

Attacks on Health Care

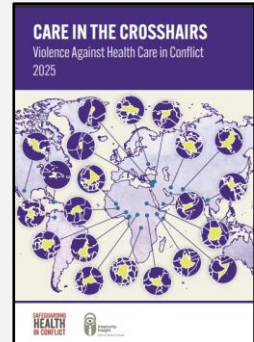
News Brief

27 May - 09
June 2026

Attacks on health care were relentless in 2025. Using data collected by Insecurity Insight, the Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) recorded **2,546 incidents in 33 countries** in which damage to or the destruction of health care facilities was reported on at least 790 occasions, 455 health workers were killed, 218 kidnapped and 263 arrested.

Key findings in 2025

- Violence rose in 13 countries and recorded incidents remained far above the ten-year annual average.
- Continued high levels of violence by state forces alongside rising levels of violence by non-state armed actors.
- The expansion of remotely piloted aerial systems (drones) increasingly affected health care in conflict settings.
- Kidnapping of health workers increased, particularly in the Central African Republic, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Pakistan and Syria.



The report includes detailed profiles of 21 countries and territories where many acts of violence against health care by state parties and non-state armed groups, including organized criminal groups, took place. These include:

Africa: **Burkina Faso**, **Cameroon**, the **CAR**, the **DRC**, **Ethiopia**, **Mali**, **Nigeria**, **Somalia**, **South Sudan** and **Sudan**

Asia: **Myanmar** and **Pakistan**

The Middle East and Europe: **Lebanon**, **Iran**, the **occupied Palestinian territory**, **Syria**, **Ukraine** and **Yemen**

The Americas: **Colombia**, **Haiti** and **Mexico**

Year in Review: **2025**; **2024**; **2023**

Global Health Conference: The Right to Health in Times of War

Bringing together health professionals, researchers, and activists, the conference will examine why medical neutrality is being eroded, what this means for affected populations in and beyond the immediate line of fire, and how health can be protected under conditions of violence.

The program includes a keynote by **Christina Wille** (Insecurity Insight/Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition) as well as workshops with experts from Sudan, Lebanon, and Ukraine, including **Hind Altaif** (Emergency Response Rooms Sudan) and **Dr. Zeina Mohanna** (Amel Association International, Lebanon). The conference will address health systems under strain beyond active conflict zones, focusing on the militarisation and gradual erosion of health care as well as the ethical implications of these developments. Contributors include **Prof. Dr. Yudit Namer** (University of Twente) and the **Gesundheitskollektiv Berlin**.

Date: 12 September 2026, 0930-1700 CET

Location: Refugio Berlin

Register [here](#). Space is limited - we encourage you to secure your spot early.

Past editions: **13-26 May**; **29 April-12 May**; **15-28 April**; **01-14 April**; **18-31 March**; **04-17 March**; **18 February-03 March**; **04-17 February**; **21 January-03 February**; **07-20 January**; **24 December-06 January**; **10-23 December**; **All**

SHCC Reports: **2025**; **2024**; **2023**; **2022**; **2021**; **All**

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Insecurity Insight – Monitoring incidents around the world affecting aid, health care, education, and protection.

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

27 May 2026: On the Mbau-Kamango axis, Beni territory, North Kivu province, a pharmacy was raided by armed ADF members. **Source:** Personal Communication

30 May 2026: In Bunia city, Ituri province, a Red Cross Ebola response team was assaulted and threatened at a cemetery during an attempted burial by the local population. The residents opened the coffin and body bag and interfered with the body. At least four Red Cross workers were injured. **Sources:** ICI Beyrouth, Mezha, Neo Africa and Reuters

30-31 May 2026: In Ngadi neighbourhood, Beni city and territory, North Kivu province, an attempted raid on the Ngadi Health Centre by ADF firing shots was thwarted by a FARDC soldier. 17 patients and a nurse were in the facility at the time. The attempt occurred during a larger attack approximately 300 metres from the facility that killed 25 people. The FARDC soldier was killed while intervening, but the health centre remained safe. Due to security concerns following the incident, health workers suspended night-time activities and limited operations to daytime hours. **Sources:** Actualité, Personal Communication and Tazama RDC

