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# Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories

01-11 December 2023



Recorded Violence Against Health Care in Israel and the oPt, 07 October-11 December 2023						
	REPORTED INCIDENTS	HEALTH WORKERS KILLED	INCIDENTS WHERE HEALTH FACILITIES WERE DAMAGED	HEALTH WORKERS ARRESTED		
Israel	14	9	1	0		
oPt	483	109	95	84		
21 Incidents Affecting Health Care in Khan Yunis Governorate in 11 Days						
35						
30						
25						
20						
15						
10						
07-0ct   11-0ct   11-						
■ All incidents in Khan Yunis Governorate (41) ■ All other remaining incidents in the Gaza Strip (305)						
Data source: Insecurity Insight on HDX.			Explore the incidents on our <u>interactive map</u> <sup>1</sup> and on			

Insecurity Insight has identified 497 incidents of violence against or obstruction of access to health care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories between 07 October and 11 December 2023.

• Fourteen incidents were reported in Israel including nine health workers killed in attacks carried out by Hamas militants.

this data visualisation by Soha Elghany.

• In the oPt where 483 incidents were recorded, 348 took place in the Gaza Strip and 83 in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.<sup>1</sup> Of the 95 incidents that reported health facilities being extensively damaged, at least 13 hospitals were damaged more than once. In addition, 109 health workers were killed in 71 incidents mostly by

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 52 incidents were recorded by the WHO SSA without specifying the location and no additional source could be identified to determine the location of the reported incident.



Contact us for curated datasets.

explosive weapons used by Israeli forces in Gaza. In the West Bank, at least 44 health workers have been detained in 23 incidents, mostly while responding to health emergencies, and ambulances have frequently been obstructed from reaching patients in need of care. In Gaza, at least 37 health workers have been detained in 21 incidents.

Between 01-11 December, at least 21 incidents have been reported in Khan Yunis governorate, in the southern Gaza strip, where Israeli forces have intensified attacks and which was dubbed a safe zone in the initial days of the war. In the incidents, Israeli forces used explosive weapons near health facilities causing damage. Health workers have been killed when their homes were hit by explosive weapons fired by Israeli forces or while responding to injured civilians. These incidents undermine health care providers' ability to effectively meet patient needs, maintain safe staffing levels and impact the population's access to health care.

Insecurity Insight calls for independent investigations and for all conflict parties to uphold international humanitarian law. Health workers and facilities are protected.

The incidents reported below are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of health care between 01-11 December 2023 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. We are aware of other sources reporting higher health worker killings. We do not report aggregate numbers but compile our numbers based on individually reported cases. We are continuously trying to identify more specific details on these incidents. 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/01-11Dec2023OPTHealth

Past incident reports: 24-30 November; 12-23 November; 06-11 November; 01-05 November; 23-31 October; All

Visit our <u>oPt</u> webpage. Join our <u>mailing</u> for the latest information. 2022 Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition (SHCC) factsheets: <u>Arabic</u> and <u>English</u>

### Israel

No incidents identified during the reporting period.

## **Occupied Palestinian Territories**

Gaza

**01 December 2023:** In Khan Younis governorate, a fire belt bombardment was reported in the vicinity of the PRCS Al-Amal Hospital and headquarters. **Source:** PRCS

**01 December 2023:** At the Rafah Crossing, Gaza Strip, Israeli forces informed all organisations and entities operating at the Rafah border crossing that the entry of aid trucks from the Egyptian side to the Gaza Strip is prohibited, starting from 01 December until further notice. **Sources: Personal Communication and PRCS** 

**01 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis city and governorate, the vicinity of the Nasser Hospital was bombed by Israeli warplanes. **Source: Quds News Network** 

**01 December 2023:** In an unspecified location in the Gaza Strip, two doctors - husband and wife -were killed in an Israeli bombing. **Source: Quds News Network** 

**01 December 2023:** In Gaza city and governorate, at about 10:00, Israeli forces in the vicinity of Shifa Hospital hit an ambulance evacuating wounded people. Two paramedics were killed and several others injured. **Source: OCHA Flash 57** 

**01 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, Al Awda Hospital was damaged in a Israeli forces bombing just hours after the truce ended. It's one of the only hospitals functioning in the north of Gaza. **Sources: AWDA and MSF** 

