CONFLICT IN NORTH IRAQ: CRISIS INFO #8 – PUBLIC UPDATE

MSF OPERATIONS

WEST MOSUL

MSF opened activities inside of a medical structure in West Mosul on June 23rd to provide life-saving trauma assistance for war-wounded escaping from the final conflict areas of the Old City as well as to provide access to maternal care for the returnee population in the area. Teams have adapted the services to the needs of the population. Currently, the project provides surgical capacity, short-term post-operative care and, maternity and new born unit, paediatrics, an emergency room and an inpatient department. Since opening, the hospital has provided assistance to more than 3,671 patients in ER, including 362 patients with war-related trauma injuries and 448 deliveries. Since opening the in-patient ward on July 20th, 275 patients have been admitted for hospitalization.

EAST MOSUL

Al-Khanssa Paediatrics Teaching Hospital, East Mosul

In July, MSF began supporting this public health facility, located in East Mosul, which has been heavily damaged during the conflict. The hospital currently maintains a 120-bed capacity, reduced from an original 400-bed capacity. To start with, MSF rehabilitated and equipped a 20-bed temporary emergency room and enhanced the medical paediatric ward (IPD) by rehabilitating two rooms with a 14-bed capacity. Furthermore MSF teams supported the opening of a 14-bed in-patient therapeutic feeding, centre while at the time of writing we completed the construction of an expanded, 20-bed emergency room in the outside premises of the main hospital structure. By the middle of October MSF will have concluded the rehabilitation of an Intensive Care Unit (ICU). Since the beginning of August, 1,642 patients have been treated in the emergency room and 554 patients were admitted into the paediatric ward.

Emergency and Post Operative Care, Al-Taheel

At the end of July, MSF closed its project in Al Taheel, East Mosul. Since the opening, 1340 patients were received in the emergency room and more than 500 surgical interventions were carried out, mostly providing follow up care and secondary surgery for war-wounded patients. MSF is currently in the process of handing this facility over to local health authorities who plan to resume additional medical activities in this location.

OUTSKIRTS OF MOSUL CITY

Qayyarah

In December, MSF opened a hospital in Qayyarah, 60 km south of Mosul, with an emergency room and an operating theatre to provide surgical and emergency medical care. The facility now provides 62 medical beds to cater for the growing and diversifying needs, including an intermediate care unit, observational beds and two resuscitation beds. The hospital extended its capacities for paediatrics and to address high numbers of infants suffering from malnutrition, most of whom are less than six months old. MSF also provides a mental health clinic for patients admitted to the hospital or referred from Qayyarah camps. The team consists of a psychiatrist, two psychologists and two psychosocial counsellors. In total, more than 9,000 patients have been treated in the emergency room as of September 15th, around 17 percent of whom were admitted to the inpatient department. A total of 1,400 surgical interventions have been performed and more than 535 malnourished infants have been admitted to the therapeutic feeding program. Teams have also provided more than 1,300 mental health consultations in Qayyarrah.

Qayyarrah camps

In late July, MSF opened an ambulatory feeding program in the Qayyarah camps, with an estimated population above 160,000 people displaced from Mosul. Two clinics have been opened in Jeddah 6 and Airstrip camps and a third one is under construction in Jeddah 5. A cohort of 340 children – including follow up patients referred to by Qayyarah ITFC- are currently in the programme. The programme provides assistance to children under five years of age, with a special focus for babies under six months of age who are at highest levels of risk. The program also includes a baby friendly space with a focus on breast feeding promotion and support for mothers to resume breast feeding as well as mental health care related to malnutrition.

Post-operative and rehabilitation care, Al Hamdaniya

MSF was providing post-operative care with rehabilitation and psychosocial support in Al Hamdaniya hospital in collaboration with Handicap International. Activities started on 15 March. This activity was closed on the 14th of September. Post-operative services will be shifted to Al Shifa hospital (East Mosul) during the month of October. Initially with a 30 bed capacity while we are building the infrastructure with a capacity of 80 beds.

IDP camps East of Mosul

Following the offensive launched into west Mosul mid-February, the total population of displaced persons camps East of Mosul in areas controlled by the Kurdish Regional Government increased. Today, MSF mobile teams are providing treatment for chronic diseases (mainly diabetes, epilepsy, asthma, thyroid dysfunction and hypertension...). In addition, an MSF team of more than 20 psychiatrists, psychologists, mental health doctors and counsellors is providing mental health care in nine camps, for those suffering from moderate to severe mental health conditions. Activities include psychological and psychiatric consultations, group therapy, psychosocial counselling and child therapy. So far in 2017, the team has carried close to 23,000 medical consultations, including primary healthcare and non-communicable diseases, and more than 18,000 mental health consultations in the IDP camps.

