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Lebanon

Access to Health Care Services for Palestinian Refugees

Ministry of Immigration and Integration

The Danish Immigration Service

us.dk

This report is not, and does not purport to be, a detailed or comprehensive survey of all aspects of the issues addressed. It should thus be weighed against other country of origin information available on the topic.

The report at hand does not include any policy recommendations. The information does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Danish Immigration Service.

Furthermore, this report is not conclusive as to the determination or merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Terminology used should not be regarded as indicative of a particular legal position.

The report is a synthesis of information gathered from different sources, and it brings together condensed information in a relevant manner for the reader's COI needs and it organises information together thematically to form a coherent whole of the topic in question, instead of listing or quoting information source by source.

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Executive summary

The present report describes health care services in Lebanon, as they are available to Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (PRL) including information about services for persons with drug addiction, persons living with disabilities and people in need of home-based care or nursing homes. Based on a survey conducted in four hospitals and three pharmacies in Beirut and Saida in October 2022, the report provides information about availability and accessibility of medicines and specialised treatment. In addition to the survey data, information was collected through in-depth and repeated interviews with ten NGOs, UN agencies and humanitarian organisations.

The health care sector in Lebanon suffers from several years of political instability, economic recession and hyperinflation (including restrictions in withdrawing cash from banks) compounded by an energy crisis, which affects access to electricity and fuel, as well as the devastating effects of the Beirut port explosion in August 2020. Furthermore, the high number of Syrian refugees in Lebanon places an additional burden on the existing health system. These events have had the effect that a high number of medical personnel has left the country, prices for medicines and specialised treatment have gone up, and the supply of medicines for some chronic conditions, such as cancer and diabetes, is now subject to interruptions.

PRL have limited civil rights, including restricted access to employment in the formal sector and cannot benefit from the National Social Security Fund (NSSF). PRL may access primary health care services free-of-charge through the 28 health care facilities, which United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) manages across Lebanon. Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) is a key provider of specialised health services free-of-charge to PRL on behalf of UNRWA but the funding situation of PRCS is uncertain. PRL may also access health care services from private hospitals given that the patient or their families are able to demonstrate their ability to pay in cash up front for medicines and treatment.

Cancer treatment, including chemotherapy, is scarce or unavailable in Lebanon, including for PRL. PRL suffering from cardiac complications and hypertension may find expertise and medicines at hospitals managed by PRCS. The supply of insulin in hospitals and pharmacies across Lebanon is low. At UNRWA facilities, however, there was still a stock of diabetes medicines at the time of data collection. Many psychiatrists have left Lebanon and the care capacity for psychiatric patients has decreased. PRCS does not offer mental health treatment but there is some treatment available at private or NGO-managed hospitals. Mental health problems are widespread in PRL communities and stigmatisation is a challenge.

Opioid maintenance therapy is legal in Lebanon for patients with drug addiction. This form of therapy is available in a few NGO-driven harm reduction centres regardless of the patients' nationality. The capacity of these harm reduction centres to take in new patients is limited.

For PRL living with disabilities, access to services is described as insufficient; the waiting list to existing centres is long and the capacity of these centres to meet the demand for treatment and assistive devices is low.

There is a market for nursing homes in Lebanon managed by private actors but information about the quality of care as well as of the prices was scarce. Information on the existence of home based care was scarce.

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Introduction

Purpose of report and methodology

The purpose of this report is to describe how Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (PRL)[1] may access health care services in Lebanon. The report contains information about the general health system[2] in Lebanon but emphasis is on PRL and their access to medicines and specialised treatment in Beirut as well as in the city of Saida. The findings presented in the present report are based on data collected via a survey conducted in selected health facilities, on interviews with key health sector actors, as well as on written material. This report is written in alignment with the methodology of the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) – previously known as European Asylum Support Office's (EASO) – as well as with EUAA-MEDCOI's standards for medical country of origin information (COI).[3]

The Country of Origin Information (COI) Division of the Danish Immigration Service (DIS) initiated this report in collaboration with the Ministry of Immigration and Integration at a moment where little information about medicines and specialised medical treatment in Lebanon was available. Lebanon is one of the countries in which EUAA-MedCOI,[4] the first instance European provider of medical information for the use of processing asylum cases and cases concerning humanitarian residence permits, does not have reliable local contacts who can obtain information about medical treatment and medication.[5] The purpose of the present report is to address this lack of updated information.

Defining scope and terms of reference

The terms of reference (ToR) of the present report have been developed jointly by DIS and the Ministry of Immigration and Integration. In the process of preparing the ToR, the Secretariat of the Danish Refugee Appeals Board and the Asylum Division of DIS have been consulted. They identified the following chronic diseases and medical conditions for which information was needed:

1. Cancer(
2. Cardiac complications and hypertension
3. Diabetes (type I and II)
4. Mental health (including alcohol and drug abuse, psychotic disorders, PTSD, dementia and cognitive disorders)
5. Chronic obstructive lung disease

[1] United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) refers to PRL as 'Palestine refugees from Lebanon'. The use of this language can be traced back to its initial mandate (see the chapter 'UNRWA's mandate and responsibilities in relation to health' p. 22). It should be noted, this report uses "Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon" rather than "Palestine Refugees from Lebanon", the term used by UNRWA, and applies the same acronym used by UNRWA, "PRL".

[2] Following WHO, 'health system' is defined as all the organisations, institutions, resources and people whose primary purpose is to improve health. WHO, *Monitoring the Building Blocks of Health Systems*, 2010, url, p. vi

[3] EUAA, *EASO Country of Origin Information Report Methodology*, June 2019, url; EUAA MedCOI, *Guidelines for the Research and Use of Case-Specific MedCOI on Availability*, 2017; Project MedCOI - Belgian Desk on Accessibility, *Guidelines for the Research and Use of Case-Specific MedCOI on Accessibility and General MedCOI*, 2018

[4] EUAA MedCOI is a service that collects medical information from countries and regions where asylum applicants come from, for the use of first instance migration authorities of the EU+ countries, EUAA MedCOI, *About MedCOI*, n.d., url

[5] EUAA MedCOI, *AVA 15758*, 17 June 2022

In addition to questions about availability of medicines and treatments for the above-mentioned diseases, the ToR also includes questions about the availability of facilities providing maintenance therapy for opioid addiction. The ToR moreover includes issues concerning persons living with disabilities as well as persons in need of care at nursing homes.

The geographical scope of data collection is Beirut and Saida, where the largest Palestinian refugee camp, Ein El Hilweh, is located. Tripoli, the largest city in northern Lebanon, was not included as sufficient information could be gathered in Beirut and Saida.

For the specific formulation of the Terms of Reference (ToR), please see Annex 1 of this report.

Collection of information

Three main data sources have been used for the purpose of this report: (1) a survey of preselected pharmacies and hospitals in Beirut and Saida; (2) qualitative key informant interviews with United Nations (UN) specialised agencies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other representatives of relevant institutions based in Lebanon; and (3) COI-literature, public health reports and academic articles.

Survey of health facilities

Data collection in Lebanon was conducted from 10 to 15 October 2022 from three pharmacies (Mazen Pharmacy, Pharmacy Alexandre and Saida DT Pharmacy) as well as from four hospitals: a private hospital (American University of Beirut Medical Center – AUMBC); a psychiatric hospital (Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross); a government hospital (Beirut Governmental Hospital – Karantina); and a Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) hospital (Hamshary Hospital).

The survey of specialised treatment was based on a questionnaire that followed EUAA MedCOI's definition of case-specific availability of specialised medical treatments. The team met with several managers at the above-mentioned hospitals and went on a guided tour through different wards. Based on information from the hospital managers, hospital websites, annual activity reports and observations at the wards, an assessment of the available treatments was made. The availability of medicines was only inquired into at the above-mentioned pharmacies, not at the visited hospitals.

Assessment of the availability of medicines was based on the presence of the inquired medicines in the pharmacy as advised by the manager of the facility. Most of the medicines were also presented to the team for visual inspection. The following three MedCOI categories determined the status of the inquired medicine:

- Medicine is available: the requested medicine is in principle registered in the country and available at a health facility in the selected town. At the time of investigation, there are no supply problems.
- Medicine is partly available ('current supply problems'): though the medicine might be licensed in a country and used to be available, it is now confronted with interruptions in supply. If there is a time horizon for re-supply, the expected delivery time should be noted as precisely as possible.
- Medicine is not available: the medicine is neither registered nor available in any of the surveyed health facilities.

Availability refers to whether a given medicine or treatment is objectively obtainable without taking into consideration the individual circumstances of the patient. **Accessibility**, by contrast, refers to whether a given medicine or treatment would be accessible in reality. That is, whether financial (price), geographical (in terms of accessibility via air or road and in relation to day/night security) or social issues (possibly discrimination in terms of gender based discrimination or discrimination based on marital status or political or religious affiliation) would constitute a barrier. Accessibility is always based on the fact that a given medicine or treatment is available in the country of research.[6]

Purpose sampling techniques were used to select the health facilities included in the survey. First, the team conducted a mapping of some of the biggest and best-known public and private health facilities and pharmacies in Beirut and Saida.[7] The team asked for input to this mapping exercise from contacts in Lebanon, including from the Danish Embassy in Beirut. Based on this list, the team invited managers of the selected health facilities to participate in the survey, one person was interviewed; if that person did not have all the required information at hand, they consulted with relevant colleagues at the facility. Each hospital has been interviewed according to its specialisation. For some hospitals, in particular the American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC), it was not possible to obtain information about prices and availability of all treatments as the hospital stated that such information always depended on an assessment of the individual case – in these cases, there have been left blank cells in the matrix. All managers, who accepted to be interviewed, agreed to have the name of the facility included in the report.

Data regarding availability of medicines and treatments as well as information about prices are reported in tables in the chapters about the specific diseases: Health care services on cancer, cardiac complications, diabetes, mental health, chronic obstructive lung disease and other medicines. The matrixes in Annex 3 contain details about availability, price, dosage and form of medicine (tablet, liquid, etc.) and are listed by health facility. It should be noted that during the time of data collection and immediately after, important fluctuations in foreign exchange rates took place. Prices reported in the report are thus unlikely to be the exact same as they were at the time of data collection (October 2022). The price of the products is regulated after the current official exchange rate. Pharmaceutical products at all pharmacies in Lebanon are subject to price regulation in accordance with the prices published in a national database. This database, the Lebanon National Drugs Database, contains official information about the pharmaceutical products registered and marketed by the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) in Lebanon.[8] In the surveyed pharmacies, this regulation takes place automatically every two weeks. All prices in this report are reported in Lebanese Pounds (LBP) or in US dollars (USD) as they were given to the team by the health facility managers. Following the mission to Lebanon, some communication with the health facility managers took place in order to gather final details on prices and availability regarding specific medicines.

Key informant interviews

Prior to the mission, DIS and the Ministry of Immigration and Integration conducted semi-structured interviews with key informants during September and October 2022. The team identified ten organisations from the UN and civil society; all are involved in the provision of health care services to PRL. The team conducted in-depth online interviews with nine of these organisations before the mission to Lebanon, and seven of

[6] Project MedCOI - Belgian Desk on Accessibility, *Guidelines for the Research and Use of Case-Specific MedCOI on Accessibility and General MedCOI*, 2018

[7] See a list of health facilities that have been consulted in Annex 2

[8] Republic of Lebanon, Ministry of Public Health, *Lebanon National Drugs Database*, 2022, url

these organisations were interviewed again in length during the mission. The team also visited the Ein El Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp in Saida in order to visit primary health (PH) facilities managed by UNRWA inside the camp, talk with UNRWA health workers and to see how health care services are organised in the camp. The sources were informed about the purpose of the interview and the fact that their statements would be included in a publicly available report. Two organisations preferred to be referred to as anonymous organisations. One international humanitarian organisation declined an invitation to participate in an online interview or via email, stating that the information they could provide was already fully covered by other organisations.

Immediately after each interview, a summary was written. It is not a full transcript of what was said, but rather a detailed note with a focus on the elements of relevance for the ToR. All interview notes were forwarded to the sources for their amendments and final approval. This gave the sources an opportunity to reflect on the information that was shared during the interview as well as an opportunity to offer corrections. In the report, care has been taken to present the views of the sources as accurately and transparently as possible. Reference is made to the specific paragraphs of the meeting notes in the footnotes. All sources approved the interview notes. The notes are included in their full length in Annex 2.

Quality control

Quality control of the reliability and validity of the information in this report has been carried out in several ways. First, the different team members carried out internal quality control of the interview notes and the survey data throughout the process. In order to check for accuracy of the information collected at the pharmacies, the survey data was double-checked by a person external to the team who also compared the prices to the prices found in the Lebanon National Drugs Database.[9] Secondly, the Belgium COI-unit peer reviewed the full report. Belgium was selected because the Belgian COI unit has extensive experience as a founding member of the original MedCOI-project and because the unit has its own medical doctors capable of checking the accuracy of the medical information included in this report.

Finally, the report has been peer reviewed in form and content by DIS.

Limitations

Firstly, the financial crisis and the hyperinflation worsened through the time of data collection. Therefore, the prices listed for the different medicines and treatments should be read as only indicative; the deterioration of the LBP and a continuously changing exchange rate makes it difficult to give an exact overview of prices for health care services in Lebanon.

Secondly, in some cases, it proved difficult to obtain precise information about treatment from all of the relevant organisations during the visit. The team thus contacted these organisations after the visit to gather additional information.

The Lebanese health sector is well described in academic public health literature. Therefore, the team did not contact the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) to obtain further information about the organisation of health care in the country.

9 Republic of Lebanon, Ministry of Public Health, *Lebanon National Drugs Database*, 2022, url

It was not possible to obtain a list of hospitals partnering with UNRWA (including requirements for becoming a partner); therefore, the report does not contain information that addresses this part of the ToR.

Structure of report and presentation of collected data

The report begins with a brief overview of the specific situation of the Palestinian refugee population in Lebanon in order to contextualise the conditions of their access to health care services. This includes a brief description of the political instability, which has been dominating Lebanon over the past years. Then follows a description of the organisation of the health sector in Lebanon and the external factors that affect patients' access to services (human resources within health care, health insurance, hyperinflation and the Beirut Port explosion). After that follows a description of United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) and the key role of this agency in the provision of health care services to PRL. Then the findings related to availability and accessibility of medicines and specialised treatment are presented in separate chapters. Finally, the interview notes can be found in Annex 2 and information about the availability of medicines and specialised treatment in Annex 3.