- **01 December 2023:** In an unspecified location in the northern Gaza Strip, the office of the Director of Al Awda Hospital was impacted by Israeli forces. **Sources:** <u>Middle East Observer</u> and <u>Quds</u> <u>News Network</u>
- **02 December 2023:** In Al-Maghazi Refugee Camp, Gaza, a civil defence crew was impacted by violence by Israeli forces while they were working. **Source: Quds News Network**
- **02 December 2023:** In Nuseirat Refugee Camp, Deir al-Balah governorate, Gaza Strip, the Al Awda Hospital, the main provider of maternity services, announced that it had exhausted its fuel stock to run generators and ambulances, risking complete shutdown. **Sources:** OCHA Flash 58 and Personal Communication
- **02 December 2023:** In North Gaza governorate, the vicinity of Kamal Adwan Hospital was hit during Israeli airstrikes, killing and injuring an unspecified number of people. **Source:** Personal Communication
- **02 December 2023:** At the Netzarim checkpoint, Gaza Strip, four male Ministry of Health paramedics were arrested by Israeli forces while transferring patients from north Gaza to the south through the Israeli-designated safe route. **Sources:** <u>Health Workers Watch</u> and <u>Personal Communication</u>
- **03 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, a suspected Israeli drone-launched missile hit the entrance of the Kamal Adwan Hospital, striking a family of five sleeping on mattresses in the street. A father and his two children, including an infant sleeping in his father's arms, were killed. **Sources:** Al Jazeera I, Personal Communication, OCHA Flash 59 and WAFA
- **03 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, five people were killed as the Al-Awda Hospital was hit by Israeli forces. **Source:** OCHA Flash 59
- **03 December 2023:** In the Al-Falouja area, Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, two PRCS paramedics and a patient were wounded when Israeli forces fired upon two ambulances. **Source: PRCS**
- **03 December 2023:** In the Al-Falouja area, Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, a PRCS first responder was killed in front of his home during Israeli bombardment in the early morning hours. Another male PRCS staff member was also injured. **Source: PRCS**
- **03 December 2023:** In Beit Lahiya city, North Gaza governorate, the vicinity of Kamal Adwan Hospital was hit during Israeli artillery shelling. Shrapnel reportedly fell inside the building. **Sources:** Personal Communication and Quds News Network
- **04 December 2023:** In the Gaza Strip, PRCS completely lost contact with their operations room and their teams due to the fourth telecommunication blackout. **Source:** PRCS
- **04 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis governorate, the vicinity of the PRCS headquarters was shelled by suspected Israeli forces. **Source: PRCS**
- **04 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis governorate, the vicinity of the Al-Amal Hospital was shelled by suspected Israeli forces. **Source: PRCS**
- **04 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis city and governorate, the vicinity of Nasser Medical Complex was hit in Israeli bombing. **Source:** Personal Communication