Trauma care and primary healthcare, Hammam al-Alil

At the end of July, MSF closed its project in Hammam al-Alil. Over the course of the conflict in Mosul, the town received major influxes of IDPs and war-wounded. In February, MSF opened a field trauma hospital with a 22 bed emergency room, 2 operating theatres, a 7 bed intensive care unit and recovery room, as well as 32 bed in-patient ward and mental health services. For more than a month since the project opened, the MSF project was the closest surgical facility to West Mosul. By the end of June, the emergency room received 3852 patients, including more than 1600 in critical or life-threatening condition. In the same time period, the team performed 474 surgical procedures, the majority of which were emergency operations, and admitted over 750 patients for hospital care. Outside the hospital, MSF also supported a nearby primary healthcare centre (PHCC) since late February. Teams also provided over 23,000 medical consultations and admitted 202 children suffering from acute malnutrition into its ambulatory therapeutic feeding program. In June and July, MSF also provided in-patient therapeutic feeding for malnourished children. The project was closed due to a reduced level of need for life-saving trauma assistance and growing capacity from other medical actors.

ELSEWHERE IN IRAQ

Nineveh goveronate

<u>In Zummar</u>, MSF runs a maternity clinic in the village of Tal Maraq that assists approximately 200 deliveries per month. The maternity offers pre and post-natal consultations, basic emergency obstetric and neonatal care, manages minor obstetric complications, and refers patients with more serious obstetric complications to hospitals in Zakho and Dohuk. The clinic also includes a small paediatric ward. In parallel, MSF teams run mobile clinics in surrounding villages offering general health care consultations, mental health consultation, as well as follow up and treatment for NCDs patients.

Kirkuk governorate

MSF teams are providing medical and mental health services to people displaced from Hawijah. MSF runs out patients departments, a non-communicable diseases clinic and mental health activities including referrals for psychiatric care in Daquq IDP Camp (10,600 individuals). At Maktab Khalid entry point and at Debes screening site, MSF's medical and humanitarian presence through the provision of mobile clinics ensure the sickest IDP population fleeing Hawijah receive treatment in a timely manner. MSF also supports the emergency rooms of the two main Kirkuk hospitals with training for DoH doctors and nurses in ER related topics, including mass casualty, donation of Crash cart, and Trauma room reorganization.

Dohuk governorate

In the Domiz refugee camp for Syrian refugees, MSF is running a maternity unit where women can deliver their babies safely and access reproductive healthcare. In Domiz maternity, MSF teams assist an average of 100 per month.

Sulaymaniyah governorate

MSF is working with the health authorities in Sulaymaniyah emergency hospital and is providing hands-on training to improve the quality of medical services in the Intensive Care Unit and the emergency trauma ward. The project has completed the rehabilitation of the ER and ICU wards which are now fully functional with an improved layout and patient flow to benefit the quality of care to patients. Since 2015 MSF has been working in internally displaced people (IDP) camps in the governorate. The teams conduct health promotion activities and provide psychological and psychosocial care. In July 2017 the ER received 512 patients in consultations and 150 mental health consultations have been provided.

Salah Al-Din governorate

With the military operations expanding in north-western Iraq, thousands of Iraqis continue to flock to relatively safer areas. To respond to the growing needs, MSF started running mobile clinics in the city of Tikrit and the surrounding areas in June 2016. The clinics offer outpatient and mental health consultations. In January 2017 MSF established a primary healthcare center in one of the camps.

Diyala governorate

MSF has been working in Diyala governorate since 2015, and supports displaced populations in three IDP camps in Khanaqin district, providing medical and mental health consultations in collaboration with the Directorate of Health (DoH). Until July 2017 more than 10,000 individual and group counselling sessions were .MSF teams are also conducting health promotion activities in all camps. MSF supports the primary healthcare clinics in Sadiya and Jalawla (100,000 IPDs), focusing on chronic diseases, sexual and reproductive health, maternity, mental health and health promotion services for IDPs, returnees and the host community. In Sadiya and Jalawla, MSF provided treatment for chronic diseases to nearly 1,200 new patients and almost 6,000 follow-up consultations. In addition, 5,500 ante and post-natal consultations were provided until July 2017.

Anbar governorate

In June 2016, MSF started running mobile clinics in the Amariyat Fallujah, Habbaniyah, Khaldiya and Ramadi (Kilo 18), to assist populations who were forced to flee the areas of Fallujah and Ramadi in Al-Anbar governorate. Later the same year, a healthcare center was established in the camp in Amariyat. The camp currently has a population of around 60,000 people and the facility offers primary healthcare consultations, emergency care, inpatient care, mental health and stabilization and referral services. In total, more than 10,000 medical consultations were provided by MSF in the area in 2016.

Babylon governorate

Since the spring of 2017, MSF has been supporting the Ibn Saif Paediatric Hospital located in Musayib. The team concentrate on supporting this 40-bed hospital through capacity-building and trainings as well as logistics support. There is an average of 280 admissions per month in the hospital, neonates included. MSF

has created a psycho-social Unit offering service for in patients and the community MSF has negotiated with the DoH to eliminate the cost recovery in this hospital.