The report is a synthesis of the sources' statements, data collected on the ground as well as relevant health care system reports and academic articles.

The drafting of the report was initiated in August 2022 and was finalised in January 2023. The report is available on the website of DIS.

Abbreviations

AUBMC	American University of Beirut Medical Center
COI	Country of Origin Information
DIS	Danish Immigration Service
EASO	European Asylum Support Office
EUAA	European Union Agency for Asylum, previously European Asylum Support Office
FHT	Family Health Team
LBP	Lebanese Pound
LGBT+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
NSSF	National Social Security Fund
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OAT	Opioid Agonist Treatment
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OST	Opioid Substitution Treatment
PHC	Primary Health Care
PLO	Palestine Liberation Organization
PRL	Palestinian Refugees from Lebanon
PRS	Palestinian Refugees from Syria
PRCS	Palestine Red Crescent Society
PRCS/L	Palestine Red Crescent Society in Lebanon
SIDC	Society for Inclusion and Development in Communities and Care for All
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
YMCA	Young Men’s Christian Association
WHO	World Health Organization

Map of Lebanon

Map 4282 United Nations
January 2010

Department of Field Support
Cartographic Section

Lebanon, Copyright UN Geospatial[10]

[10] UN, *Lebanon*, 1 January 2010, url

Brief overview of the situation of Palestinian refugees from Lebanon

Demography

Lebanon last conducted a census in 1932.[11] The actual population figure is thus unknown but is estimated to reach between 5.2 and 6.7 million people of which presumably 30 – 35 percent comprise of refugees (Palestinians and Syrians) as well as migrant workers.[12] The last decade has seen a large influx of refugees, particularly from Syria (up to 1.5 million),[13] including Palestinians from Syria, which makes Lebanon the host of the largest number of refugees per capita in the world.[14]

Palestinian refugees from Lebanon and their access to basic rights

According to UNRWA figures, more than 479,000 Palestinian refugees are registered with UNRWA in Lebanon. However, it is estimated that only around 180,000 are still living in the country; 45 per cent live in one of the 12 official Palestinian refugee camps. The camps, of which some are guarded by the Lebanese army, are overcrowded and the housing conditions are poor.[15]

Palestinians refugees in Lebanon (PRL) experience high levels of poverty, unemployment and lack of access to justice through the legal system. PRL do not have the same basic rights as Lebanese citizens; they are not granted basic civic rights, and are not allowed to work within 39 different professions.[16] PRL often work in seasonal agriculture, constructions jobs and as informal workers.[17]

In November 2022, UNRWA's Commissioner General expressed grave concern over the current humanitarian situation of Palestinian refugees from Lebanon, noting that people are unable to afford medicines or co-share the cost of treatment particularly for chronic diseases and cancer.[18] In early 2022, the poverty rate of Palestinians in Lebanon was 70 percent and by the end of October 2022, it reached 93 percent.[19]

Registered and unregistered Palestinian refugees

Palestinians in Lebanon registered with UNRWA are entitled to receive UNRWA services, including access to primary health care services free of charge.

According to two sources, Palestinian refugees living in Lebanon can be divided into the following groups:

- PRL registered with UNRWA and DPRA (Directorate General of Palestinian Refugee Affairs);
- PRL who fled to Lebanon as a consequence of the 1967 war and who are categorised as 'non-IDs' and who are neither registered with UNRWA nor DPRA;

[11] Maktabi, R., *The Lebanese Census of 1932 Revisited. Who Are the Lebanese?* in: British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies, November 1999, url, p. 219
[12] WHO, *Annual Report 2020: Leveraging Emergency Health Support for Health System Development*, 2022, url, p. 1
[13] Migrationsverket, *Libanon – en sviktande stat*, 2023, url, p. 6; UNRWA, *Palestine refugees in Lebanon: struggling to survive,* 2022 url, p. 10
[14] UNRWA, *Protection Brief Palestine Refugees living in Lebanon,* September 2020, url, pp. 1-3
[15] UNRWA, *Where we work, Lebanon,* n.d., url; UNRWA, *Protection Brief Palestine Refugees living in Lebanon,* September 2020, url, pp. 1-3
[16] UNRWA, *Protection Brief Palestine Refugees living in Lebanon,* September 2020, url, pp. 1-3
[17] An international NGO: 2
[18] UNRWA, *Palestine Refugees in Lebanon fall further in to abyss,* 24 November 2022, url
[19] MEMO, *UN: Poverty among Palestine refugees in Lebanon jumps to 93 %*, 27 October 2022, url

- PRS (Palestinian refugees from Syria).[20]

While the majority of Palestinians in Lebanon are registered with UNRWA, there is a group of 3,000 to 5,000 Palestinians who are not registered with UNRWA, as they are not registered with the Lebanese authorities. Therefore, this group does not have valid legal status in Lebanon and are referred to as 'non-IDs'. The illegal status of non-IDs has a number of implications, including limitations on access to public services from Lebanese educational and public health services. UNRWA provides education and primary health care services to non-IDs in accordance with budget availability.[21]

Impact of the economic crisis on the Lebanese health sector

Ongoing instability in Lebanon

In October 2022, at the time of data collection, Lebanon had neither a president nor a government to deal with the economic recession and the long-term consequences of the Beirut Port explosion, which occurred on 4 August 2020. Since 2019, the economic crisis in Lebanon has resulted in dramatic increases in prices of fuel, food and medicines, a development that was further accelerated by the fact that the subsidy on essential products was lifted in 2021.[22] Palestinian refugees are, like the rest of the Lebanese population, at risk of food insecurity, electricity blackouts and increased health problems because of the shortages of medicine and health care interventions.[23]

Hyperinflation

In 2020, the average inflation rate in Lebanon had reached 85 percent. This inflation rate has been compounded by a decline in the Lebanese pound (LBP).[24] In October 2022, during the time of data collection for this report, one USD was worth 36,000 LBP according to the unofficial exchange rate. The bank system has been described as 'completely bankrupt',[25] and in October 2022, the banks decided to close so that depositaries could not withdraw their own money.[26] It is estimated that because of the devaluation of the LBP – combined with repercussions from Covid-19 – medical doctors across Lebanon have lost about 80 percent of their income.[27]

Access to cash is a crucial aspect of being able to access medical care in Lebanon according to an international NGO.[28] At the time of data collection, October 2022, the devaluation of the local currency and fluctuations in the official exchange rates were reported to affect payments by credit card and to have 'catastrophic consequences on people's daily life.'[29] Patients needed to show proof that they are able to pay prior to any medical intervention such as surgery. This aspect was particularly challenging at the time of the interview. In

[20] PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, not available online, p. 14; a local humanitarian organisation: 3
[21] DIS, *Palestinian Refugees, access to registration and UNRWA services, documents and access to Jordan,* June 2020, url, pp. 26-29; UNRWA, *Protection Brief: Palestine Refugees living in Lebanon,* September 2020, url, pp. 1-3
[22] Migrationsverket, *Libanon – en sviktande stat*, 2023, url, p. 6; UNRWA, *Palestine refugees in Lebanon: struggling to survive,* 2022, url, p. 6
[23] UNRWA, *Palestine refugees in Lebanon: struggling to survive,* 2022, url, p. 6
[24] WHO, *Annual Report 2020: Leveraging Emergency Health Support for Health System Development*, 2022, url, p. 1
[25] Shallal A. et al., *Lebanon is losing its front line* in: J Glob Health, 27 March 2021, url
[26] Reuters, *Lebanese banks close again after holdups by depositors seeking their own money*, 7 October 2022, url
[27] Shallal A. et al., *Lebanon is losing its front line*, in: J Glob Health, 27 March 2021, url
[28] An international NGO: 15
[29] DW, *Lebanese exchange rate chaos causes economic hardship*, 13 October 2022, url

terms of access to own funds, the international NGO explained that the banks were currently closed and even before the closure, there were strict limitations on how much money each person could withdraw from their personal bank account. The international NGO referred to an incident of a Lebanese woman who wished to access her funds in the bank to pay for her sister's cancer treatment and who was denied payout by the bank. She then threatened the bank to get access to her own funds enabling her to pay for her sister's treatment.[30]

The international NGO further noted that there had been an increase in robberies and kidnappings for ransom as a means for people to obtain cash.[31] In October 2022, people with money in the bank were allowed to withdraw 100-200 USD per month of their deposits.[32] The above mentioned episode with a woman who threatened to rob a bank to get access to her own funds illustrates the fact that Lebanon has been described as a 'cash-strapped country' with a direct impact on people's ability to purchase medicines and pay for hospital bills. As an example, insulin prices have increased significantly: from 180,000 LBP to 730,000 LBP after the government reduced its subsidies on important medicines in November 2021.[33]

Due to the financial crisis in Lebanon, commodities in general, including medicines, have increased in price and were estimated to be more than ten times as expensive as before the financial crisis. When applying the official exchange rate at that point of time, the purchasing power was reduced with up to 90 percent.[34] Before the financial crisis, the government used to spend up to 130 million USD in monthly medical subsidies; after the financial crisis, however, the worth of this amount was reduced to 35 million USD.[35] One NGO Anera stated that the Hôtel-Dieu Hospital had a social fund for vulnerable patient groups. Anera also emphasised that this pathway required detailed knowledge of the health care system and connection to gatekeepers.[36]

Health care sector in Lebanon

Organisation of the health sector

The health sector in Lebanon is regulated by the MoPH, which is supported by the World Health Organization (WHO) and other health care partners.[37] The central coordination of the sector has been described as 'weak'.[38]

The provision of health care services in Lebanon is organised in: i) public (governmental) dispensaries, primary health care (PHC) centres and hospitals; (ii) private (for profit/non-profit) clinics and hospitals; and iii) UNRWA-supported primary health clinics and hospitals specifically for the Palestinian refugee population.[39] Private health care providers dominate the health sector in Lebanon.[40] The private for-profit sector is geared towards hospital-based and curative health care services rather than towards prevention and primary health

[30] An international NGO: 15
[31] An international NGO: 15
[32] A local humanitarian organisation: 2
[33] Das, M., *Lebanon: insulin out of reach after subsidies lifted*, 7 February 2022, url
[34] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 11
[35] Das, M., *Lebanon: insulin out of reach after subsidies lifted*, 7 February 2022, url
[36] Anera: 5
[37] WHO Lebanon: 3; MoPH, *About MOPH*, 2022, url
[38] Tyler, F., *Characteristics and challenges of the health sector response in Lebanon*, November 2014, url
[39] WHO Lebanon: 1
[40] UNRWA Department of Health: 1, Tyler, F., *Characteristics and challenges of the health sector response in Lebanon*, November 2014, url

care.[41] The private sector absorbs more than 80 percent of the national health budget.[42] As an example of the dominance of the private sector compared to government-managed facilities, less than 10 percent of all dispensaries and PHC centres belonged to the MoPH or to the Ministry of Social Affairs in 2014.[43] In 2006, only 12 percent of all hospitals across Lebanon belonged to the public sector.[44] According to one interviewed international organisation, PRL with financial means tend to prefer private hospitals, including those contracted with UNRWA, over Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) hospitals, as the quality of services is perceived to be better at private hospitals.[45] There is currently no regulation of prices at the private hospitals. Pricing of services is based on the current exchange rate of US dollars in the black market, which is highly volatile.[46]

All patients in Lebanon with legal residency may access health care services at a private hospital regardless of their nationality given that the patient or their families are able to pay in cash for the costs of treatments, medicines and hospitalisation; according to WHO, the payment should be made in USD.[47] Please see Annex 3 for more information about prices for treatments and medicines at different hospitals as well as about hospital capacity.

In addition to the private health care sector being an important actor, PRCS in Lebanon (PRCS/L) is an important health sector actor in Lebanon. PRCS/L operates five hospitals across Lebanon:

1) Safad Hospital in central Beirut area,
2) Haifa Hospital in the southern suburbs of Beirut,
3) Nasraa Hospital in Mar Elias, West Beirut,
4) Hamshary Hospital in Saida, South Lebanon, and
5) Tal Satar Hospital in Rashidyea, South Lebanon.[48]

Human resources for health

WHO has recommended that a minimum of 4.45 medical doctors, nurses and midwives combined should be available per 1,000 persons as a general rule in order to deliver safe health care.[49] In comparison, even before the economic crisis Lebanon had in 2018 under 40 medical staff per 10,000 persons, which is below WHO's recommendations.[50] According to the same source, as many as 400 medical doctors have since then in 2021 alone left the country.