- **04 December 2023:** In Gaza city and governorate, the vicinity of Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital was hit in Israeli bombing. **Source:** <u>Personal Communication</u>
- **04 December 2023:** In Khan Younis governorate, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported that it had been forced to move supplies from a WHO medical warehouse within a 24-hour period, after they received a warning from the Israeli military that ground operation there would make it inaccessible. Israel however denied that it had asked the WHO to evacuate the warehouses. The WHO team confirmed that they did evacuate their warehouse to another facility in Rafah governorate. The evacuation led to a postponement of the planned delivery of medicines to health facilities. **Sources:** Reuters, Personal Communication I and Personal Communication II
- **05 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia, North Gaza, Gaza strip, Al-Awda hospital was besieged by Israeli forces. Israeli tanks and snipers surrounded the hospital and shot at anyone who tried to enter or leave the facility. or anyone who stood too close to a window. There are about 250 people, including health workers, patients and their family members, inside the facility. As of 9th December 2023 the hospital was still surrounded. **Sources: Middle East Eye, Personal Communication and WHO**
- **05 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia, North Gaza governorate, a woman trying to enter Al-Awda maternity ward was shot and killed by Israeli snipers surrounding the hospital. Her body remained on the streets outside as no one was able to retrieve it due to the threat of being shot themselves. **Source:** Middle East Eye
- **05 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, Kamal Adwan Hospital was surrounded by Israeli forces. Gunfire and artillery shells were reported in the vicinity and anyone attempting to leave the facility was reportedly shot at by Israeli snipers. The hospital is sheltering about 10,000 IDPs. As a result, the hospital's services have come to a halt with only 20 patients still able to receive care. **Sources:** Al Jazeera II, Middle East Monitor, Personal Communication and OCHA Flash 60
- **05 December 2023:** In Beit Lahiya, North Gaza governorate, in the early evening the main door of the Kamal Adwan Hospital and two nearby houses were hit by three artillery shells likely fired by Israeli forces. **Sources: OCHA Flash 60 and Personal Communication**
- **05 December 2023:** In Rafah city and governorate, a power outage was reported at Tal Al-Sultan Maternity Hospital after it ran out of fuel putting the lives of premature babies and pregnant women at risk. **Source: Quds News Network**
- **05 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis city and governorate, Gaza Strip, the vicinity of Nasser Medical Complex was bombed by Israeli forces. **Source: Quds News Network**
- **05 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis governorate, a doctor and his child were killed in an attack on the area by Israeli forces. **Source: Quds News Network**
- **05 December 2023:** In the Im Al-Thuheir area, Deir Al-Balah governorate, Gaza Strip, two PRCS ambulances were hit by Israeli tank artillery while they were responding to casualties. A paramedic was injured and the ambulances damaged. **Sources: OCHA Flash 60, PRCS I and PRCS II**
- **As reported on 06 December 2023:** In the Gaza Strip, a male nurse was arrested by Israeli forces while transferring patients from north Gaza to the south through the Israeli-designated safe route. **Source:** Health Workers Watch
- **06 December 2023:** In the Nasser neighbourhood, Gaza city and governorate, Israeli forces returned to their positions in the vicinity of Rantisi Hospital. **Source:** Personal Communication

- **06 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, patients of Al Awda Hospital have been moved within the facility for their own safety and the presence of snipers targeting hospital rooms with patients inside has been reported. **Source:** Personal Communication
- As reported on 06 December 2023: In North Gaza governorate, the vicinity of Al-Awda Hospital was bombed by Israeli forces, causing damage to the windows and door. Source: Personal Communication
- **06 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia, North Gaza governorate, most patients and staff in the Kamal Adwan hospital were evacuated by the Ministry of Health in Gaza, and the hospital largely stopped functioning and ceased admitting new patients. 20 patients could not be evacuated due to their situation. **Sources: Al Jazeera and OCHA Flash 61**
- **07 December 2023:** In the northern Gaza Strip, operations at a PRCS ambulance centre came to a halt. The depletion of fuel for vehicles and the closure of hospitals operating in the northern region made it impossible to evacuate wounded people. However, ambulance teams were still handling minor and moderate cases in Jabalia, treating about 250 injured people daily. **Sources: OCHA Flash 62** and **PRCS**
- **07 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, an anaesthesia specialist was killed in an Israeli bombing, possibly at Kamal Adwan Hospital. **Source:** Personal Communication
- **07 December 2023:** In North Gaza governorate, an unspecified number of displaced people were killed by Israeli forces in a shelter centre in the vicinity of the Indonesian Hospital. Their bodies were reportedly scattered in a school yard. **Source: Quds News Network**
- **07 December 2023**: In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, Israeli forces opened fire at Al-Awda Hospital, killing a senior medical nurse and an unspecified number of others. The nurse was shot by a sniper through a window. **Sources:** OCHA Flash 62 and Personal Communication
- **07 December 2023:** In Jabalia refugee camp, Jabalia city, North Gaza governorate, Al-Yemen Al-Saeed Hospital was hit by Israeli airstrikes. **Sources: Quds News Network**
- As reported on, 07 December 2023: In Khan Yunis governorate, a medical imaging specialist, his wife and his son were killed in an Israeli bombing on their relatives home. Source: Personal Communication
- **08 December 2023:** In Jabalia Refugee Camp, North Gaza governorate, Al-Yemen Al-Saeed Hospital, which is now being used as a shelter for displaced persons, was damaged after an Israeli tank outside of the hospital fired shells at the first and fourth floors of the facility. An unspecified number of people were killed. **Source: WAFA**
- **08 December 2023:** In an unspecified location in the Gaza Strip, a gynaecologist who heads the Obstetrics and Gynecology department at Shifa Hospital and her entire family were killed by Israeli forces. **Source: Personal Communication**
- **08 December 2023**: In Deir al-Balah city and governorate, Gaza strip, Yafa Hospital was damaged by Israeli airstrikes, rendering it out of service. **Sources:** OCHA Flash 63, Quds News Network and WAFA
- **08 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis city and governorate, Gaza Strip, the vicinity of the European Hospital was hit by Israeli airstrikes. The hospital, one of the largest in the south, reported critical shortages of drugs, blood products, and medical supplies; also fuel was being strictly rationed.