01 June 2026: In Katana city, Kabare territory, South Kivu province, an Ebola burial team was attacked by residents, forcing responders to abandon the coffin which was then seized by the community. The body was later handed back. **Sources:** Mezha and Reuters

03 June 2026: Around Beni city, Beni territory, North Kivu province, Ebola response activities were disrupted following a series of attacks by Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebels in the area, which led to three patients with confirmed Ebola infections fleeing treatment centres. **Sources:** The Guardian and UN OCHA

Between 06-07 June 2026: In Mungbere town, Watsa territory, Haut-Uele province, a nurse at Anolite Hospital was killed by a FARDC soldier being treated at the facility. On 10 June, the hospital reduced their operations to minimum service in response. **Source:** Top Congo FM

08 June 2026: In Mongbwalu town, Djudu territory, Ituri province, a health worker was abducted by members of an armed group and forced to perform an autopsy on a suspected Ebola casualty without protective equipment. **Sources:** La Voie D'algerie and UN News

Insecurity Insight latest social media monitoring brief analyses public narratives surrounding the 17th Ebola epidemic in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This fifth briefing in the series covers the period from 09 to 15 June 2026 CET, and for the first time sets the online conversation against broadcast-radio monitoring provided by Rootwise.

Key findings:

- Post volume rose modestly against the previous period (1,608 → 1,775) while comment volume held steady - but politics, not the outbreak, drove the conversation, led by the US temporary travel ban on Congolese travellers ahead of the World Cup and the constitutional-reform debate.
- Epidemic denial was the most common harmful narrative and took on a new frame, fusing with the travel-ban story - that the outbreak was invented or exaggerated to keep the DRC out of the World Cup and would vanish once it ended - making any case, death and recovery figures released around the tournament likely to be read through it.
- Corruption and "Ebola business" narratives remain the most structurally embedded harmful narrative - present across all five monitoring periods - clustering this period under international funding news, above all Sweden's pledge and renewed reference to US support.

- Alongside the harmful content, much of the engagement came from people taking the epidemic seriously - empathy over the reported deaths of two health workers in Bunia, solidarity with MSF and frontline staff, and good-faith criticism over resources, pay and protection for medics, and unclear communication, above all the unexplained "recovery" when the public had been told the strain has no cure.
- New this edition: radio output was largely factual, with no denial or conspiracy narratives - making local-language radio well placed to address the two questions it currently covers least: how patients recover when there is "no cure," and why safe, dignified burials are conducted as they are, ideally delivered with community and faith leaders in Swahili, Lingala and Nande.

Previous editions

South Sudan

03 June 2026: In Bur payam, Torit county, Eastern Equatoria state, an aid worker traveling by motorcycle on a field mission to the Longiro area was ambushed, shot and killed by armed men. He was the State Coordinator for the Carter Center's Guinea Worm Eradication Programme. **Sources:** **The Borderlines** and **The Radio Community**

As reported 07 June 2026: In Doro Refugee Camp, Maban county, Upper Nile state, a humanitarian health facility was looted by unidentified perpetrators. **Source:** **OCHA, Humanitarian Update**

Sudan

Data from Insecurity Insight shows that since fighting started between the SAF and RSF in April 2023 and 21 May 2026 at least **760 incidents** of violence against or obstruction of access to health care took place across Sudan:

- **Over two-thirds of these 760 attacks were attributed to the RSF**
- **210 health workers were killed**
- **Health facilities were damaged 216 times**
- **63 attacks where armed drones affected health care**
- **51 attacks on maternal health care services**

At least 134 health workers were arrested or detained in 67 incidents across 14 states during the reporting period. Health workers were arrested or detained by the RSF and SAF, often on accusations of supporting opposing conflict parties. Staff were often beaten or threatened while in detention.

Five health workers arrested by the RSF were reportedly killed while 27 others were reportedly released. The fates of the remaining detained health workers remain unclear. In September 2025, an INGO staff member working for health-related programs in Darfur was detained and interrogated by the RSF on accusations of espionage. In the following month he was later found deceased, in circumstances reported as a suspected suicide, highlighting the profound psychological toll that threats, arrests, and intimidation have on staff working in conflict zones.