WHO's office in Lebanon confirmed that Lebanon was still experiencing a severe exodus of medical staff, in particular of medical doctors and those with the highest levels of specialisation, including a high number of

[41] International Medical Corps, *Disability and Health Situational Analysis Report: Improving Access to Quality Health Care for Persons with Disabilities in Lebanon*, May 2020, url, p. 12
[42] Project Hope, *Six Months After Explosion, Lebanon's Health Care Sector on Verge of Collapse*, 2 February 2021, url
[43] Tyler, F., *Characteristics and challenges of the health sector response in Lebanon*, November 2014, url
[44] Kronol, N. M., *Rebuilding of the Lebanese health care system: health sector reforms*, url, p. 460
[45] UNICEF Lebanon Field Office: 5
[46] WHO Lebanon: 10; DW, *Lebanese exchange rate chaos causes economic hardship*, 13 October 2022, url
[47] WHO Lebanon: 2, 8; UNICEF: 6; an international NGO: 14, 16
[48] PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, p. 11, not available online; a local humanitarian organisation: 8
[49] WHO, *Health workforce requirements for universal health coverage and the sustainable development goals*, 2016, url, p. 6
[50] Shallal, A. et al., *Lebanon is losing its front line*, url

psychiatrists; this led to prolonged waiting time for a consultation with a specialist.[51] UNFPA's (United Nations Population Fund) country office in Lebanon confirmed that a high number of health workers had left the country; furthermore, UNFPA noted that a number of those who were still in Lebanon were not showing up at their duty stations because they experienced difficulties in paying for transport. According to UNFPA, 40 percent of medical doctors have left, while the number for nurses and midwives is 20 percent and 8-10 percent respectively.[52] Additional consulted sources confirmed that a high number of medical staff has left the country.[53]

Palestinian refugees are prohibited from practicing medicine in Lebanon.[54] Palestinians with a medical degree are allowed to practice medical professions in the health facilities that UNRWA manages.[55]

Health insurance

Health care in Lebanon is financed through multiple funding sources, including private insurance, households' out-of-pocket payments, NGOs or by various other funds such as UNRWA's fund for Palestinian refugees.[56] Health insurance in Lebanon is a mixture of private health insurance companies and employment-based insurance funds such as the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) (covering national protection for sickness and maternity leave for employees from any sector).[57]

Less than half of the Lebanese population has some form of health insurance.[58] PRL who have jobs in the legal labour market are required to contribute to the NSSF; however, they do not benefit from the NSSF's sickness and maternity coverage.[59] By contrast, only seven percent of refugees in Lebanon possesses a health insurance.[60] Those without insurance may apply for assistance from UNRWA or local NGOs.[61]

One of the interviewed NGOs advised that there was an increase in persons obtaining private insurances and that anyone who had the financial means to buy an insurance can do so, including Palestinians. This source elaborated that insurances purchased with so-called 'fresh dollars'[62] offered better coverage than one paid for in LBP.[63]

Current state of health sector

Lebanon has previously been known as a provider of excellent health care services,[64] and the country has even been described as 'the hospital of the Middle East', attracting patients from the whole region for its

[51] WHO Lebanon: 11
[52] UNFPA Lebanon Field Office: 4
[53] Anera: 11; a local NGO: 3
[54] ILO, *Labour Market Challenges of Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon: A qualitative assessment of Employment Service Centres*, September 2018, url, p. 5
[55] UNRWA, *Working at UNRWA*, n.d., url
[56] Lebanon, Ministry of Public Health and WHO, *III - Health System Financing* in: Health Beyond Politics, 2009, url, pp. 63, 75
[57] An international NGO: 2
[58] UNOCHA, *Emergency Response Plan, Lebanon 2021-2022*, 6 August 2021, url, p. 9
[59] USDOS, *2021 Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon*, April 2022, url; an international NGO: 2
[60] PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, not available online, p. 7
[61] UNRWA, Health Department: 1
[62] 'Fresh Dollars' means 'any amount denominated in USD in the Lebanese banking system, which is either in cash or in international wire transfers' according to Melki & Associates, *Lebanese Banks to buy "fresh" Dollars from the parallel market*, 8 September 2021, url
[63] Anera: 23
[64] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 1

hospitals offering both treatment for somatic and psychiatric diseases.[65] In 2006, Lebanon had 26 beds per 1,000 population, which was one of the highest hospital beds ratio in the Middle East.[66] However, the interviewed sources concurred that this status has been lost over the past years; prices for services have increased dramatically and essential medical workers have left the country.[67] According to WHO's Lebanon office, the health care system in Lebanon was already 'working at the limits of its capacity' before the Beirut port explosion and the explosion only contributed to a further deterioration of the situation.[68] WHO stated that the hospital sector in Lebanon was still recovering from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic: the public sector hospitals were unprepared for the influx of patients that needed hospitalisation during the spike of the pandemic; and the private sector hospitals were reluctant to receive these patients, as many of them did not have health insurance.[69] Furthermore, in November 2022, Lebanon experienced its first cholera outbreak in more than 30 years, and the MoPH needed assistance from WHO to control the outbreak. This has been described by WHO as a reflection of the '… ongoing deterioration in the economic situation and poor access to clean water and proper sanitation services across the country.'[70]

The health sector in Lebanon is severely affected by an energy crisis: UNRWA emphasised that there was an insufficient amount of petroleum, electricity and solar panels. The lack of stable energy supplies had led to reduced availability of medicines. Although there was some amount of petroleum for generators for basic operations, there continued to be a lack of electricity, which is crucial to maintain storage facilities, to keep vaccination programmes running and to continue the computerised work of health care services (health information systems, eHealth, etc.). The lack of electricity also affected pharmacies and medical warehouses.[71] In October 2022, it was impossible to forecast when the energy crisis would be solved, as it is closely connected to the financial crisis.[72]

Beirut port explosion

On 4 August 2020, a large amount of ammonium nitrate, which was stored at the port of Beirut, exploded. Over 6,500 people were injured and the homes of more than 300,000 persons as well as several hospitals were destroyed in the greater Beirut area.[73] WHO estimated that more than 200 lives were lost after the explosion,[74] others that 504 people had died.[75] According to one media outlet, over 2,000 medical doctors have been directly affected by the explosion either through injuries or through the destruction of their place of work.[76]

[65] Nation (The), *Lebanon hospitals under threat as doctors and nurses emigrate*, 14 September 2020, url
[66] Kronol, N. M., *Rebuilding of the Lebanese health care system: health sector reforms*, 2006, 1, url, p. 460
[67] WHO Lebanon: 2, Anera: 7; an international NGO: 1; UNFPA: 4; UNICEF: 1; a local humanitarian organisation: 1; UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 1
[68] WHO, *Annual Report 2020: Leveraging Emergency Health Support for Health System Development*, 2022, url, p. 1,
[69] WHO Lebanon: 12
[70] WHO, *600 000 doses of cholera vaccine arrive in Lebanon amidst evolving outbreak*, 17 November 2022, url
[71] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 3, a local NGO: 5
[72] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 1; an international NGO: 17; UNICEF Lebanon Office: 3
[73] UN Security Council, *Implementation of Security Council resolution 1559, 2004, Thirty-fifth semi-annual report of the Secretary-General [S/2022/749]*, 11 October 2022, url, p. 3; WHO, *Annual Report 2020: Leveraging Emergency Health Support for Health System Development*, 2022, url, p. 20; Shallal, A. et al., *Lebanon is losing its front line* in: J Glob Health, 27 March 2021, url
[74] WHO, *Annual Report 2020: Leveraging Emergency Health Support for Health System Development*, 2022, url, p. 20
[75] Shallal, A. et al., *Lebanon is losing its front line* in: J Glob Health, 27 March 2021, url
[76] Nation (The), *Lebanon hospitals under threat as doctors and nurses emigrate*, 14 September 2020, url

The Beirut port explosion destroyed the main warehouse of the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), which contained medicines and medical supplies. Hence, these goods were relocated to two to three different locations (with the required cold chain infrastructure) designated by the MoPH. WHO and UNICEF have assisted the government in reconstructing the MoPH's Central Drug Warehouse and have been providing support for its functionality.[77]

The explosion, which occurred in the midst of the Covid-19 epidemic, has had several negative effects on the functionality of the health sector, according to health system observers. Firstly, there was a spike in Covid-19 cases in Lebanon following the explosion; secondly, medical doctors left the country to find a better life elsewhere; and finally, people's trust in the government and the public sector decreased.[78] Among the destroyed health facilities were two psychiatric in-patient units placed within general hospitals, adding to the poor availability of psychiatric care in the country.[79]

Supply of medicines

WHO Lebanon emphasised that some medicines for chronic diseases were subject to interruptions of supply. These medicines included, but were not limited to, cancer treatment. Before the financial crisis, the Lebanese government used to reimburse the costs for 50 percent of the population who had no health insurance. This amounted to more than 4,000 cases per year supported by the MoPH (around 40 percent of all cancer cases). These cases were fully subsidised by the government, including brand medication and new forms of immunotherapy, which are expensive and needed for an extended period of time. During the current economic crisis, the government has not been doing that. Instead, the government has tried to replace branded medicine with generic medicines and to establish new treatment protocols.[80]

The NGO Young Men's Christian Association Lebanon (YMCA Lebanon) manages the National Chronic medications programme for the MoPH, according to WHO's Lebanon office.[81] This programme covers 440 PHCs and dispensaries providing basic care, including for patients with chronic diseases. YMCA's list of medications follows the MoPH Essential Drug List (EDL).[82] The medicines are primarily distributed to vulnerable population groups, including refugees; and the eligibility criteria are based on an assessment of vulnerability: household income, socioeconomic status, being elderly, having a special needs condition. Everybody who resides in Lebanon, regardless of nationality, is eligible if the patient meets the criteria. The work of YMCA is also disturbed by the current crisis and people's inability to pay for basic services. Patients who wish to benefit from these services and access to medicines need to open a medical file and produce some ID to open such a file. This creates a challenge for persons who do not have ID papers such as many Syrian refugees.[83]

Hospitals in Lebanon

Below is a description of the three main hospitals in Lebanon that the team visited: one private for profit hospital in Beirut (AUMBC); one charity based hospital also in Beirut (Hospital of the Cross); and one PCRS/L hospital located in Saida. The latter provides services free of charge to PRL on behalf of UNRWA.

[77] UNFPA Lebanon Field Office: 5
[78] Shallal, A. et al., *Lebanon is losing its front line*, 27 March 2021, url
[79] Arab Reform Initiative, *Mental Health Reforms in Lebanon During the Multifaceted Crisis*, 28 September 2021, url
[80] WHO Lebanon: 5
[81] WHO Lebanon: 9
[82] YMCA Lebanon, *Medical Program, Medications*, n.d., url
[83] WHO Lebanon: 9

American University of Beirut Medical Center

According to an international ranking of hospitals, the American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC) is the highest ranked of all hospitals in Lebanon.[84] Established as a hospital in 1902, AUBMC provides health care services to patients across Lebanon as well as to patients from other countries.[85] AUBMC is home to four centres of excellence: the Abu-Haidar Neuroscience Institute (AHNI); the Children's Cancer Center of Lebanon (CCCL), which is dedicated to the treatment of pediatric cancer; the Naef K. Basile Cancer Institute (NKBCI), which is dedicated to the treatment of adult cancer; and the first Multiple Sclerosis (MS) centre in the region.[86]

AUBMC has a number of departments, including (but not limited to) family medicine, cardiology, endocrinology, psychiatry, pulmonary and critical care, and radiation oncology.[87] Furthermore, it has ambulatory services and diagnostic radiology. AUBMC employs 300 physicians, 973 nursing staff as well as a number of other staff.[88] The ambulatory services of the AUBMC include an outpatient department (OPD)[89] and private clinics; the latter offers approximately 22,000 outpatient consultations per month.[90] Admission procedures and charges for services are described on the website. Admission is based on a three-step procedure. Firstly, all new patients are screened by either the tellers (clerks/financial officers), residents or nurses and are then given an appointment. Secondly, on the day of the appointment, a new file is opened and the financial clearance is finalised with the teller of the unit. Finally, the patient is charged 100,000 LBP if it is a new patient and 50,000 LBP[91] if it is a follow-up admission (note that these fees only cover the initial admission fees).[92] According to observations during the visit at the hospital, a patient cannot be admitted at the hospital without presenting a guarantee that the patient or their family is able to pay for the services. According to its website, the hospital accepts payments are by credit card, online money transfer, cash and checks. The hospital also accepts payments by private insurance.[93]

AUBMC is also a teaching hospital for the Faculty of Medicine.[94]

Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross

The team visited the Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross /*Hôpital psychiatrique de la Croix* in October 2022. The Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross is located in Jal El Dib in the northern parts of Greater Beirut.[95] It has a capacity of 905 beds divided into male and female wards in separate buildings.[96]

The hospital receives patients who suffer from mental illnesses such as depression, schizophrenia, maniac episodes, mental retardation and cerebral paralysis. The hospital admits patients who are in an agitated state and who may constitute a risk to themselves and to others. The hospital has infrastructure that allows for

[84] CINDOC, *Ranking Web of Hospitals: Lebanon*, January 2015, url
[85] AUBMC, *International Patients' Services*, n.d., url
[86] AUBMC, *Department and Services*, n.d., url
[87] AUBMC, *Department and Services*, n.d., url
[88] AUBMC, *International Patients' Services*, n.d., url
[89] AUBMC, *Outpatient Department (OPD)*, n.d., url
[90] AUBMC, *Specialty Clinics*, n.d., url
[91] Please note that due to the hyperinflation, all prices are likely to change very often.
[92] AUBMC, *Outpatient Department (OPD)*, admission fee as they appeared on the website 23 November 2022, url
[93] AUBMC, *International Patients' Services*, n.d., url
[94] AUBMC, *Facts & Figures*, January 2022, url
[95] Hôpital psychiatrique de la Croix, *Situation géographique* (Geographical location), n.d., url
[96] Hôpital psychiatrique de la Croix, *Visite guidée* (Presentation of services), n.d., url

confinement of patients.[97] The psychiatric treatment follows WHO standards on mental diseases and the American Drug Association standards.[98] The hospital offers psychiatric treatment with medicines, electro-convulsive therapy (ECT), psychotherapy, art therapy and occupational therapy.[99] In October 2022, the hospital had 12 psychiatrists, four psychologists and a number of nurses and social assistants.

The services of the Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross are available to patients who can afford the costs, including PRL.[100] There are patients from many Middle Eastern countries at the hospital, including Palestinians, Syrians and Lebanese.[101] Patients may be referred to the hospital by the MoPH, the Ministry of Defense, NSSF, other ministries or by UNRWA.[102]

Mental health care services in Lebanon suffer from a number of challenges: the general health budget is already low; there is no national mental health act; government funding is restricted; and the costs of services for patients and their families are high.[103] According to WHO's Lebanon office, the services of the Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross are costly. While the hospital receives partial support from the MoPH, it is currently experiencing financial strain.[104] The NGO Anera (American Near East Refugee Aid) supports the Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross/*Hôpital psychiatrique de la Croix*, with medicines and medical supplies (e.g. needles, syringes and diapers). According to Anera, UNRWA does not have contracts with psychiatric hospitals.[105] UNFPA also confirmed that there is a shortage of medicines for patients with psychiatric diseases. Efforts are being made to solve this problem.[106]

PRCS/L Hamshary Hospital

The team visited the PRCS Hospital in Saida in October 2022. PRCS is a non-profit humanitarian organisation under the principles of the Red Cross and Red Crescent movement. PRCS/L was created in 1969 with the purpose to provide health care to Palestinian refugees in and outside camps in Lebanon. In Lebanon, PRCS operates five hospitals (so-called 'PRCS hospitals') and eight health care centres across the country.[107]

Hamshary Hospital has a contract with UNRWA.[108] The hospital provides secondary health care services free of charge to PRL in accordance with UNRWA's hospitalisation policy and reimbursement scheme (see the section about UNRWA for further details).

