with the Anti-Corruption Commission. **Source:** [New Age](#)

China

09 July 2022: In Huangpu district, Shanghai city, East China region, a man held a group of people hostage with a knife on the seventh floor of the Ruijin Hospital. When the perpetrator reportedly intended to injure the hostages, police fired their weapons at him to injure and subdue him. Four people were wounded. **Sources:** [24 Channel](#), [Gordon](#), [New Format](#) and [The Guardian](#)

Sri Lanka

29 June 2022: Hundreds of people, including doctors, demonstrated amid a nationwide shortage of fuel that had prompted the Sri Lankan Government to restrict supplies to essential services on 28 June. Meanwhile, despite being designated essential workers, doctors, nurses and medical staff struggle to find enough fuel to reach their workplace. **Source:** [Rappler](#)

Europe

Malta

As reported on 07 July 2022: In Tigné neighbourhood, Sliema town, Northern Harbour district, Central region, a Ukrainian woman physically and verbally assaulted a Russian-speaking doctor and her children inside a shopping complex, calling her a killer and threatening to kill her and her children. **Source:** [Lovin Malta](#)

Turkey

06 July 2022: In Konya city and province, Central Anatolia region, a male cardiologist was shot dead at the Konya City Hospital by a security guard of the Yunak District State Hospital, who blamed him for the death of his mother, who had died of a heart attack a month earlier. The gunman is also believed to have shot the victim's secretary, before eventually committing suicide with the same weapon. On 07 July, members of the Union of Healthcare and Social Service Workers went on a nationwide strike to protest the incident. Colleagues of the victim also protested the murder in the garden of the hospital. **Sources:** [Euro News](#), [Hurriyet Daily I](#), [Hurriyet Daily II](#) and [Hurriyet Daily III](#)

09 July 2022: The leader of the Nationalist Movement Party criticised a call by the Turkish Medical Association for a two-day strike of health care workers over the killing of the Konya City Hospital cardiologist on 06 July, and claimed that the association should be shut down. **Source:** [Hurriyet Daily III](#)

¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 14 July 2022.

² WHOSSA accessed 14 July 2022.

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

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