Incident briefs: **27 May-09 June**; **13-26 May**; **29 April-12 May**; **15-28 April**; **01-14 April**; **18-31 March**; **04-17 March**; **18 February-03 March**; **04-17 February**; **21 January-03 February**; **07-20 January**; **All**

SHCC Chapters (EN): **2025**; **2024**; **2023**; **2022**; **2021**. (AR): **2025**; **2024**; **2023**; **2022**; **2021**

Asia

Afghanistan

As reported 01 June 2026: Nationwide, female medical graduates were barred from writing their final exams, which provide them with the professional qualification and a licence to practice as medical doctors. **Source:** **Inter Press Service News Agency**

Myanmar

Data collected by Insecurity Insight shows that since the military coup on 01 February 2021 and 24 May 2026 at least **1,939 incidents** of violence against or obstruction of access to health care took place across Myanmar:

- equivalent to one attack on health care every day for more than five years
- 65% of these attacks were attributed to the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF)
- 175 health workers were killed and 931 arrested
- health facilities were damaged on at least 506 occasions

Incidents involving drones armed with explosive weapons affected health care **83 times** during the reporting period. These incidents shifted between conflict parties over time and across regions/states, from mainly local defense forces in the Sagaing region in the early years following the coup to the MAF, primarily in the Mandalay and Sagaing regions and Kayin and Rakhine state from 2025 onward.

Incident briefs: [27 May-09 June](#); [13-26 May](#); [29 April-12 May](#); [15-28 April](#); [01-14 April](#); [18-31 March](#); [04-17 March](#); [18 February-03 March](#); [04-17 February](#); [21 January-03 February](#); [07-20 January](#); [All](#)

SHCC Chapters: Burmese: [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#). English: [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#); [2020](#)

Europe

Ukraine

27 May 2026: In Odesa city, urban hromada, raion and oblast, a pharmacy was damaged when a Russian drone hit the area of a shopping centre, causing a fire. **Sources:** [Intent Press](#), [Ostro I](#), [Ostro II](#) and [Teplodar](#)

29 May 2026: In Bilsk village, Kotelva settlement hromada, Poltava raion and oblast, an outpatient clinic was fired at and heavily damaged by a Russian drone in the evening, injuring an unspecified number of people. **Sources:** [Poltava OVA](#), [UA Varta](#) and [Zmist](#)

30-31 May 2026: In Hlukhiv city and urban hromada, Shostka raion, Sumy oblast, windows were broken in a hospital building following Russian bombing overnight. **Sources:** [Courier](#), [Dankor Online](#), [Interfax](#), [State Emergency Service of Ukraine](#), [Sumy Debates](#), [Ukrinform](#) and [Your Chance](#)

01 June 2026: In Konotop city, urban hromada and raion, Sumy oblast, Konotop Central Regional Hospital was damaged by a Russian Shahed drone attack, injuring an ambulance driver of the hospital. He received a concussion and an acute stress reaction. **Sources:** [Apostrophe](#), [Dankor Online](#), [DSNews](#), [Informator](#), [Kordon Media](#), [News.LIVE](#), [The Sumy Post](#), [TrueUA](#), [UA Varta](#), [Ukranews](#), [Your Chance](#) and [ZN,UA](#)

04 June 2026: In Kherson city, urban hromada, raion and oblast, a medical facility was damaged by Russian artillery shelling. **Sources:** [National Police of Ukraine](#)

06 June 2026: In Odesa oblast, the grounds of a medical centre, an apartment building, a home and a hotel building were damaged during a Russian drone attack. **Source:** [UA Varta](#)

07 June 2026: In Druzhkivka city and urban hromada, Kramatorsk raion, Donetsk oblast, an ambulance was damaged when Russian forces shelled the city eight times with aerial bombs, drones, and MLRS. **Source:** [UA Varta](#)

08 June 2026: In Slovyansk city and urban hromada, Kramatorsk raion, Donetsk oblast, a medical facility, an administrative building and several homes were damaged by three Russian airstrikes at noon. **Sources:** [Donetsk Regional State Administration](#), [News Online](#), [Tribun](#) and [V-Variant](#)

3,000 Attacks on Ukraine's Health Care System Since February 2022

Insecurity Insight has documented **3,000 attacks** on Ukraine's health facilities, health workers and infrastructure since the start of Russia's full-scale invasion on 24 February 2022 to 25 April 2026, averaging nearly two attacks per day.