The Hamshary Hospital in Saida is located in the neighbourhood right outside the refugee camp Ein El Hilweh, the largest refugee camp in Lebanon.[109] The Hamshary Hospital is the largest of the five PRCS/L hospitals,[110]

[97] Hôpital psychiatrique de la Croix, *Visite guidée*, (Presentation of services), n.d., url
[98] Hôpital psychiatrique de la Croix, *Les prestations thérapeutiques* (Available treatments), n.d., url
[99] Hôpital Psychiatrique de la Croix, *Les prestations thérapeutiques*, (Available treatments), n.d., url
[100] Anera: 15
[101] WHO Lebanon: 16, Hôpital Psychiatrique de la Croix, *Visite guidée*, n.d., url
[102] Hôpital psychiatrique de la Croix, *Visite guidée* (Presentation of services), n.d., url
[103] Arafat, S. M. Y. et al., *Psychiatry in Lebanon*, 2020, url
[104] WHO Lebanon: 16
[105] Anera: 15
[106] UNFPA Lebanon Field Office: 6
[107] PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, not available online, pp. 8, 9
[108] UNRWA, *Red Crescent and UNRWA Secure Better Hospital Services in Lebanon*, April 2010, url
[109] Nilsson, M., *Surviving Seemingly Endless Refugeeship – Social Representations and Strategies of Palestinian Refugees in Ein El Hilweh*, 2021, url, p. 1; a local humanitarian organisation: 35
[110] A local humanitarian organisation: 35

and it has a capacity of 125 beds.[111] In 2021, it admitted 5,453 patients;[112] 73 percent of the admitted patients were referred to the Hamshary Hospital by UNRWA.[113] The Hamshary Hospital has an emergency room and a number of specialised clinics as well as a physiotherapy clinic. The specialised services include internal medicine, cardiology, general surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, gastroenterology, emergency care, pediatrics, laboratory services and ambulance services.[114] At the time of the visit, the Hamshary Hospital had a dialysis centre funded by the NGO Health Care Society. In 2021, the hemodialysis unit in Hamshary Hospital had 120 beneficiaries.[115] At the time of data collection for this report, the funding for the continuation of the hemodialysis programme beyond 2022 was not secured. Furthermore, there is a PRCS-managed physiotherapy centre at the Hamshary Hospital with limited capacity, which offers services to adults and children.[116]

In 2021, the Hamshary Hospital had 19 general practitioners, 35 specialised doctors and 87 nurses.[117]

The admission procedures were explained as follows: a patient may show up at a PRCS hospital. PRCS will then contact an UNRWA health clinic staff member who will visit the patient, assess the case and conduct the administrative work related to the admission. This is most often in cases of emergency admissions. Most commonly, the patient will be referred by UNRWA health clinic to the nearest PRCS hospital. In some cases, however, persons will be referred to Hamshary Hospital in Saida, regardless of where the patient live, as this hospital offers the broadest coverage of medical services.[118]

According to findings from a team of independent auditors who analysed the performance of the PRCS/L hospitals in 2009 and 11, the quality of the services in PRCS/L hospitals were found to be 'in general average' and 'very low compared to Lebanese hospitals of the same category'.[119] Sources reported that the current financial crisis in Lebanon had led to more demand by poor patients (of all nationalities) on PRCS/L hospitals.[120] Combined with weakening donor commitment, the PRCS/L hospitals are experiencing difficulties in retaining specialist doctors, which has led to difficulties in maintaining quality requirement, patient safety and operation of services.[121]

The Hamshary Hospital serves registered and unregistered Palestinian refugees as well as poor Lebanese citizens and patients of foreign nationalities. PRCS/L hospitals serve patients without health insurance for a 'minimal' fee.[122] In 2021, 55 percent of the patients were Palestinians.[123]

[111] A local humanitarian organisation: 35
[112] PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, not available online, p. 7, 20
[113] PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, not available online, p. 28
[114] A local humanitarian organisation: 37; own observations during visit at the hospital
[115] Health Care Society, *Annual Report 2021*, n.d., url, p. 5
[116] A local humanitarian organisation: 32
[117] PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, not available online, p. 40
[118] A local humanitarian organisation: 23
[119] PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, not available online, p. 10
[120] A local humanitarian organisation: 12; PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, not available online, p. 7
[121] A local humanitarian organisation: 13, 17
[122] PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, not available online, p. 7
[123] PRCS, *PRCS/L Hospitals Annual Report 2021*, 2022, not available online, p. 25; a local humanitarian organisation: 36

UNRWA's role in health service provision

UNRWA's mandate and responsibilities in relation to health

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) was established in December 1949 under UN resolution 302 (IV),[124] and the agency began operating on 1 May 1950. UNRWA was created to respond to the urgent humanitarian needs of the then about 750,000 Palestinian refugees who were displaced as a result of the 1948 Arab-Israeli war.[125] UNRWA operates in Lebanon, Jordan, Syria, the West Bank and Gaza.[126] For nearly seven decades, the agency has been providing 'state-like services', including health services to Palestinian refugees.[127]

According to its mandate, UNRWA continues to operate until there is a political solution to the Palestine-Israel conflict in line with Resolution 194, which stipulates the right to return of the Palestinian people.[128] As such, the UN General Assembly has continuously renewed UNRWA's mandate, most recently extending it until 30 June 2023.[129] Usually, the mandate is extended periodically in the General Assembly resolution entitled "*Assistance to Palestine refugees*".[130]

A number of General Assembly resolutions that directly links to the work of UNRWA are renewed periodically; the two key resolutions are "*Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East*" and "*Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities*". These resolutions outline UNRWA's key responsibilities towards Palestinian refugees. The core services are the provision of education, health, relief and social services as well as emergency assistance.[131] All issues pertaining to Palestinians and the work of UNRWA are covered by the so-called 'fourth committee – the Special Political and Decolonization Committee within the UN General Assembly'.[132]

More detailed priorities are addressed in UNRWA's five year Mid Term Strategies (MTS). The most recent strategy covers the years of 2016-2021 with a recent extension to include 2022. The current MTS identifies a "(…) *priority focus on life-threatening illnesses requiring life-saving/ life-supporting medical care and treatment, but who lack the financial assets or insurance coverage to attain these.*"[133] Comprehensive primary health care falls under UNRWA's core mandate and it is unlikely that UNRWA will fully stop delivering primary health care services. Access to secondary and tertiary care through its hospitalisation programme is UNRWA's way of assisting Palestinians in need of more advanced health care services. However, in a time of financial

[124] UNRWA, *General Assembly Resolution 302, A/RES/302 (IV) 8 December 1949,* n.d., url
[125] UNRWA, *Who we are,* n.d., url
[126] UNRWA, *UNRWA Fields of Operations Map 2020,* June 9, 2020, url
[127] CMI, *UNRWA, funding crisis and the way forward*, September 2022, url, p. 6
[128] UNRWA, *General Assembly Resolution 302, A/RES/302 (IV) 8 December 1949,* n.d., url; Security Council Report, *Resolution 194*, 11 December 1948, url
[129] UN, *Assistance to Palestine Refugees, GA Resolution (A/RES/74/83),* 26 December 2019, url; UN, *GA Resolution (A/RES/72/81), Persons displaced as a Result of June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,* 14 December 2017, url; UN, *GA Resolution (A/RES/75/94), Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,* 18 December 2020, url
[130] Bartholomeusz, L., *The Mandate of UNRWA at Sixty*, 10 May 2010, url
[131] UN General Assembly, *Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 7 December 2017, A/RES/72/81*, 7 December 2017, url; United Nations General Assembly, *Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 10 December 2020, A/RES/75/94*, 10 December 2020, url
[132] UN, The United Nations and Decolonization, *Fourth Committee,* n.d., url
[133] UNRWA, *Mid Term Strategy 2016-2021,* 2016, url, p. 56

shortfall and an increasing demand for services – including primary health care and hospitalisation – UNRWA has predicted that it will not be able to meet all of the existing needs.[134] According to UNRWA, the current MTS is implemented at a time where the agency faces a number of challenges, including continuous chronic underfunding, and that has a direct impact on UNRWA services.[135]

Structure of UNRWA's health services

Health care services available through UNRWA

The core focus of UNRWA's Health Programme is to deliver comprehensive primary health care services free of charge to Palestinian refugees through 140 primary health facilities managed by UNRWA across its five countries of operation. Primary health care centres are located inside and outside camps.[136] In these centres, a Family Health Team (FHT) offers services from 'maternal and child health to family planning, preventive and curative care, outpatient and diagnostic services, oral care, specialist care and referrals.'[137]

In addition to providing primary health care, UNRWA also administers a hospitalisation programme where services are provided by public, private or NGO-hospitals that have contracts with UNRWA. Contrary to the access to primary health care services, the hospitalisation support is different in each of the five countries, depending on local circumstances.[138] This also means that the percentage of the costs covered by UNRWA differs and varies over time and place.[139] Each UNRWA country operation manages the reimbursement scheme within its budgetary limitations.[140] It is only in Lebanon that UNRWA provides free of charge secondary health care through PRCS hospitals.[141]

According to UNRWA's Annual Report, a little over 73,000 Palestinian refugees benefited from UNRWA-supported hospitalisation services in 2021, with an average length of in-patient stay of 1.9 days.[142]

The financial shortfall of UNRWA has had a negative impact on the quality of services delivered by UNRWA. Because of chronic underfunding, the ambition of providing access to a full range of quality health services to everybody within the target group has had to be reconsidered, according to information given to DIS by UNRWA in 2020.[143] When consulting UNRWA for this current report, UNRWA similarly explained that the agency is unable to fully cover the existing health care needs and that the reimbursement scheme for secondary and tertiary treatment at UNRWA-contracted hospitals is at risk of being adjusted or put to a complete halt.[144]

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[134] UNRWA, Health Department, 14-16
[135] UNRWA, Department of Internal Oversight Services Evaluation Division, *evaluation of the UNRWA medium term strategy 2016-2022,* September 2021, url, pp. 11, 34; UNRWA, *Mid Term Strategy 2016-2021,* 2016, url, p. 36
[136] UNRWA, *Health Programme 2021*, n.d., url; UNRWA, Lebanon Field Office: 5
[137] UNRWA, Lebanon Field Office: 13; UNRWA, *What we do, Health,* n.d., url
[138] UNRWA, *Mid Term Strategy 2016-2021*, 2016, url, p. 35
[139] UNRWA, *Department of Health*, *Annual Health Report 2021,* 18 August 2022, url, p. 39; UNRWA, *Health Programme 2021,* n.d., url; UNRWA, Health Department: 5; A local humanitarian organisation: 8
[140] de Almeida, S. V. et al., *Co-payments and equity in care: enhancing hospitalization policy for Palestine Refugees in Lebanon,* 29 January 2022, url
[140] UNRWA, Department of Health, *Annual Health Report 2021*, 18 August 2022, url
[141] UNRWA, *Health in Lebanon,* n.d., url; UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 5; UNRWA Department of Health: 5
[142] UNRWA, Department of Health, *Annual Health Report 2021*, 18 August 2022, url
[143] DIS, *Palestinian Refugees - Access to registration and UNRWA services, documents and entry to Jordan,* June 2020, url, p. 25
[144] UNRWA Department of Health: 9, 12

UNRWA's health care services in Lebanon

The general health care sector in Lebanon largely relies on private providers (as explained in more detail in the section 'Organisation of health sector'). Whereas Lebanese citizens may rely on health insurance to cover their health expenses, there is no health insurance or Lebanese government funding for PRL. The only option for financial support for Palestinians in need of health care services is from UNRWA or NGOs.[145]

Primary health care programme in Lebanon

UNRWA's primary health care services in Lebanon are provided through 28 health care facilities located across the country inside and outside camps. At these UNRWA health clinics, UNRWA doctors offer consultations, examine patients and prescribe required medicine to Palestinian refugees eligible to receive UNRWA services.[146] Medicines for basic health problems are provided to patients free of charge. The vast majority of UNRWA health centres have a pharmacy-storage in the facility, staffed by a pharmacist and/or other relevant medical personnel. Medication for diabetes is also available in UNRWA health centres – even in October 2022, when insulin was very difficult to find in pharmacies across Lebanon.[147]

There is a high demand on UNRWA's services, which results in a high number of consultations per day as well as short consultations. The number of doctors per patient is low and a medical doctor may have consultations with up to 100 patients per day. An average consultation will therefore last approximately 3-5 minutes.[148]

Mental health care needs are not sufficiently covered by UNRWA and there are no specific medication available through UNRWA.[149]

Hospitalisation programme in Lebanon

Palestinians in Lebanon rely heavily on UNRWA due to the organisation of the Lebanese health care system as described above. Prior to 2016, UNRWA Lebanon fully covered secondary care in private and public hospitals as well as PRCS hospitals. However, because of severe budget constraints in 2016, UNRWA had to amend its policy. This means that today secondary care is fully covered only at PRCS hospitals, whereas secondary health care services received at an UNRWA-contracted hospital are 90 percent covered.[150] In total, 54 hospitals have a contract with UNRWA in Lebanon of which five are governmental. The tendering of contracts is renewed annually; and generally, the same hospitals are contracted, but prices for services are renegotiated. PRCS hospitals are among the contracted hospitals.[151]

In addressing access to secondary care, UNRWA noted that overall, the quality of services in PRCS hospitals has improved over the last 10-15 years.[152] For reasons of financial limitations, PRCS hospitals cannot meet the same perceived quality standard as private hospitals.[153] This is also reflected in the choice of health care