- Many patients were treated on the floor and without anaesthetics. While the normal capacity of the hospital was 370 patients, it was treating about 1,000 and sheltering another 70,000 IDPs. Sources: OCHA Flash 63 and Quds News Network
- **08 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis governorate, Gaza Strip, Israeli airstrikes hit a house near Al-Amal Hospital, shattering glass and breaking the doors and windows. **Sources: OCHA Flash 63 and PRCS**
- **08 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis governorate, Gaza Strip, Israeli airstrikes hit a house near the PRCS Headquarters, adjacent to the Al-Amal hospital, shattering glass and breaking the doors and windows. **Sources: OCHA Flash 63 and PRCS**
- **08 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, a cleaner working at Al-Awda Hospital was shot and killed by Israeli snipers stationed around the hospital. **Sources:** <u>Middle</u> <u>East Eye</u>
- **09 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia city, North Gaza governorate, the water tanks at Al-Awda Hospital were attacked by Israeli forces. **Sources:** Middle East Eye and Personal Communication
- **09 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis governorate, Gaza Strip, the vicinity of Al-Amal Hospital was shelled by Israeli forces. **Sources: OCHA Flash 64** and **PRCS**
- **09 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis governorate, Gaza Strip, the vicinity of the PRCS headquarters was shelled by Israeli forces. **Source: OCHA Flash 64 and PRCS**
- **09 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis governorate, Gaza Strip, the vicinity of the European Gaza Hospital was shelled by Israeli forces for the second consecutive day. **Source: OCHA Flash 64**
- **09 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis governorate, Gaza Strip, the vicinity of the Jordanian Field Hospital Special/2 was shelled by Israeli forces, damaging equipment. No casualties were reported. **Sources: Quds News Network** and **OCHA Flash 65**
- **09 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis governorate, Gaza Strip, the vicinity of the Nasser Hospital was shelled by Israeli forces, damaging equipment. No casualties were reported. **Source:** OCHA Flash 65
- **09 December 2023:** In Jabalia Refugee Camp, North Gaza governorate, at about 18:18 Al-Yemen Al-Saeed Hospital was shelled and civilians trying to enter the hospital were reportedly shot at by Israeli forces. Tents and cars of displaced people at the hospital were burned while people were inside, killing an unspecified number of disabled people and patients inside due to their inability to move. A mass grave for the fatalities was dug nearby. **Sources: OCHA Flash 65**, **Quds News Network and Quds News Network II**
- **09 December 2023:** In an unspecified location in the Gaza Strip, the Director General of Pharmacy at the Ministry of Health, an ambulance driver, and a third person were shot and injured by Israeli forces sniper fire as they attempted to reach the MoH's warehouses to provide medical supplies to Shifa and Al Ahli Hospitals and other health facilities in northern Gaza and Gaza city. Two ambulances who arrived at the scene were also bombed. **Sources:** Al Jazeera, OCHA Flash 65, Personal Communication and Quds News Network
- **09 December 2023:** In Khan Younis governorate, an ambulance near the European Hospital came under fire reportedly by Israeli forces. Two paramedics were injured. **Sources:** Al Jazeera, OCHA Flash 64 and OCHA Flash 65