- Hospitals and clinics have been damaged or destroyed **1570** times
- **458** health workers have been killed
- **111** attacks on services provided for women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postnatal period
- **138** attacks on services that provide health care to children
- **269** attacks that impacted a hospital's access to energy or water supply systems
- **32** occasions where a health facility was repurposed for nonmedical use, such as military bases and weapons storage facilities

Explore this [interactive map](#) - a joint undertaking among Insecurity Insight, eyeWitness to Atrocities (eyeWitness), Media Initiative for Human Rights (MIHR), Physicians for Human Rights, Truth Hounds, and the Ukrainian Healthcare Center (UHC) - to see where incidents took place. Available in [English](#) and [Ukrainian](#). Map filters include attacks on maternal and childcare services, military use of health facilities and attacks impacting energy and water supplies.

SHCC Chapters: EN: [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#); [2022](#). UK: [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Lebanon

27 May 2026: In Nabatieh city, district and governorate, the vicinity of Nabih Berri Hospital was shelled by Israeli artillery. **Source:** [Quds News Network](#)

30-31 May 2026: In southern Lebanon, a primary healthcare centre supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) - and a safe space for women and girls - was damaged by Israeli airstrikes. **Source:** [Dostor](#)

01 June 2026: At the Merj'eh intersection, Tyre city and district, South governorate, Jabal Amel University Hospital was damaged following an Israeli airstrike opposite the hospital, which struck a building and a parking lot. The hospital's entrance, first- and second-floor rooms, intensive care units, patient rooms, dialysis centre, staff parking area and hospital courtyard were damaged, and a solar energy project was completely destroyed. The airstrike also caused a power outage in the intensive care units, disrupting the supply of oxygen to patients. Approximately 100 doctors, nurses, employees, patients and caregivers were inside the facility at the time, and 39 health workers were injured. **Sources:** [Al Manar](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [Al Jazeera I](#), [An-Nahar](#), [El Watan News](#), [Khaama Press](#), [Megaphone News](#) and [Megaphone News I](#)

02 to 03 June 2026: In Tebnine municipality, Bint Jbeil district, Nabatieh governorate, Tebnine Governmental Hospital was damaged in an Israeli airstrike, injuring six health workers, including a doctor. **Source:** [Al Mayadeen](#) and [Al Manar](#)

04 June 2026: In Zebdine town, Nabatieh district and governorate, an ambulance team was hit by an Israeli airstrike, killing a paramedic and injuring another. **Source:** [Anadolu Ajansi](#)

05 June 2026: In Tyre city and district, South governorate, Jabal Amel University Hospital was damaged in a nearby Israeli airstrike that killed four people and injured seven others. **Sources:** [BFM](#) and [La Croix](#)

06 June 2026: In Ansariyah municipality, South governorate, an unspecified number of paramedics were injured in a sequential Israeli airstrike while assessing casualties from an earlier airstrike on the area. **Sources:** [NNA](#) and [Quds News Network](#)

08 June 2026: In Tyre city and district, South governorate, a vehicle in the vicinity of a Lebanese Red Cross centre was hit by an Israeli airstrike, killing five people and injuring eight others, including four paramedics. **Sources:** [Quds News Network](#), [Quds News Network I](#) and [UN OCHA](#)

09 June 2026: In Sharqiyeh town, Nabatieh Governorate, two Lebanese Civil Defence rescuers were injured by an Israeli sequential drone strike while trying to extract and provide first aid to a person wounded in a previous strike. **Source:** [Al Jazeera](#)

Insecurity Insight's latest [report](#) examines how the conflict between Iran, Israel, Lebanon and the United States has impacted emergency medical services across the Greater Middle East region.