[145] UNRWA Department of Health: 1; UNRWA, *Health in Lebanon,* n.d., url
[146] The criteria for registration as a Palestine refugee are set out in the UNRWA's Consolidated Eligibility and Registration Instructions (CERI). For more detailed information about eligibility, see DIS' report *Palestinian Refugees - Access to registration and UNRWA services, documents and entry to Jordan*, url, pp. 12-16
[147] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 5, 15
[148] An international NGO: 8
[149] An international NGO: 9
[150] de Almeida, V. et al., *Co-payments and equity in care: enhancing hospitalization policy for Palestine Refugees in Lebanon,* 29 January 2022, url
[151] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 7; UNRWA Health Department: 10
[152] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 7
[153] A local NGO: 17

providers where UNRWA noted that in Saida alone, 45 percent of patients prefer a PRCS hospital, whereas the remaining 55 percent choose another contracted hospital, despite having to pay for parts of the admission out of their own pockets. In the remaining areas where PRCS manage four hospitals, 20 percent of PRL in need of hospitalisation choose PRCS hospitals.[154]

An international NGO explained that in cases where PRL require treatment at a private hospital outside of the UNRWA-contracted hospitals, they are unlikely to have the funds to cover these expenditures. If the patient does have the funds, it is on the condition that they pay a deposit in advance (which is based on the estimated cost of in-patient care and surgery costs).[155]

UNRWA's referral pathway and reimbursement schemes

When PRL are in need of hospitalisation, UNRWA Lebanon follows the rules and financial coverage plans laid out in the agency's internal hospitalisation policy. In accordance with the current policy, tertiary level admissions have a coverage ceiling up to 5,000 USD for 12 days. If the cost reaches more than this amount, the case is eligible to the assistance from UNRWA's Medical Hardship Fund (MHF) for coverage of an additional percentage starting from 10 percent and not exceeding another 5,000 USD. Most often, however, cases in the MHF are tertiary care. If a PRL chooses a hospital that is not a contracted partner with UNRWA, because the service is only available at a non-contracted hospital, UNRWA may reimburse 30 percent of the admission cost.[156] Anera similarly informed that UNRWA conducts an assessment of the individual case and if approved, 60 percent of the expenditure up to a certain amount will be covered for a pre-decided number of days of hospitalisation. According to Anera, in cases of tertiary care, UNRWA prioritises 'special hardship cases' due to the limitations in funding.[157] An international NGO explained that since UNRWA does not fully cover all fees for required medicines and treatments (but only a certain percentage of the fees), the patient may seek financial support from other organisations or relatives.[158]

Due to the financial crisis in Lebanon, commodities, including medicines, have increased in price and was in October 2022 more than ten times as expensive as before the crisis. This increase in price has had implications for UNRWA's ability to cover the costs of medicines and treatments; in October 2022, UNRWA was covering only 30 percent of the costs, leaving the patient with a larger out of pocket payment than before.[159]

At private, contracted hospitals, the most common diseases that UNRWA partially covers include hernia surgery and caesarian section deliveries. For tertiary care at private, contracted hospitals, where UNRWA covers 60 percent, it often involves services such as neuro surgical operations and other advanced operations. In terms of cancer treatment, UNRWA covers 50 percent of the costs of medicines needed for the patient up to a maximum of 8,000 USD, then 25 percent up to 12,000 USD. In addition to covering the costs of medicines, UNRWA covers a number of selected surgical interventions through its hospitalisation policy. This coverage includes partial funding of chemotherapy sessions where patients have to pay the remaining costs out of pocket. This is in most cases financially impossible, as these patients have already depleted their limited

[154] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 7
[155] An international NGO: 14
[156] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 8
[157] Anera: 4
[158] An international NGO: 7
[159] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 11-12

resources.[160] Whilst medicines for cancer treatment and hemodialysis are provided through UNRWA's hospitalisation referral, budgetary limitations of the organisation can have an impact on the ability to cover expenditures.[161]

One of the biggest challenges for PRL in Lebanon is obtaining cancer treatment, as this is very expensive and the medicine is frequently unavailable.[162] UNRWA also experiences a generalised and massive lack of cancer treatment, as there is a shortage of critical medicines resulting in some patients relying on medicines bought on the black market with all the problems of counterfeit medicines of poor quality, high prices and lack of control of expiration dates that this may entail. Contracted service providers are also finding it challenging to procure these sorts of medicines.[163]

Current financial and procurement challenges

The current financial crisis has had the direct effect on UNRWA that parts of the payment in its contracts with hospitals were requested in USD for the first time. While UNRWA continued to provide access to secondary and tertiary care, a great effort was made in containing the expenditure by closely monitoring implementation, increasing referrals to PRCS hospitals, trying to reduce average lengths of hospitalisation as well as conducting strict auditing of hospital bills.[164]

In November 2022, UNRWA issued an emergency appeal for Lebanon, highlighting amongst other issues the growing shortages of medicines and the fact that families are often unable to afford medicines, as government subsidies have been lifted. Many Palestinian refugees are no longer able to afford the self-payment cost for secondary health care and consequently, some skip lifesaving treatment to avoid accumulating debts.[165]

UNRWA emphasised that current challenges in Lebanon with insufficient amounts of gas, electricity and solar panels have led to reduced availability of medicines. Although there is some gas for generators to continue basic operations, there is a lack of electricity to maintain storage facilities functioning, keep vaccination programmes running and continue the operation of UNRWA's health care centres.[166] The health sector in Lebanon is challenged in terms of recruitment and retention of qualified medical staff and so is UNRWA.[167]

In terms of procurement of medicines, UNRWA explained that it procured its medicine from UNRWA Headquarters in Amman. Procurement is challenging for several reasons: transportation, especially of larger quantities of goods is difficult after the Beirut port explosion in 2020 and because of increased costs of shipment in Beirut related to the financial crisis. Until now, UNRWA had not yet experienced that the agency was not able to procure needed medicines; it had, however; experienced delays in the deliveries.[168]

[160] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 6
[161] UNRWA Health Department: 8
[162] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 15
[163] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 10
[164] UNRWA, Department of Health, *Annual Health Report 2021*, 18 August 2022, url
[165] UNRWA, *Hitting Rock Bottom – Palestine Refugees in Lebanon risk their lives in search of Dignity,* 21 October 2022, url
[166] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 3
[167] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 2
[168] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 4

Health care services

Cancer

Cancer treatment, including chemotherapy, is scarce or unavailable to the general population in Lebanon.[169] The government hospital Karentina offers in- and outpatient services for children with cancer.[170] Anera, an NGO that mobilises resources for medical aid in Lebanon, has managed to obtain smaller quantities of cancer medicines; however, it is not sufficient to cover the need, as cancer medicines are one of the medicines, which pharmaceutical companies do not often donate.[171]

The donations that Anera has received are channeled through the governmental hospital Karentina in Beirut, which is the main public hub for dispersing medicines. Based on a survey within the Palestinian community, Anera has assessed 533 patients and their needs for cancer medicines. Anera is in the process of lobbying for funds for these medicines.[172] Cancer treatment is not offered at the PRCS hospitals due to lack of medicines and of specialised medical doctors.[173] One local NGO had second hand information about Palestinians being rejected at hospitals for cancer treatment; they were given the explanation that the hospital did not have the required medicines but that was not correct, according to the NGO at that point of time. Rather, the explanation could be that these hospitals prefer treating Lebanese patients. The NGO had not witnessed examples of such differential treatment directly.[174]

Prior to the financial crisis, the Lebanese government fully covered the costs of treatment and medicines for about half of the Lebanese population who did not have health insurance. However, as the government currently lacks funds, it can no longer subsidise cancer treatment. This situation affects poor patients disproportionately.[175] The scarcity of lifesaving cancer treatment is reported to have a negative effect on patients' health, including the postponing of chemotherapy sessions. The risk that the government might fully stop subsidising medicines and hospital bills is describes as a 'catastrophic' by health sector observers.[176]

The following data was collected in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022. In the column 'facility', it is described in which facility the service or medication was available at the time of research. If available in all the mentioned facilities, the term 'all' will appear. The price of the treatment is given on the same line as the facility where the medicine is available. All prices are in USD or in LBP. It was not possible to obtain information about prices of all medical treatments and diagnostics tests. The main reason for this is that the surveyed hospitals stated that such information depended on an assessment of the individual case. In these cases there have been left blank cells in the matrix.

[169] WHO Lebanon: 5; UNFPA Lebanon Country Office: 8; Anera: 12; a local NGO: 28; a local humanitarian organisation: 27
[170] Annex 3, Governmental Hospital Beirut – Karantina
[171] Anera: 12
[172] Anera: 12
[173] A local humanitarian organisation: 27
[174] A local NGO: 29
[175] WHO Lebanon: 5
[176] Al-Monitor, *In Lebanon, deterioration of health system endangers cancer patients' lives*, March 2021, url; Anera, *Lebanon's Crisis Impacts Cancer Patients Amid Medicine Shortages*, 2022, url

Table 1: Cost of treatment

Cancer			
Treatment	**Availability**	**Price in USD**	**Facility**
Inpatient treatment by a cancer specialist (an oncologist)	Available		AUBMC
			Governmental Hospital Beirut – Karantina (available for children only)
Outpatient treatment and follow-up by a cancer specialist (an oncologist)	Available	First visit: 100 Follow-up visit: 70	AUBMC
			Governmental Hospital Beirut – Karantina (available for children only)
Inpatient treatment by a urologist	Available		AUBMC
Outpatient treatment by a urologist	Available	First visit: 100 Follow up visit: 70	AUBMC
Radiation therapy	Available		AUBMC
			Governmental Hospital Beirut – Karantina (available for children only)
Chemotherapy	Available		AUBMC
			Governmental Hospital Beirut – Karantina (available for children only)
Laboratory research / monitoring of full blood count; e.g. Hb, WBC & platelets	Available		AUBMC
			Governmental Hospital Beirut – Karantina (available for children only)

Laboratory research / tumor marker: PSA test (Prostate-Specific Antigen)	Available		AUBMC
Prostate resection (tran-surethral resection of the prostate, Laparoscopic pros-tatectomy)	Available		AUBMC
Diagnostic test: Biopsy	Available		AUBMC

Cardiac complications and hypertension

This section describes the availability and the prices of medicines and treatments for patients suffering from cardiac complications and hypertension.

At the PRCS hospitals, preventive care is available for patients with cardiac complications and is fully covered by UNRWA. Medicines for hypertension are included in UNRWA's coverage.[177] Anera has provided large amounts of medicines for cardio vascular diseases to PRCS hospitals and to UNRWA as a matter of priority. Anera was not aware of any critical shortages of medicines to prevent cardio-vascular diseases, including hypertension.[178]

The following data about specialised treatment was collected from selected hospitals in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022. In the column 'facility', it is described in which facility the service or medication was available at the time of research. If available in all the mentioned facilities, the term 'all' will appear. In Annex 3 attached to this report, it is possible to see the name of the pharmacy that sells the product for the price mentioned in the scheme. The price of the treatment is given on the same line as the facility where the medicine is available. All prices are in USD or in LBP. It was not possible to obtain information about prices of all medical treatments and diagnostics tests. The main reason for this is that the surveyed hospitals stated that such information depended on an assessment of the individual case. In these cases there have been left blank cells in the matrix.

Table 2: Cost of treatment

Cardiac complications and hypertension			
Treatment	**Availability**	**Price in USD**	**Facility**
Inpatient treatment by an in-ternal specialist (internist)	Available		AUBMC
		Provided free of charge if approved by UNRWA up to a predefined limit. Above this limit, there is a fixed per-centage of self-payment.	Hamshary Hos-pital
Outpatient treatment by an internal specialist (internist)	Available	First visit: 100 Follow-up visit: 70	AUBMC

[177] A local humanitarian organisation: 28
[178] Anera: 13

		Provided free of charge if approved by UNRWA up to a predefined limit. Above this limit, there is a fixed percentage of self-payment.	Hamshary Hospital
Inpatient treatment by a heart specialist (a cardiologist)	Available		AUBMC
		Provided free of charge if approved by UNRWA up to a predefined limit. Above this limit, there is a fixed percentage of self-payment.	Hamshary Hospital
Outpatient treatment by a heart specialist (a cardiologist)	Available	First visit: 100 Follow-up visit: 70	AUBMC
		Provided free of charge if approved by UNRWA up to a predefined limit. Above this limit, there is a fixed percentage of self-payment.	Hamshary Hospital
Inpatient treatment by a cardiac surgeon	Available		AUBMC
Outpatient treatment and follow-up by a cardiac surgeon	Available		AUBMC
Diagnostic imaging by means of ECG (electro cardio gram; cardiology)	Available	28.50	AUBMC
Diagnostic imaging by means of ultrasound of the heart	Available		AUBMC
Maintenance and follow up of pacemaker by a cardiologist	Available		AUBMC
Laboratory test blood: INR e.g. in case of acenocoumarol anticlotting	Available		AUBMC
Laboratory test: monitoring full blood count: e.g. Hb, WBC & platelets	Available		AUBMC

Table 3: Cost of medicines

The following data about the availability of medicines was collected from three pharmacies in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022.

