






Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories

23-31 October 2023



Recorded violence against health care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories, 07-31 October 2023

				
171	50	37	27	31
REPORTED INCIDENTS	HEALTH WORKERS KILLED	HEALTH WORKERS ARRESTED	HEALTH WORKERS INJURED	INCIDENTS WHERE HEALTH FACILITIES WERE DAMAGED ¹

This data is available on [HDX](#). Explore the incidents in this [interactive map](#).²

Note: In three incidents where health facilities were damaged, health workers were also killed or injured.

Past incident reports: [16-22](#); [12-15 October](#); [07-11 October](#); [All](#)

Visit our oPt webpage: insecurityinsight.org/country-pages/occupied-palestinian-territory-opt

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2022 Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) factsheets: [Arabic](#) and [English](#)

Insecurity Insight has identified 171 incidents of violence against or obstruction of access to health care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories between 07-31 October 2023. Insecurity Insight calls upon all conflict parties to uphold international humanitarian law. Health workers and facilities are protected. Perpetrators must be held accountable.

In Israel where eight incidents were reported, a hospital was hit with rocket fire, three health workers were 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 and the entrance to a hospital's emergency room was blocked by protestors over rumours that doctors there were treating a Hamas militant in the facility.

In the oPt where 163 incidents were recorded, 30 incidents reported health facilities being extensively damaged, some facilities were damaged more than once, 47 health workers were killed in 26 incidents and 26 injured in 12 incidents by explosive weapons used by Israeli forces in Gaza. In addition, in the West Bank 37 health workers have been detained in 18 incidents, mostly while responding to health emergencies, and ambulances have frequently been obstructed from reaching patients.

Below are the incidents Insecurity Insight has identified between 23-31 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. There is a delay in reporting incidents due to our verification protocol. 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](#). Help support the protection of health care by sharing this resource. Please copy and paste this link: bit.ly/23-31Oct2023OPTHealth

Israel

No incidents identified during the reporting period.

Occupied Palestinian Territories

23 October 2023: In Beit Lahia, North Gaza governorate, Gaza Strip, a therapist and her family were killed in Israeli airstrikes. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

24 October 2023: In Beit Lahia, North Gaza governorate, Gaza Strip, the Indonesian Hospital lost full power after it ran out of fuel sources, leaving services out of use for 50 minutes, putting patients at harm and leaving the hospital in darkness. **Source:** [Personal Communication I](#) and [Personal Communication II](#)

24 October 2023: In Khan Yunis city, Khan Yunis governorate, Gaza Strip, heavy shelling by Israeli forces was reported in the vicinity of the Al-Amal Hospital. **Sources:** [Personal Communication](#)

24 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, Gaza Strip, Israeli airstrikes were reported in the vicinity of Al-Shifa Hospital. A group of children were injured. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

25 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, Gaza strip, the Palestinian Medical Relief Center (PMRS) for Rehabilitation of the Disabled was destroyed in Israeli airstrikes. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

26 October 2023: In Beit Lahia, North Gaza governorate, the family members of the head of surgery at the Indonesian Hospital were killed in Israeli airstrikes. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

26 October 2023: Khan Yunis city and governorate, Gaza Strip, Israeli airstrikes were reported in the vicinity of the Nasser Hospital. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

28-29 October 2023: In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, Gaza Strip, Israeli airstrikes were reported in the vicinity of the Indonesian Hospital. Damage and power outages in different sections of the hospital were reported. **Sources:** [OCHA](#), [Personal Communication](#), [Personal Communication II](#) and [Personal Communication III](#) and [Personal Communication IV](#)

28 October 2023: In the Gaza Strip, communication blackouts imposed by Israel hampered rescue efforts during the intense bombardment campaign. Injured civilians were unable to call emergency services for assistance. On 29 October 2023 some communications were reportedly restored. **Source:** [Al Jazeera III](#) and [Personal Communication II](#)

As reported on 29 October 2023: In Khan Younis city and governorate, Gaza strip, only the emergency department of Nasr Hospital is operating. All other departments closed due to lack of medical and fuel supplies. **Source:** [Al Jazeera](#)

28-29 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, Israeli airstrikes around Al Shifa Hospital destroyed most of the roads leading to it making access hard. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera II](#) and [OCHA Flash 23](#)

29 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, the Palestinian Red Crescent reported receiving “strong threats” from Israeli forces to immediately evacuate the Al-Quds Hospital because it will be

bombed. The vicinity of the hospital has witnessed continuous air raids since the morning. There are more than 14,000 persons who have sought shelter inside the hospital. Continuous rockets and air strikes launched in the vicinity of the hospital have caused significant damage to some hospital departments and exposed residents and patients to suffocation. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera III](#), [OCHA](#), [Personal Communication](#), [Personal Communication II](#), [Personal Communication III](#) and [Personal Communication IV](#)

29 October 2023: In an unspecified location in the Gaza Strip, three Palestinian Red Crescent ambulances stopped working due to fuel shortages. **Source:** [Personal Communications](#)

29 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, Israeli bombing was reported in the vicinity of Al-Shifa Hospital. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

30 October 2023: In Northern Gaza governorate, a Palestinian Red Crescent ambulance was destroyed in an Israeli airstrike. **Source:** [Personal Communication](#)

30 October 2023: In Jenin City and governorate, West Bank, Ibn Sina Hospital was damaged after a bulldozer demolished part of the hospital's outer wall. Israeli soldiers were also deployed around the hospital and raided the emergency department. This incident occurred during a security raid on Jenin refugee camp. **Sources:** [Al Arabiya News](#), [Personal Communication](#) and [Personal Communication](#)

30 October 2023: In Gaza city and governorate, Gaza Strip, the Turkish-Palestinian Hospital (Tika Hospital) was damaged as a result of heavy Israeli airstrikes in the vicinity of the hospital. The blast partially destroyed two rooms on the third floor, damaging the facility's oxygen system and water supply. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#), [Garowe](#), [OCHA](#), [Personal Communication](#) and [TRT World Now](#)

As reported on 31 October 2023: In an unspecified location, Gaza Strip, four doctors and their family members were killed in Israeli airstrikes. The doctors owned the largest eye centre in Gaza. **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. 23-31 October 2023. Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/23-31Oct2023OPTHealth**

¹ Health facility: Refers to any facility that provides direct health-related support to patients, including clinics, hospitals, laboratories, makeshift hospitals, medical education facilities, mobile clinics, pharmacies, warehouses, or any other health facility not named here. Health worker: Refers to any person working in a professional or voluntary capacity in the provision of health services or who provides direct support to patients, including administrators, ambulance personnel, community health workers, dentists, doctors, government health officials, hospital staff, medical education staff, nurses, midwives, paramedics, physiotherapists, surgeons, vaccination workers, volunteers, or any other health-related personnel not named here.

² Zoom in and click on Israel or oPT to see the latest figures. Click on the yellow square to read about the recorded events.

