

Attacks on Health Care

Bi-Monthly News Brief

02-15
November
2022

Past News Brief editions: [19 October-01 November](#); [05-18 October](#); [21 September-04 October](#); [All](#).

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Please [get in touch](#) if you are interested in curated datasets, if you have made a public statement that you would like us to include in our Bi Monthly News Brief, to report an incident or if you have additional information on an incident we have reported on. Visit our [website](#), join our [mailing list](#), follow us on [Twitter](#) and [HDX](#)

Call for Health Worker Stories

The Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) is collecting first-hand accounts of health workers (including ambulance drivers) whose safety or ability to provide high-quality health care has been affected by conflict or civil unrest in 2022 to include in their 2023 report. [Find out more](#)

Global Map On Attacks On Health Care

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 since 2016. Includes details on who the perpetrators were and the weapons used. Access the dataset on [HDX](#). The dataset does not yet include incidents reported in this News Brief. Registered HDX user? Follow us for regular dataset updates.

Protection of Health Care Surveys

Take a look at the results of two recent surveys in [Nigeria](#) and [South Sudan](#) on the protection of health care.

Strengthening Data to Protect Healthcare in Conflict Zones

This virtual policy forum will provide an opportunity to discuss a new [report for the International Peace Institute](#) on improving data collection on attacks on health care. Join Len Rubenstein, Susannah Sirkin and Rohini Haar on 01 December from 10:30-12:00pm ET. Register [here](#).

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

03 November 2022: In Bondokuy village, Mouhoun province, Boucle du Mouhoun region, an ambulance and a motorcycle were seized by suspected JNIM militants. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Cameroon

03 November 2022: In Batibo town and subdivision, Northwest region, unidentified perpetrators abducted nine health workers from a government-run hospital. **Sources:** [FX Empire](#) and [Reuters](#)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

22 October 2022: In Some village, Mambasa territory, Ituri province, suspected members of rebel group Allied Democratic Forces looted pharmacies during an attack. **Source:** [Radio Moto](#)



07 November 2022: In Djugu territory, Ituri province, the International Committee of the Red Cross restarted their activities in the area after having been suspended since 2001 following the killing of six Red Cross aid workers. **Sources:** [Actualité](#) and [Radio Moto](#)

09 November 2022: In Kabasha village, located on the road between Butembo and Beni cities, North Kivu province, more than 200 heavily armed members of the rebel group Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) entered the village and looted the hospital centre of Kabasha before setting it on fire. A male doctor found at the hospital centre was also kidnapped, while hospital patients were threatened. The perpetrators burnt down fourteen local shops including pharmacies. **Sources:** [Actualité I](#), [Actualité II](#), [La Prunelle](#), [Radio Moto I](#), [Radio Moto II](#), and [Radio Okapi](#)

Attacks on Health Care in the DRC

At least 25 health workers have been kidnapped in the DRC between 01 January and 20 October 2022. Download the dataset with details on the reported perpetrator and weapons used on [HDX](#). The dataset does not yet include incidents reported in this News Brief. Registered HDX user? [Follow](#) us for the latest dataset updates.

Kenya

01 November 2022: Near Mandera town and county, along the Kenya-Ethiopia-Somalia border, al Shabaab militants hijacked a government ambulance that was on its way to the Elwak Referral Hospital, and abducted four men - the driver, two paramedics of the Lafey Health Centre, and a 40-year-old patient - taking them towards Somalia. The medics and the patient were released the next day, while the driver was set free on 03 November. **Sources:** [AA](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [All Africa](#), [Garowe](#), [Nation](#), [Reuters](#), [The Standard](#), [The Star](#) and [Voice of America](#)

Niger

05 November 2022: Between Arlit and Tchibarakaten departments, Agadez region, an ambulance was stopped and seized by an armed group. Mobile and satellite phones were also taken. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Mali

04 November 2022: Between Parou and Songobia towns, Bandiagara commune, Mopti region, an ambulance was hijacked and two civilians were kidnapped by suspected JNIM militants. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

06 November 2022: In Gossi town, Gourma-Rharous commune, Tombouctou region, a health worker from the Tuareg community was killed by suspected JNIM militants. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Asia

Islamic Republic of Iran

04 November 2022: In Tehran city and province, tear gas was thrown inside Sinai Hospital. A Doctor who posted a photo of the incident on social media was fired and barred from entering the hospital. **Sources:** [Instagram](#), [Independent Persian](#), [Peykeiran](#) and [Iran Wire](#)