Cardiac complications and hypertension (including post operation care)						
Name of medicine (generic name)	**Availability**	**Dosage**	**Form**	**Number of units in the container**	**Price per box in LBP**	**Pharmacy**
Simvastatin	Available	10 mg	Tablet	30	96,511	All
Atorvastatin	Available	40 mg	Tablet	30	343,811	All
Clopidrogrel	Available	75 mg	Tablet	30	588,513	All
Acetylsalicylic acid	Available	81 mg	Tablet	120	52,127	All
Losartan	Available	50 mg	Tablet	28	619,047	All
Bisoprolol	Available	5 mg	Tablet	30	177,349	All
Enalapril	Available	10 mg	Tablet	30	199,191	Mazen Pharmacy
Doxazosin	Available	4 mg	Tablet	20	275,816	Mazen Pharmacy
Isosorbide mono-nitrate	Available	40 mg	Tablet	30	101,306	Mazen Pharmacy
Amiodarone	Available	200 mg	Tablet	30	272,883	Mazen Pharmacy Pharmacy Alexandre
Digoxin	Available	0.25 mg	Tablet	100	98,155	All
Furosemide	Available	40 mg	Tablet	20	52,703	All
Warfarin	N/A					
Amlodipine	Available	5 mg	Tablet	50	339,862	All
Spironolactone	Available	100 mg	Tablet	10	209,193	All

Diabetes type I and II

Insulin is low in supply across Lebanon and in all hospitals and pharmacies.[179] Whereas medicines for the treatment of diabetes is difficult to access in pharmacies across Lebanon, UNRWA advised that at UNRWA facilities, there is still a stock of diabetes medicines.[180]

The PRCS/L Hamshary Hospital has a hemodialysis unit, which is used by 120 patients.[181] In October 2022, this unit still had rapid-acting insulin in stock.[182] The programme is externally funded but funding is not secured for the coming year. Hence, the continuation of the dialysis programme is at stake, and they might not be able to take in new patients.[183]

[179] Anera: 14
[180] UNRWA Lebanon Field Office: 15
[181] Health Care Society, *Annual Report 2021*, n.d., url, p. 5
[182] A local humanitarian organisation: 26
[183] A local NGO: 13-14, 16-17

According to observations by health analysts, the spike in prices of life-saving insulin may result in acute metabolic complications for patients; furthermore, patients' health is 'highly compromised'.[184]

The following data about specialised treatment was collected in two hospitals in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022. In the column 'facility', it is described in which facility the service or medication was available at the time of research. If available in all the mentioned facilities, the term 'all' will appear. In Annex 3 attached to this report, it is possible to see the name of the pharmacy that sells the product for the price mentioned in the scheme. The price of the treatment is given on the same line as the facility where the medicine is available. All prices are in USD or in LBP. It was not possible to obtain information about prices of all medical treatments and diagnostics tests. The main reason for this is that the surveyed hospitals stated that such information depended on an assessment of the individual case. In these cases there have been left blank cells in the matrix.

Table 4: Cost of treatment

Diabetes type I and II			
Treatment	**Availability**	**Price**	**Facility**
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a general practitioner	Available		AUBMC
			Hamshary Hospital
Inpatient treatment by a specialist in diabetes (an endocrinologist)	Available		AUBMC
Outpatient treatment and follow-up by a specialist in diabetes (an endocrinologist)	Available		AUBMC
Laboratory test: blood glucose (incl: HbA1C/ glyc.Hb)	Available		AUBMC
		Provided free of charge if approved by UNRWA up to a predefined limit. Above this limit, there is a fixed percentage of self-payment.	Hamshary Hospital

[184] Das, M., *Lebanon: insulin out of reach after subsidies lifted*, 7 February 2022, url

Table 5: Cost of medicines

The following data about the availability of medicines was collected from three pharmacies in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022.

Diabetes type I and II						
Name of medicine (generic name)	**Availability**	**Dosage**	**Form**	**Number of units in container**	**Price per box in LBP**	**Pharmacy**
Fast-acting insulin: Insulin aspart, Insulin glulisine, Insulin lispro, Insulin human	N/A					
Intermediate-acting insulin: Insulin isophane	Available, but supply problems in general with this product.	Novomix 30 (Insulin aspart 30 %, Insulin aspart protamine 70 %) 100 IU	Injection	5 x 3 ml	483,499	Pharmacy Alexandre
Long-acting insulin: Insulin detemir, Insulin glargine, Insulin degludec	Available, but supply problems in general with these products.	Insulin glargine 100 IU/ml	Injection	5 x 3 ml	674,310	Pharmacy Alexandre
Metformin	Available	500 mg	Tablet	30	177,795	All
Gliclazine	Available	80 mg	Tablet	60	233,063	All

Table 6: Costs of devices

Devices for diabetes type I and Ii		
Name of device	**Availability**	**Pharmacy**
Blood glucose meter for self-use by patient	Available	All
Blood glucose self-test strips for use by patient	Available	All
Insulin pump	N/A but can be bought from special medical supply centres.	

Mental health

This section describes the availability and prices of medicines and treatment for patients suffering from mental health problems, psychotic disorders, PTSD, dementia and cognitive disorders.

According to UNFPA's Lebanon country office, there are two major hospitals in Lebanon that offer psychiatric services (in addition to other health facilities providing mental health care services).[185] Before the Beirut Port explosion, there were three psychiatric hospitals and five psychiatric units placed in general hospitals. Two of these units were destroyed in the Beirut Port explosion.[186]

Two organisations stated that mental health problems are a challenge in PRL communities, and one of these organisations emphasised that there is a lack of awareness about mental health in refugee communities.[187] WHO stated that mental health services used to be offered almost fully by private health sector in Lebanon. Psychiatric services have not been a priority in the Lebanese health care system, which has prioritised somatic diseases. Lebanon used to have 80 psychiatrists but many of them have left the country (partly in frustration over the low priority given to psychiatry and mental health and the rapid decrease in income due to the economic crisis).[188]

People living with mental health problems are often victims of stigmatisation due to lack of awareness in their communities.[189] The level of stigma, which is associated with mental health in Lebanon, has been described as 'high'.[190]

Some medical expertise to treat psychiatric diseases is available in Beirut at the AUMBC and at Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross. PRCS does not offer mental health services; therefore, UNRWA refers mental health patients to contracted Lebanese private hospitals.[191]

The following data about specialised psychiatric treatment was collected in two hospitals in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022. In the column 'facility', it is described in which facility the service or medication was available at the time of research. If available in all the mentioned facilities, the term 'all' will appear. In Annex 3 attached to this report, it is possible to see the name of the pharmacy that sells the product for the price mentioned in the scheme. The price of the treatment is given on the same line as the facility where the medicine is available. All prices are in USD or in LBP. It was not possible to obtain information about prices of all medical treatments and diagnostics tests. The main reason for this is that the surveyed hospitals stated that such information depended on an assessment of the individual case. In these cases there have been left blank cells in the matrix.

[185] UNFPA Lebanon country office: 6
[186] SFH, *Liban: accès à des soins psychiatriques* (Lebanon: Access to psychiatric treatment), 31 March 2022, url, p. 4; Arafat Y., S. M. et al., *Psychiatry in Lebanon*, 1 November 2020, url
[187] UNICEF Lebanon country office: 9-10; Anera: 15
[188] WHO Lebanon: 15
[189] UNICEF Lebanon country office: 9
[190] Arafat Y., S. M. et al., *Psychiatry in Lebanon*, 1 November 2020, url
[191] A local humanitarian organisation: 30

Table 7: Cost of treatment

Mental health (including psychotic disorders, PTSD, dementia and cognitive disorders)			
Treatment	**Availability**	**Price in USD**	**Facility**
Outpatient treatment possibilities by psychiatrist	Available	Adult: 175 (first consultation) 120 (second consultation) Child: 220	AUBMC
			Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross
Inpatient treatment possibilities by psychiatrist	Available		AUBMC
			Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross
Inpatient treatment possibilities by psychologist	Available		AUBMC
			Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross
Outpatient treatment possibilities by psychologist	Available		AUBMC
			Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross
Special housing (like protected apartments) for chronic psychotic patients with outpatient care	N/A		
Assisted living / care at home by psychiatric nurse	N/A		
Inpatient treatment: physical restraint in case necessary	Available		AUBMC
			Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross
Psychiatric long term clinical treatment (e.g. for chronic psychotic patients) by a psychiatrist	Available		AUBMC
			Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross
Care for mentally handicapped: day care	Available		Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross

Psychiatric treatment in the form of ECT (Electro Convulsive Therapy)	Available		Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross
Care for combined mental and physical handicapped: long-term institutional around the clock care	Available		Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross
Psychiatry: antipsychotic medication administration by injection (depot)	Available		AUBMC
			Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross

Table 8: Cost of medicines

The following data about the availability of medicines was collected from three pharmacies in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022.

Mental health (alcohol and drug abuse, psychotic disorders, PTSD)						
Name of medicine (generic name)	**Availability**	**Dosage**	**Form**	**Number of units in the container**	**Price per box in LBP**	**Pharmacy**
Chlordiazepoxide	Available	2.5 mg	Tablet	30	53,638	Mazen Pharmacy
Disulfiram	N/A					
Methadone	N/A					
Morphine	Available on request and with special prescription from the MoPH	10 mg	Tablet	60	423,964	Mazen Pharmacy
						Saida DT Pharmacy
Buprenorphine	N/A					
Buprenorphine and naloxone	N/A					
Olanzapine	Available	10 mg	Tablet	30	779,150	All
Chlorpromazine	Available	100 mg	Tablet	50	78,171	All
Haloperidol	Available	5 mg	Tablet	25	100,721	All
Risperidone	Available	2 mg	Tablet	20	98,030	Pharmacy Alexandre

Clozapine	Available	100 mg	Tablet	50	901,801	All
Quetiapine	Available	50 mg	Tablet	30	424,549	Mazen Pharmacy
						Pharmacy Alexandre
Venlafaxine	Available	75 mg	Tablet	14	106,899	All
Sertraline	Available	50 mg	Tablet	30	147,128	Mazen Pharmacy
						Pharmacy Alexandre
Citalopram	Available	15 mg	Tablet	28	239,348	All
Mirtazapine	Available	30 mg	Tablet	30	519,609	Mazen Pharmacy
						Pharmacy Alexandre
Diazepam	Available	5 mg	Tablet	25	91,409	All
Lorazepam	Available	1 mg	Tablet	40	78,758	Mazen Pharmacy
						Pharmacy Alexandre
Oxazepam	N/A					
Pregabalin	Available	150 mg	Tablet	56	320,586	All

Chronic obstructive lung disease

Medical expertise for the treatment of chronic obstructive lung disease is available at the AUMBC. It is not available at PRCS hospitals.[192] Some medicines are available with UNRWA; however, nebulizers are neither available nor provided at PRCS hospitals.[193]

The following data was collected in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022. In the column 'facility', it is described in which facility the service or medication was available at the time of research. If available in all the mentioned facilities, the term 'all' will appear. In Annex 3 attached to this report, it is possible to see the

[192] A local humanitarian organisation: 29
[193] A local humanitarian organisation: 29

name of the pharmacy that sells the product for the price mentioned in the scheme. The price of the treatment is given on the same line as the facility where the medicine is available. All prices are in USD or in LBP. It was not possible to obtain information about prices of all medical treatments and diagnostics tests. The main reason for this is that the surveyed hospitals stated that such information depended on an assessment of the individual case. In these cases there have been left blank cells in the matrix.

Table 9: Cost of treatment

Chronic obstructive lung disease			
Treatment	**Availability**	**Price**	**Facility**
Outpatient treatment by a lung specialist (a pulmonologist)	Available		AUBMC
Diagnostic test: lung function tests (e.g., spirometry)	Available		AUBMC
Diagnostic imaging: X-ray radiography	Available		AUBMC

Table 10: Cost of medicines

The following data about the availability of medicines was collected from three pharmacies in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022.

Chronic obstructive lung disease						
Name of medicine (generic name)	**Availability**	**Dosage**	**Form**	**Number of units in the container**	**Price per box in LBP**	**Pharmacy**
Formoterol	Available	12 mcg	Capsule, inhalation	60	497,245	Mazen Pharmacy
Budesonide and formoteol	Available	1 mg / 2 ml	Inhalation suspension for nebuliser	20 x 2 ml	247,118	Mazen Pharmacy
Fluticasone propionate	Available, but supply problems in general with this product.					Saida DT Pharmacy
Salbutamol	Available	2.5 mg / 2.5 ml	Inhalation solution	20 x 2,5 ml	148,460	Mazen Pharmacy
Fluticasone furoate, umeclidinium bromide, vilanterol (Trelegy Ellipta)	N/A					

Fluticasone propionate and salmeterol xinafoate	Available, but supply problems in general with this product.					Saida DT Pharmacy
Tiotropium bromide monohydrate	Available	18 mcg	Rota-caps	15	175,452	Mazen Pharmacy Pharmacy Alexandre
Beclometasone, formoterol/glycopyrronium (Trimbow)	N/A					
Prednisolone	Available	20 mg and 15 mg/5 ml	Tablet / Syrup	20 / 100 ml	47,695 / 122,494	All

Table 11: Cost of devices

Devices for chronic obstructive lung disease			
Name of device	**Availability**	**Price**	**Pharmacy**
CPAP machine	Not available at pharmacies, but can be bought at special medical supply centres. The pharmacy can order it upon request.		Mazen Pharmacy
Oxygen therapy with device and nasal catheter	Available	Dependent on the company / given upon request	Mazen Pharmacy
Oxygen therapy with O2 pressure tank for use at home	N/A can be bought at medical supply centres		

Other medicines

Below is an overview of the availability and price of a number of different medicines. The following data was collected in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022. In the column 'facility', it is described in which facility the service or medication was available at the time of research. If available in all the mentioned facilities, the term 'all' will appear. In Annex 3 attached to this report, it is possible to see the name of the pharmacy that sells the product for the price mentioned in the scheme. The price of the treatment is given on the same line as the facility where the medicine is available. All prices are in USD or in LBP. It was not possible to obtain information about prices of all medical treatments and diagnostics tests. The main reason for this is that the

surveyed hospitals stated that such information depended on an assessment of the individual case. In these cases there have been left blank cells in the matrix.

Painkillers / analgesics

Table 12: Cost of medicines

Analgesics						
Name of medicine (generic name)	**Availability**	**Dosage**	**Form**	**Number of units in the container**	**Price in LBP**	**Pharmacy**
Paracetamol	Available	500 mg	Tablet	16	52,703	All
Ibuprofen	Available	400 mg	Tablet	30	125,664	All
Oxycodone	Available	5 mg	Capsule, hard	56	33,535	Mazen Pharmacy
Sumatriptan	Available	100 mg	Tablet	2	313,483	Mazen Pharmacy

Antihistamines, sleeping pills, vitamins

Table 13: Cost of medicines

Antihistamines, sleeping pills, vitamins, etc.						
Name of medicine (generic name)	**Availability**	**Dosage**	**Form**	**Number of units in the container**	**Price in LBP**	**Pharmacy**
Cholecalciferol (D-vitamin)	Available	Vitamin D3 - 10,000 IU	Capsule	30	137,454	All
Magnesia	Available	Magnesium 100 mg, Pyridoxine 10 mg	Tablet	60	96,511	All
Promethazine	Available	25 mg	Tablet	20	28,708	All
Sildenafil (erectile dysfunction)	Available	100 mg	Tablet	4	682,792	All
Omeprazole	Available	20 mg	Capsule	14	105,955	All
Cetirizine	Available	10 mg	Tablet	20	79,135	All
Tresiquens (female hormone)	Available (but no demand for this medication, according to	Unknown	Unknown	28	211,000	Pharmacy Alexandre

	the pharma-cist)					
Tamsulosin (enlarged prostate)	Available	0.4 mg	Capsule	30	122,953	All
Allopurinol	Available	100 mg	Tablet	50	35,507	All
Calcium	Available	Vitamin D3 – 500 IU, Calcium hydrogen phosphate 600 mg	Tablet	60	93,978	All
Finasteride (enlarged prostate)	Available	5 mg	Tablet	30	126,163	All

Services for persons with drug addiction

This section contains information about existing services for persons in need of maintenance therapy for opioid addiction.