- **09 December 2023:** At Wadi Gaza, between Khan Younis and Gaza city, Gaza strip, a convoy of six PRCS ambulances, accompanied by UN vehicles, was subjected to a two-hour inspection by Israeli forces whilst crossing a military checkpoint which separated the north of the strip from the south in order to evacuate critically ill patients from Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital. Two paramedics were detained and released once the convoy was allowed to pass. **Sources:** Middle East Monitor, OCHA Flash 65 and PRCS
- **09 December 2023:** Near the Kuwait Roundabout, Gaza city and governorate, as a convoy of six PRCS ambulances on its way to evacuate critically ill patients from Al-Ahli Baptit Hospital left the Wadi Gaza checkpoint, Israeli soldiers opened fire on one of the ambulances, damaging the window. **Sources:** Middle East Monitor, OCHA Flash 65 and PRCS
- **09 December 2023:** At Wadi Gaza, between Khan Younis and Gaza city, a PRCS convoy returning from the Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital was stopped and inspected at a checkpoint by Israeli soldiers. The convoy was carrying 19 critically injured patients and the delay led to the death of one of the patients who was being evacuated. **Sources:** Middle East Monitor, OCHA Flash 65 and PRCS
- **09 December 2023:** At Wadi Gaza, between Khan Younis and Gaza city,during the inspection of a PRCS convoy returning from Al-Ahli Baptist Hospital, a paramedic was detained for the second time by Israeli soldiers. He was beaten, threatened, stripped naked and handcuffed, and upon his release, was forced to walk over the checkpoint for more than two kms. **Sources:** Middle East Monitor, OCHA Flash 65 and PRCS
- **09 December 2023:** In Gaza city and governorate, Israeli bombing was reported in the vicinity of the al-Sahaba Medical Complex. It was not possible to recover the bodies of the dead due to the presence of Israeli tanks in the area. **Source:** <u>WAFA</u>
- **11 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis city and governorate, Gaza Strip, the vicinity of Al-Amal Hospital was hit by several airstrikes. **Sources: OCHA Flash 66**, **Middle East Eye and WAFA**
- **11 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis city and governorate, Gaza Strip, the vicinity of Nasser Hospital was hit by Israeli forces. **Source: Quds News Network**
- 11 December 2023: In Beit Lahia, North Gaza governorate, Kamal Adwan Hospital was surrounded by Israeli tanks trapping 65 patients, including 12 children in the intensive care unit and six newborns in incubators, medical staff and 3,000 displaced persons. Sources: Quds OCHA Flash 66 and News Network and OCHA Flash 66
- **11 December 2023:** In Beit Lahia, North Gaza governorate, Kamal Adwan Hospital's maternity ward was hit by Israeli shelling, killing two women and their two children, and seriously injuring another woman. **Sources: OCHA Flash 66**, **Middle East Monitor** and **WAFA**
- **11 December 2023:** In Khan Yunis city and governorate, PRCS reported continued Israeli artillery shelling near their association's headquarters. The headquarters reportedly shelters around 13,000 displaced people. **Source: PRCS**

#### West Bank

- **02 December 2023:** At Al-Murabaa checkpoint, Nablus governorate, West Bank, Israeli forces prevented PRCS ambulance teams from accessing a Palestinian young man who was shot at the checkpoint by soldiers. **Sources: PRCS and Quds News Network**
- **02 December 2023:** In Hebron governorate West Bank, a doctor at Hebron Government Hospital (Alia) was arrested by Israeli forces. **Source:** <u>Health Workers Watch</u>

**05 December 2023:** In Jenin Refugee Camp, Jenin city and governorate, West Bank, PRCS crew were assaulted by Israeli forces after coordination was made to transfer a medical case from inside the camp. **Source: Quds News Network** 

**06 December 2023:** In Balata Refugee Camp, Nablus city and governorate, West Bank, an ambulance vehicle was obstructed by Israeli forces during the ongoing Israeli raid on the camp. **Source:** Quds News Network

**08 December 2023:** In Al-Fara Refugee Camp, Tubas governorate, West Bank, two PRCS ambulances were obstructed from providing care to injured civilians by Israeli forces during a military raid in the camp. **Source: PRCS** 

**09 December 2023:** In Dura town, Hebron governorate, West Bank, a 25-year-old Palestinian who had been shot, injured and arrested by Israeli soldiers during a raid on the town died of his injuries. The soldiers had prevented anyone from approaching him and providing medical treatment before he was arrested while still bleeding. **Source: WAFA** 

**11 December 2023:** In Husan town, Bethlehem Governorate, West Bank, two Palestinian Red Crescent paramedics were stopped, forced out of the ambulance and beaten by Israeli soldiers after confrontations broke out in the village. **Source: WAFA** 

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 report 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, by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and by the Tides Foundation. The opinions expressed in it do not reflect in any way the position of the UK government, USAID, the U.S. Government or the Tides Foundation who are not responsible for the content expressed in this document. Insecurity Insight. 2023. 01-11 December 2023. Attacks on Health Care in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. Switzerland: Insecurity Insight. bit.ly/01-11Dec2023OPTHealth

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.

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