As reported on 04 November 2022: In various locations, doctors have reported that security forces are raiding hospitals, arresting protestors who are receiving medical treatment, forcing doctors to reveal patients' information and preventing doctors from treating protestors. In response, some patients are afraid to seek treatment at public or private hospitals, and instead go home injured and call a doctor who they trust. **Source:** [Independent Persian](#)

As reported on 05 November 2022: In Tehran city and province, the family of a patient who had been in a protest and died were asked for money by security forces at a hospital to deliver the body. **Source:** [Instagram](#)

As reported on 06 November 2022: In Shahrak Andisheh neighbourhood, Tehran city and province, security forces stole the body of a girl who was killed in protests in Tehran from her family on the way to their hometown Mariwan and forced them to declare that the reason of their daughter's death was hysteria. **Sources:** [Instagram I](#), [Instagram II](#), [Janoubia](#), [Radio Farda](#) and [Iran Wire](#)

Myanmar

Attacks on Health Care in Myanmar

At least 66 health workers have been arrested and 18 killed in Myanmar between 01 January and 20 October 2022. Download the dataset with details on the reported perpetrator and weapons used on [HDX](#) or explore on our [interactive map](#). Registered HDX user? [Follow](#) us for the latest dataset updates.

For details on reported incidents between 02-15 November 2022, please see this [document](#). Past analysis reports: [May 2022 Update](#); [SHCC 2021 Myanmar Factsheet](#)

Pakistan

11 November 2022: In Karachi city and division, Sindh province, police used water cannons, teargas and batons against protesting health workers, as some marched towards the Chief Minister House during a protest. 70 protesters, including community health workers, nurses, paramedics and doctors, were arrested. A representative of the Young Doctors Association warned that, if arrestees are not released, emergency services at hospitals across Sindh will be shut the next day. All women were released on 12 November, but 12 doctors and paramedics remained in custody until the next day. **Sources:** [Dawn](#), [Public Services International](#) and [The News](#)

As reported on 13 November 2022: In Qasim Gabo Goth area, Karachi city and division, Sindh province, a doctor was shot dead near his clinic by two gunmen in a drive-by shooting. **Source:** [Ary](#)

Europe

Ukraine

Attacks on Health Data in Ukraine

The 01 January 2016-20 October 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. Registered HDX user? [Follow](#) us for the latest dataset updates.

Middle East North Africa

Occupied Palestinian Territories

As reported on 04 November 2022: In Hebron city and governorate, West Bank, a Palestinian Red Crescent staff member was hit in the shoulder by Israeli gunfire. **Source:** [The New Arab](#)

The Americas

Mexico

09 November 2022: In Colonia Residencial Tecnológico, Celaya city, Guanajuato state, a grenade was found in front of the Primary Health Care Medical Unit (UMAPS). **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Global Health Insecurity

These events affect the provision of health care but are not directly conflict related. These include events perpetrated by patients, relatives of patients, private individuals and criminals as well as significant strike action or protests by health care personnel.

Africa

South Africa

07 November 2022: In Ndwedwe town, Ilembe district, KwaZulu-Natal province, police spotted three hijacked vehicles, including an ambulance, driving at a high speed. As they tried to stop them, those on board fired shots towards the police and continued to flee, later abandoning the vehicles and hiding in nearby bushes. A 32-year-old suspect has since been arrested. **Source:** [IOL](#)

Asia

Bangladesh

02 November 2022: In Mohammadpur area, Dhaka, the officer-in-charge of the Mohammadpur Police Station physically assaulted an employee of a pharmacy for not keeping its shutter completely closed before the Prime Minister passed through the area. **Source:** [New Age](#)

India

As reported on 31 October 2022: In an undisclosed location, Kerala state, a patient attacked a doctor at a general hospital, following a diagnosis that required admittance. **Source:** [Medical Dialogues](#)

As reported on 31 October 2022: In Amritsar city and district, Punjab state, two armed people disguised as patients entered a clinic on Sant Avenue, stealing cash and gold jewellery belonging to a female doctor. **Source:** [Medical Dialogues](#)

04 November 2022: In Faridkot district, Punjab state, a group of people wielding sticks and sharp-edged weapons entered the Punjab Medical Hospital, and attacked patients undergoing treatment for injuries sustained during an earlier scuffle with the perpetrators outside the hospital. Following the attack, the victims were shifted to the Emergency Department. **Source:** [Daily Hunt](#)

The Americas

United States of America

As reported on 04 November 2022: In Grand Junction municipality, Mesa County seat, Colorado state, an ICU nurse at the Saint Mary's Medical Centre has been arrested for sexually abusing and recording unconscious patients under his care. **Sources:** [New York Post](#) and [The Blaze](#)

¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 17 November 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.

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