Key findings

- The highest number of incidents affecting emergency medical services were recorded in Lebanon
- Nearly three quarters of incidents were attributed to Israeli forces
- Sequential strikes on emergency responders were documented in Iran, Iraq and Lebanon.
- Emergency responders in southern Lebanon reported delays and heightened risks during rescue operations

SHCC Chapters: EN: [2025](#); [2024](#). AR: [2025](#); [2024](#)

Occupied Palestinian territory

Data collected by Insecurity Insight shows that between 07 October 2023 and 17 May 2026, at least 3,281 incidents of violence against or obstruction of access to health care took place across the occupied Palestinian territory.¹ 95% of incidents were attributed to Israeli forces. This includes:

- **Gaza:** At least 2,303 attacks on health care were recorded during which health facilities were damaged 445 times, 761 health workers were killed and 390 arrested.² Patient access to medicine was obstructed on 288 occasions.
- **West Bank and East Jerusalem:** At least 917 attacks on health care were recorded during which health facilities were damaged 30 times, 12 health workers were killed and 184 arrested. Patient access to medicine was obstructed on 566 occasions.

Incident briefs: [27 May-09 June](#); [13-26 May](#); [29 April-12 May](#); [15-28 April](#); [01-14 April](#); [18-31 March](#); [04-17 March](#); [18 February-03 March](#); [04-17 February](#); [21 January-03 February](#); [07-20 January](#); [All](#)

SHCC Chapters: EN: [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#). AR: [2025](#); [2024](#); [2023](#); [2022](#); [2021](#)

The Americas

Colombia

As reported 05 June 2026: Update: In Cité Soleil neighbourhood, Port-au-Prince city, West department, the MSF Cité Soleil Hospital partially resumed activities after it was damaged and subsequently closed for three weeks during clashes between rival gangs on 10 May. **Sources:** [MSF](#) and [MSF I](#)

Mexico

27 May 2026: In Miguel Hidalgo neighbourhood, Culiacán city, Sinaloa state, the private Salud y Vida clinic was fired at and damaged by gunmen in the morning, who also set fire to a car parked in the facility's garage. The three employees present in the facility required pre-hospital treatment due to stress and shock, though none were injured. **Sources:** [La Jornada](#), [Linea Directa Portal](#) and [El Universal](#)

29 May 2026: In Huauchinango city and municipality, Puebla state, a medical office worker was shot five times inside a doctor's office by a gunman. He died upon arrival at a hospital. **Sources:** [Primicias Noticias](#) and [Puebla Today](#)

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

29 May 2026: In Nanyuki town, Laikipia county, Kenya's High Court halted the construction of a US Ebola isolation centre at a military base nearby, due to concerns of cross-border infections. The court ordered the US government to disclose the details of the proposed Ebola facility and said the facility posed "grave and imminent risks" to public health. The 50-bed isolation centre was to be staffed by US medics to treat US citizens affected by the current outbreak in DRC. **Sources: [BBC](#) and [Forbes](#)**

02 June 2026: In Nanyuki town, Laikipia county, two people were shot and killed amid protests against US plans to establish an Ebola isolation centre at a military base nearby, due to concerns of cross-border infections. One of those killed was reportedly not involved in the protest and was shot while walking nearby. **Sources: [BBC](#) and [Forbes](#)**

02 June 2026: In Nanyuki town, Laikipia county, Kenya's High Court extended an order halting construction of an Ebola isolation centre for three weeks following violent protests against it. **Sources: [BBC](#) and [Forbes](#)**

09 June 2026: In Nanyuki town, Laikipia county, the construction of a planned Ebola quarantine centre at Laikipia Air Base for Americans exposed to Ebola abroad was suspended by the Kenyan High Court following a legal challenge. The court also barred the arrival of foreign patients pending the outcome of the case. **Source: [The Globe And Mail](#)**

09 June 2026: In Nanyuki town, Laikipia county, protests against plans to construct an Ebola quarantine centre at Laikipia Air Base for Americans exposed to Ebola abroad were dispersed by Kenyan police, who fired tear gas and prevented demonstrators from marching towards the air base. **Source: [The Globe And Mail](#)**

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 part of the Attacks on Health Care project by Insecurity Insight.

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 News Brief, to report an incident or if you have additional information on an incident we have reported on. Join our **[mailing list](#)**.

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