Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories  
12-15 October 2023

Insecurity Insight has identified at least 94 incidents of violence against or obstruction of access to health care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories between 07-15 October 2023.

In Israel where four incidents were reported, a hospital was hit with rocket fire, a paramedic was shot and killed and an Indian nurse severely injured during attacks carried out by Hamas militants. In addition, a medical centre intended to move a department to its emergency underground hospital facility as a safety measure.

In the oPt where 90 incidents were recorded, at least 15 incidents reported health facilities being extensively damaged, 28 health workers killed and 23 injured by explosive weapons used by Israeli forces in Gaza. In addition, in the West Bank at least 24 health workers have been detained while responding to health emergencies and ambulances frequently obstructed from reaching patients.

Insecurity Insight calls upon all conflict parties to uphold international humanitarian law. Health workers and facilities are protected. Perpetrators must be held accountable.

Below are the incidents Insecurity Insight has identified between 12-15 October. 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. Numbers may change if or when further information is made available. If you have additional information on an incident documented here, or a new incident, please get in touch.

Join our mailing for the latest information. Visit our global map.¹ Download the data on HDX

Past incident reports: 07-11 October. Help support the protection of health care by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link: bit.ly/12-15Oct2023OPTHealth

2022 Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) factsheets: Arabic and English
Israel

No incidents identified during the reporting period.

Occupied Palestinian Territories

12 October 2023: In Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin governorate, West Bank, an ambulance was shot at by Israeli forces during gunfire exchange with opposition members. Source: Personal Communication

12 October 2023: In Gaza, an anesthesiologist and doctor who were husband and wife were killed alongside their children by Israeli fired missiles. Source: Personal Communication

12 October 2023: In Gaza, eleven UNRWA staff members have been killed during Israeli airstrikes since Saturday 07 October 2023. Five teachers, a gynaecologist, an engineer, a psychological counsellor and three UN support staff. Source: The New Arab

13 October 2023: In Gaza, the residence of a Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) staff member was bombed by Israeli forces, killing at least one of his family members and leaving him homeless. Source: Personal Communication

13 October 2023: In Gaza, Durrah Children’s Hospital was reportedly bombed with internationally prohibited white phosphorus shells fired by Israeli forces. The hospital was evacuated. Source: Personal Communication

13 October 2023: In Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, Al Awda Hospital was ordered to evacuate by the Israeli military. Due to the many patients in critical condition doctors at the hospital have said that it is impossible to evacuate. Source: MSF and Al Jazeera VI

13 October 2023: In Gaza, a pathology professor was killed alongside his family members in Israeli airstrikes. Source: Personal Communication and Personal Communication II

13 October 2023: In Rafah governorate, Gaza, a doctor was killed inside their house in Israeli airstrikes. Source: Al Quds Network

14 October 2023: In Gaza, the Jordan Field Hospital was damaged in Israeli forces shelling and no longer able to provide health care. Source: Al Quds Network and Al Jazeera

14 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, the Palestinian Red Crescent was ordered to evacuate Al-Quds Hospital by the Israeli military. Source: Al Jazeera II

14 October 2023: In Gaza, Kamal Adwan Hospital was ordered to evacuate by the Israeli military. Source: Personal Communication

14 October 2023: In Gaza, Al-Durrah Children’s Hospital was ordered to evacuate by the Israeli military. Source: Personal Communication

14 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, Al Shifa Hospital was ordered to evacuate by the Israeli military. Hospital officials have said that it is impossible to evacuate to the south of Gaza due to the number of wounded arriving at the hospital and the number of individuals seeking shelter in its grounds. Source: Times of Israel

14 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, the Al-Wafa Medical Centre was ordered to evacuate by the Israeli military. Source: Personal Communication
As reported on 14 October 2023: In Rafah city and governorate, Abu Yousef al-Najjar Hospital (Mohammed Yousef el-Najjar Hospital) was damaged by Israeli airstrikes and put out of service. Source: Al Jazeera IV

As reported on 14 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, sources have reported Israeli airstrikes targeting the Al-Quds Hospital, where hundreds of families are currently taking refuge. Source: Al Jazeera IV

14 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, a senior plastic and burn surgeon at Shifa Hospital was killed, along with 30 of his family members in an Israeli airstrike that targeted their home. Source: Personal Communication

14 October 2023: In Gaza, Israeli jets have bombarded the vicinity of Al Awdah Hospital for Children. Source: Al Quds Network

14 October 2023: In Gaza city city and governorate, Ahli Arab Hospital was hit by Israeli airstrikes, partially damaging two floors and damaging the ultrasound and mammography room. Four people were injured. Sources: Al Jazeera V and Personal Communication

15 October 2023: In Rafah city and governorate, Al Kuwaiti Hospital was given 45 minutes to evacuate under the threat of bombardment. Hospital administrators have refused to do so because of the large number of wounded individuals, including those in critical condition and requiring artificial respiration. Sources: Personal Communication and WAFA

15 October 2023: In Gaza, a doctor and her husband who was the former head of a medical faculty at a university, their children and grandchildren were killed in an Israeli airstrike. Source: Personal Communication

This document 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 through the project ‘Ending violence against healthcare in conflict: documentation, tools, and data-informed advocacy to stop and prevent attacks’ funded by the European Union. The contents are the responsibility of Insecurity Insight. Insecurity Insight. 2023. 12-15 October 2023. Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/12-15Oct2023OPTHealth

¹ Zoom in and click on Israel or oPT to see the latest figures. Click on the yellow square to read about the recorded events.