Drug use in Lebanon is criminalised with punishment for personal consumption ranging from three months to three years of prison along with a fine.[194] People who use drugs are frequently punished and subject to arbitrary arrest by the authorities.[195] Complaints from persons being arrested, however, are rarely reported to the authorities as drug users have limited access to legal recourse.[196] The current law on drugs allows a person who is arrested on the grounds of drug use as a first time offence to be referred to a drug addiction treatment centre instead of being sentenced to prison. Drug users who are in prison cannot be enrolled in any form of Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) programme with the exception of drug users who already have a prescription for OAT, and on the condition they have a family member who is willing and able to pick up the medicines at one of the designated pharmacies and bring it to the person in prison.[197] UNICEF's Lebanon office stated that drug abuse is considered to constitute a major problem in the refugee camps, and it has resulted in violence and crime. In the camps, persons involved in drug abuse are often considered criminals and are likely to face problems at checkpoints when entering/leaving the refugee camps.[198]

In 2011, OAT was officially legalised in Lebanon.[199] In Beirut, the team visited one clinic that offers harm reduction services, including OAT (or Opioid Substitution Treatment (OST)), to persons with drug addiction.

[194] Arab Weekly (The), *NGO seeking to decriminalise drug use in Lebanon*, July 2019, url
[195] SIDC: 1
[196] USDOS, *2021 Country Report on Human Rights Practices: Lebanon*, April 2022, url
[197] SIDC: 1
[198] UNICEF Lebanon Country Office: 12
[199] Ghaddar, A. et al., *Challenges in implementing opioid agonist therapy in Lebanon: a qualitative study from a user's perspective*, 2018, url; SIDC: 1

SIDC-Escale is a clinic operated by the non-profit NGO Society for Inclusion and Development in Communities and Care for All (SIDC).[200]

Established in 2010 as a drop-by centre, SIDC-Escale is recognised as a harm reduction centre in Lebanon and receives persons in need of OAT referred to the centre by a judge for treatment as well as other persons in need of OAT.[201] The main target group of SIDC's services are injecting drug users, people with mental health problems, LGBT+ persons, HIV-positive persons and transgender persons.[202] The centre has not experienced harassment by the authorities during its time of operations; by contrast, SIDC has felt the need to move location three times due to pressure and reactions in the local environment.[203]

SIDC-Escale offers the following services: opioid maintenance therapy, harm reduction kits, overdose management, mental health services through group therapy, prevention for substance abuse, and hepatitis B and C treatment and management.[204] In Lebanon, methadone is not used as part of OAT; instead, buprenorphine is prescribed for opioid maintenance therapy.[205] The staff at SIDC-Escale do prescriptions for OAT but the beneficiaries will have to pick up the medicine at specific dispensaries under the MoPH. Two of these dispensaries are placed in the Beirut area, the Rafic Hariri University Hospital and the Governmental Hospital Dahr el Bachek. The third one is the Elias Hrawi Governmental Hospital in the town of Zahlé.[206]

In October 2022, about 200 persons were included as beneficiaries in SIDC-Escale's harm reduction programme. Out of these, 135 were receiving OAT. At the time of data collection, 40 persons were on the waiting list for admission to this programme.[207]

The staff of SIDC-Escale includes a group of 25 persons composed of psychiatrists, psychotherapists, medical doctors, nurses and social workers.[208]

The admission procedures in the OAT programme and fees are as follows: any person can drop by the centre but will then be requested to show up on a weekly basis for the first three months, preferably but not necessarily with a family member for support, then bi-weekly.[209] The services of SIDC in general are free of charge but the beneficiaries of the harm reduction programme receiving OAT must pay a small monthly fee in LBP of the equivalent of two USD. Medicines for other existing mental health issues are paid out of pocket by the beneficiary.[210] The government has so far covered 75 percent of the costs of medicines used in OAT. However, SIDC informed that this subsidisation is expected to end within a short period of time (in a maximum of

[200] SIDC, *Harm Reduction Services*, 2022, url
[201] SIDC: 2
[202] SIDC: 21
[203] SIDC: 3
[204] SIDC, *Harm Reduction Services*, 2022, url, SIDC: 4
[205] Ghaddar, A. et al., *Challenges in implementing opioid agonist therapy in Lebanon: a qualitative study from a user's perspective*, 2018, p. 1, url; SIDC: 13
[206] SIDC: 13, 19
[207] SIDC: 12, 15
[208] SIDC: 4, 9
[209] SIDC: 10, 12
[210] SIDC: 16, 18

four months). Consequently, patients will have to pay in cash directly when collecting their medicines. SIDC estimated that the cost of two weeks use of Buprenorphine was approximately 20 USD.[211]

The services are open to all vulnerable groups in Lebanon regardless of nationality, including to Palestinians.[212]

Services for persons living with disabilities

Disabilities are a neglected issue in Lebanon in general, but certain groups are particularly neglected and stigmatised. This include persons living with autism spectrum disorder,[213] women living with disabilities and persons with profound and multiple disabilities.[214]

The level of services for PRL living with disabilities is described as 'insufficient'.[215] There are centres that offer interventions free of charge for children, such as speech therapy, educational support for children with learning difficulties, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and psychological support. Currently, the waiting list for the services offered at these centres is long because of limited capacity and as such, these centres do not meet the demand.[216] Some prosthetic devices are provided; however, the quantity is not sufficient to meet the demand.[217] A local humanitarian organisation emphasised that transportation costs are a particular barrier for patients and their families who were struggling with logistic concerns in their access to services.[218]

Nursing homes and home-based care

The interviewed NGOs had little or no information about the existence of nursing homes and home-based care.[219]

One NGO emphasised that following social norms in Lebanon, elderly persons are most often cared for at home by their relatives except for those without a social network.[220] For persons in need of home-based care, there is a market of private companies that offer assistance at home. The individual or their families must pay for such services.[221] According to one interviewed NGO, UNRWA used to have referral mechanisms to specialised homes for elderly people where UNRWA would pay on their behalf; however, the NGO was uncertain about whether this reimbursement mechanism continued.[222]

One source mentioned the existence of private agencies that offer home-based care, but the team could not verify this information by a further analysis of quality and prices.[223]

[211] SIDC: 17
[212] SIDC: 21
[213] UNICEF Lebanon Country Office: 11; Anera: 19
[214] Anera: 19
[215] An international NGO: 11
[216] An international NGO: 11-12
[217] An international NGO: 12
[218] A local humanitarian organisation: 32
[219] A local humanitarian organisation: 33; Anera: 17
[220] Anera: 17
[221] A local humanitarian organisation: 33
[222] Anera: 17
[223] A local humanitarian organisation: 33

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Annexes

Annex 1: Terms of Reference (ToR)

Medical Country of Origin information (MedCOI) about access to health care services for Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA in Lebanon (PRL)

Background

1. UNRWA's mandate
    a. Definition of UNRWA's mandate in terms of health care including the relevant resolutions and midterm strategy
    b. List of medication available to PRL in UNRWA and its medical partners
    c. List of health care treatment available to PRL registered with UNRWA in Lebanon
    d. List of health care institutions that are partnering with UNRWA, including requirements for becoming a partner

Availability of medicines and treatment

Medication

2. Availability, including electrified storage facilities, of medicines for patients suffering from:
    a. Cancer
    b. Cardiac complications and hypertension
    c. Diabetes (type I and II)
    d. Mental health (including alcohol and drug abuse, psychotic disorders, PTSD, dementia and cognitive disorders)
    e. Chronic obstructive lung disease

3. The availability of these medicines in the governorate of Beirut (and if relevant in the governorates of Saida and/or Tripoli)
    a. The availability of generic medicines, which are either registered as legal in the country or which are legally available through licensed pharmacies
    b. Extent of interruption in supply of the above mentioned medicines

Treatment

4. Availability of relevant treatment for patients suffering from the above-mentioned diseases from UNRWA, its medical partners or private health facilities, including non-governmental organisations (NGO's)

5. Availability of clinics offering treatment against alcohol and/or drug addiction (including harm reduction programs)

Accessibility of medicines and treatment

6. Accessibility of medicines and treatment for the above mentioned conditions in terms of:
    a. Price of medicines mentioned in item 2 and the relevant treatments
    b. Cost recovery mechanisms from UNRWA for PRL

Annex 2: Consulted sources

Health system actors

1. WHO
2. Anera
3. An international NGO
4. SIDC
5. UNFPA
6. UNICEF
7. UNRWA, Lebanon Field Office
8. A local humanitarian organisation
9. UNRWA, Department of Health
10. A local NGO

Health facilities

11. American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUMBC), Beirut
12. Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross, Beirut
13. PRCS Hospital, Saida
14. Governmental Hospital Beirut – Karantina
15. Mazen Pharmacy, Beirut
16. Pharmacy Alexandre, Beirut
17. Pharmacy Z Saida DT Pharmacy, Saida

WHO Lebanon

Interview with World Health Organization (WHO) Country Office Beirut, Lebanon

29 September 2022 (online)

Background

1. The interview confirmed that the Palestinian refugees have access to health services through primary health clinics (PHCs) and hospitals supported by UNRWA. Services not available in these health facilities are accessible to Palestinian refugees, with financial coverage from UNRWA, within the existing national health system. All other functions of health system such as surveillance, response, and training are integrated within the existing national health system. UNRWA receives support from five hospitals, which are operated by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS), known as PRCS/L hospitals and services.
2. Throughout the interview, it was emphasised that prices for medicines and treatment have increased in all health facilities and at all levels of the health care pyramid in Lebanon. It was also emphasised that all patients regardless of nationality have access to all health care services given that they could pay the required costs in cash US dollars or equivalent in Lebanese pounds (LBP) at the black market rate, which is unaffordable for most population groups. Those people without access to considerable amounts of US dollars in cash are not able to afford expensive forms of medical interventions and brand drugs.

Availability of medicines and treatment

3. WHO supports the Lebanese Government in procuring medicines and medical supplies. The procurement of medicines and medical supplies are carried out by WHO on the basis of the essential medicines list. The EDL is distributed to around 257 PHC centers , and some 250 dispensaries across the country. This effort is being hampered by the fact that for the past four years the Lebanese government has not contributed with funds to the procurement of medicines. Seeking to compensate for the lack of national funding, WHO has allocated 25 million US dollars to the procurement of essential medicines over the past year.
4. There are currently fewer brand medicines available in Lebanon. Patients, who may have been used to one type of brand medicine, now have to resort to another type of generic medicines. These generic medicines contain the same molecules and cost one tenth of the price for the brand medicine. However, patients may be left confused because they are used to taking a specific brand medicine, which is no longer on the Lebanese market.
5. Some medicines for chronic diseases are subject to interruptions of supply. These medicines include but are not limited to anti-cancer medicines. Regarding cancer medication, before the financial crisis the Lebanese government used to pay the costs for 50 percent of the population that has no health insurance, and in need. This amounted to more than 4,000 cases per year supported by the MoPH (around 40 percent of all cancer cases). These cases were fully subsidised by the government, including brand medication, even the new forms of cancer immunotherapy, which are expensive and needed for five to six years. This is no more possible because the government lacks funds to carry on with this level of reimbursement. The government now seeks to bring in generic medicines to replace for the branded medicine, and to establish treatment protocols. Previously,

there was limited use of protocols, and any MD prescribed medicines based on what they had learned in their country of training. Regardless of these efforts by the government, there is currently an insufficient quantity of cancer medicines in Lebanon, and this deficiency affects the poor parts of the population disproportionally. The richer parts of the population commissions someone from the family to travel abroad, e.g. to Turkey, to purchase cancer medicines for them. 70 percent of the population in Lebanon is currently below the poverty line.

6. Other catastrophic illnesses such as hemophilia, multiple sclerosis and Thalassemia (an inherited blood disorder, which is particularly prevalent among children in the Palestinian community) are also experiencing surfacing out of medicines after the financial crisis. Then patients and their families have to pay for these medicines out the pocket.

Accessibility of medicines and treatment

7. For the Palestinian population group in Lebanon, UNRWA is supposed to pay for their anti-cancer medicines on a needs basis. The availability of advanced therapy medication is likely to be negatively affected by the current financial crisis.
8. All patients may access medicines and treatment given that they are able to pay in cash with US dollars for medicines, treatment and other costs of hospitalisation, etc. See below for reduced capacity of hospitals to offer treatment.
9. Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Lebanon, a non-profit local organisation, which was founded in 1890, runs the National Chronic medications program for the MOPH, which covers a number of PHCs and Dispensaries (440) providing basic care, including for patients with chronic diseases. YMCA list of medications is the MoPH Essential Drugs List (EDL) (list of medicines offered at YMCA dispensaries). The distribution of medicines is targeting vulnerable population groups, and eligibility criteria are based on an assessment of vulnerability: household income, socioeconomic status, being elderly, have a special needs condition. Everybody who resides in Lebanon, regardless of nationality, is eligible if the patients meet the criteria. The work of YMCA is also disturbed by the current crisis and people's inability to pay for basic services. Patients who wish to benefit from these services and access to medicines need to open a medical file and to produce some ID to open such a file. This creates a challenge for persons that do not have papers/ID such as many Syrian refugees in the country.
10. There is currently no regulation of pricing at the private hospitals. Costs of services is based on the current exchange rate of US dollars in the black market, which is extremely fluctuating. As an example, the interlocutor said that the replacement of a valve (an implantable device) is estimated to cost 19,000 US dollars but that a private hospital in Lebanon is likely to charge the patient 35,000 US dollars for the intervention.

Human resources for health

11. Lebanon is currently experiencing a severe exodus of medical staff, in particular of MDs and those with the highest level of specialisation, including a high number of psychiatrists. The interlocutor advised that this is likely to result in delayed appointments with specialist doctors. Before the crisis, it was possible to see a specialist within 24 hours, now a patient may need to wait a few weeks before it is possible to be seen by a specialist. There is a particular lack of specialists in neurosurgery

and only one pediatric interventional cardiologist in Lebanon (a specialist with training to do valve replacement).

Capacity of the hospitals

12. The hospital sector is still in the process of recovering from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The public sector hospitals were unprepared for the influx of patients, and the private sector hospitals were reluctant to receive these patients, as many of them were un-insured and the Government was unable to cover the costs associated with these patients.
13. Most of Hospitals in Lebanon are now operating at a level of 50 percent of capacity. There is a risk of hospitals moving towards operating at less than 50 percent of capacity in terms of beds, general staff, medical doctors and caseload. People have limited possibilities to pay for services and therefore the demand is reduced. The government owes the hospitals around 800 million US dollars. During the financial crisis more people from the middle class who used to prefer to go to private hospitals have turned towards public hospitals (because of free or cheap services there), and this influx of a new patient group has added a burden to the already stretched public hospitals.
14. Some private hospitals have closed after the financial crisis, particularly smaller hospitals and community clinics have suffered the most from the financial crisis.

Mental health

15. Mental health services used to be offered almost fully and only by the private sector. Mental health has not been a priority in the Lebanese health care system, which has prioritised somatic diseases. This is still the case and the sector is fully depending on external funding by donors. Lebanon used to have 80 psychiatrists but many of them have left the country (partly in frustration about the low level of priority given to psychiatry and mental health, and rapid decrease in income due to the economic crisis).
16. One hospital, which is managed by catholic nuns (Hôpital Psychiatrique de la Croix), is still operating but this hospital is also receiving many patients from other Middle Eastern countries. The services of this hospital, including in-hospital care, are costly. While the hospital receives partial support from the MOPH, it is currently experiencing financial strain.
17. The lack of priority given to mental health services is a severe problem given the amount of need; the level of violence in the households is high, and that violence may drive people into depression and anxiety.
18. WHO has supported the development and testing of a self-help psychological intervention that can be delivered through the internet for Lebanese and displaced adults with depression in Lebanon. The tool has been found to have a positive effect but as it is highly dependent on the users' access to the internet.

Harm reduction programmes

19. There are still functional harm reduction programmes in Lebanon but they are not fully covering the need. There is a lack of opioid substitution therapy (OST). There used to be 2.000 persons enrolled in harm reduction programmes but for the past two years that has not been the case due to lack of funding by the government. A new programme depends on whether any actor will bid on

the financing of a programme, and so far this is unclear whether the government will be willing to step in.

20. The need for harm reduction programmes is high and growing because of high levels of abuse of drugs, including of painkillers, which can be bought over the counter everywhere.

Anera

Online meeting 07 September 2022, visit 13 October 2022

Anera is a non-governmental organisation, which has operated in Lebanon, Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza since 1968 with the purpose of helping refugees. The organisation mobilises resources for immediate humanitarian relief and for sustainable health, education, and economic development efforts. Within the field of health, Anera focuses on provision of medicines and medical supplies. Anera's medical donation program is supported by a number of international medical donation partners such as Americares, Catholic Medical Missions Board and Direct Relief.[224]

Anera's work related to health care services

1. One of Anera's most important programmes is a medical donation programme through which medicines and medical supplies are provided to health facilities and organisations across Lebanon. Anera offers assistance to all people in need, noting that PRL are a prioritised marginalised target group in Lebanon. Based on needs assesments, Anera provides health facilities with medicines for chronic diseases and for acute diseases as well as medical supplies. The distribution of medicines and medical supplies to health facilities is based on a needs assessment undertaken at the health facilities.
2. Some of the partners receiving medicines and medical supplies from Anera are PRCS, as well as the local organisation *Beit atfal al sumud* and other NGOs and dispensaries. Due to the ongoing economic and resource crisis, Anera has recently provided some of these health facilities with solar energy panels to enable consistent access to energy.

Health care services for Palestinian refugees

3. Anera confirmed that UNRWA is the main provider of medical health care services for Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (PRL), particularly for primary care free of charge. Anera emphasised that access to tertiary health care services constitutes the biggest challenge for PRL. For patients in need of specialised medical treatment, the patient has the option of going to a Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) hospital, which are free of charge for the patient, or a more specialised hospital, which is not free of charge for the patient. The patient can either choose to seek treatment from an UNRWA contracted hospital, where UNRWA reimburses a certain percentage or choose a public or private hospital with full self-payment. Public hospitals are less costly than private hospitals.
4. Anera explained, that UNRWA conducts an assessment of the specific case and If the assessment of the individual case leads to a positive conclusion, UNRWA will cover expenditures up to a maximum of 60 percent for a pre-decided number of days in the case of hospitalisation (depending on availability of funds), in cases where tertiary care is needed. As UNRWA does not have unlimited amounts of funds, the agency gives priority to so-called 'special hardship cases' according to Anera.
5. When patients are in need of medical treatment, which exceeds their own means of payments, patients and their families turn to so-called 'shopping for methods of payments'. Anera explained that this is a long and tiresome way of running back and forth between different organisations or the Palestinian embassy, trying to present their case in the best possible way, hoping to piece together small amount of about 500 USD in order to piece together the full payment. Certain groups within

[224] Anera, *Who we are*, n.d., url

the Palestinian community may be in an advantaged situation, e.g. those with an affiliation to the PLO who may benefit from PLO assurance. Anera underlined that everybody in Lebanon may try to negotiate a favorable price from the hospital management, except for the American University in Beirut Medical Center. Anera stated that the Hôtel-Dieu Hospital has a social fund for vulnerable patient groups. Anera also emphasised that this pathway required detailed knowledge of the health care system and connection to gatekeepers.

6. Anera mentioned that UNRWA is continuously facing financial shortages. As such, UNRWA has to prioritise which medicines to invest in with the highest public health benefit for vulnerable population groups. UNRWA continues to prioritise coverage of hospitalisation expenditures, to the extent funds allow.

Medicine supplies

7. Whilst Anera manages to meet some medical needs, the organisation is not able to satisfy all needs, noting that the absence of government and the inability of duty holders to fulfil their role is a much bigger challenge and more than what Anera can cover. Anera is experiencing supply problems an interruption in stock due to lack of donations and difficulties in of getting medicines into country.
8. Arena has an agreement with the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), which states that Arena can use the warehouse of the Government, run at hospital *Rafiq Hariri,* to store the medicines. From this warehouse, Anera disburses medicines and medical supplies to the different facilities that the organisation assists.
9. Anera explained that many of the medicines used to be subsidised. The cost of medicines was regulated and subsidised by the government. However, due to the ongoing crisis, this is no longer the case, as the official currency of the Lebanese pound has been devaluated. Anera stated that what you pay as a consumer is not the real cost and with a bankrupt government, there is no subsidy.
10. For treatment of thalassemia, Anera has managed to obtain small quantities as well as for other acute conditions, but again these donations do not cover the actual needs. Anera pointed to the fact that even if funds are available, not all medicines are available at pharmacies.
11. According to Anera, UNRWA has the required cold-chain infrastructure as well as the registration system to administer critical medicines.

Cancer treatment and medicines

12. Anera informed that anti-cancer medicines are scarce or unavailable for the general population. This is one area where the organisation is finding it hard to provide sufficient medicine to all the needed patients in Lebanon who are estimated to be in the vicinity of 30,000 patients across Lebanon. PRL and PRS with cancer are estimated to be 533 patients according to UNRWA's Director of Health. Anera has managed to obtain smaller quantities of anti-cancer medicines after much lobbying; however, it is not enough for every patient in need. Anti-cancer medicines are one of the medicines, which pharmaceutical companies do not often donate as these medicines are in high demand and are very expensive. In some cases, donations have been made if the date of expiration of the medicament is coming to end - and even then the donations were not given in large quantities to

cover the needs of all cancer patients in Lebanon. The donations that Anera has obtained and channeled through Karentina, which is the main public hub for dispersing medicines and are tracked through medical software. Within the Palestinian community, Anera has collected the needs of medicines of the 533 patients with quantities needed and is in the process of lobbying with its donors to get these medicines and administer them through UNRWA.

Cardio-vascular diseases including hypertension

13. Anera has provided large amounts of medicines for cardio vascular diseases to PRCS hospitals and to UNRWA as a matter of priority. Anera was not aware of any sharp shortages of medicines against Cardio-vascular diseases including hypertension.

Diabetes

14. Insulin is a critical medicine, which is in low supply in Lebanon in all pharmacies and hospitals. Anera explained that some patients have been used to buy brand medicine and are reluctant to begin on new generic, locally available medicines through some donations.

Mental health and psychiatric care

15. Anera supports the *Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross (Jal El Dib)/Hôpital psychiatrique de la Croix* with medicines and medical supplies (e.g. needles, syringes, diapers). Its services are available to anyone who can afford the costs, including PRL. UNRWA does not contract psychiatric hospitals. The interlocutor underlined that PRL are particularly prone to experience mental health problems at some point of their life because of their difficult living situation.
16. Anera confirmed that to a large extent it is possible to buy medicines, which previously required a prescription, over the counter at certain pharmacies. In the years before the crisis, when there was less chaos in Lebanon, pharmacies complied with the fact that certain psychiatric medicines required a prescription from a specialist but in the current environment people may buy prescription medicines over the counter. As a matter of principles, Anera does not provide donations of psychiatric medicines to health facilities without assurance that a psychiatrist will administer this medicine.

Care for the elderly

17. As is often the case in the Middle East, elderly are generally taken care of by relatives with the exception of cases where a person is too sick or has no relatives. In such cases, UNRWA used to have referral mechanisms to elderly specialised homes where UNRWA would pay on their behalf; however, Anera is not sure if this continues to be the case.

Drug addictions clinics

18. There are no drug addiction clinics inside the refugee camps nor any clinic specifically for PRL. However, such clinics do exist Lebanon but Anera advised that the topic of accessibility should be studied clinic by clinic as this is where the cost relationship applies.

Persons with disabilities: access to assistance and support

19. The representative of Anera stated that persons with disabilities are stigmatised in Lebanon; this is particularly the case for women with disabilities, and children and persons with profound and multiple disabilities.
20. While people with disabilities are still being met with stigma in society, the main challenge is accessibility on all account (physical, legal, environmental, etc.). In the camps acute disabilities are a major problem where the person with acute disability must rely on the mother/the caregiver. This constitutes a burden on the physical and emotional wellbeing of the mother/the caregiver.
21. UNRWA has developed policies to address the issue of stigmatisation of persons with disabilities but these policies are not fully translated into action and are not given any earmarked budget to sustain these policies. UNRWA's disability programme is limited in outreach and resources.
22. PRL with disabilities are mostly provided with assistance and support through non-governmental organisations (NGOs) or community based organisations (CBOs) inside the refugee camps. Most services lie on the shoulders of the local actors that try to coordinate within their own network *The Palestinian disability forum*. ANERA caters its assistance through this network.

The Lebanese insurance scheme

23. Anera explained that there is an increase in persons obtaining private insurances and that anyone who has the financial means to buy an insurance can do so, including Palestinians. Anera stated that insurances purchased with 'fresh dollars' offer better coverage than one paid for in Lebanese Pounds.
24. Anera opined that the Lebanese diaspora is the primary reason that the country is still standing, as this is the primary way for people in Lebanon to obtain larger quantities of cash.
    Persons without a network outside of the country face increased financial difficulties.

An international NGO

2 September 2022 (online), 10 October 2022 (in Beirut) and 18 November 2022 (online)

General situation in Lebanon and the situation for Palestinian refugees

1. The INGO initiated the meeting by presenting an overview of the current dire situation of Lebanon, including the lack of electricity, fuel and access to internet. Lebanon is presently facing a financial and economic crisis; the Lebanese lira has lost its value and banks have been unable to return money to the depositors. Many families have been pushed into poverty. Because of high transportation costs, some families are unable to bring their children to the health facilities. As a consequence of the financial crisis, hospitals in Lebanon have been facing many challenges and a number of private hospitals has closed. Moreover, the high number of refugees (including Syrian and Palestinian refugees) inside Lebanon is an added burden. In addition, many health care professionals has fled the country.
2. Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (PRL) are a particularly vulnerable population group, as they are deprived of the right to work in many professions; they often work in seasonal agriculture, constructions jobs and as informal workers. Those who have formal employment are obliged to pay the required fees to the national social security fund (NSSF) (covering national protection for sickness, maternity for employees from any sector) but are unable to benefit from this fund.
3. Even before the current crisis PRL were challenged in obtaining and affording specialised health care services. With the ongoing crisis, the poverty rate has more than doubled, and PRL are affected harder, already being more vulnerable than the Lebanese population generally.
4. Because of the financial hardship, the INGO explained that transportation costs have become a barrier to reaching health care for many PRL and in some cases the lack of financial resources has prevented patients from accessing needed medical treatment.
5. The INGO also noted that food prices have increased, which is likely to have long-term negative effects on the overall nutritional state of health.
6. Furthermore, the INGO emphasised that around 210,000 of Palestinian refugees, an estimate according to UNRWA, live in overcrowded refugee camps across Lebanon.

Health care services for Palestinian refugees

7. The INGO confirmed that UNRWA is the main provider of health care services to Palestinian refugees from Lebanon. UNRWA provides primary health care services free of charge to Palestinians refugees inside and outside of refugee camps. Through its contracts with private, governmental, and Palestine Red Crescent (PRCS) hospitals, UNRWA also facilitates a certain amount of secondary and tertiary health care services to this group of patients. UNRWA does not fully cover all fees for required medicines and treatments but will cover a certain percentage of the fees; the patient then may seek for financial support from other organisations or relatives. The INGO bridges some gaps in the services of UNRWA.
8. There is a high demand on UNRWA's services, which causes the high number of consultations per day and the short consultation time. The number of doctors to patients is low and a medical doctor may have consultations with up to 100 patients per day. An average consultation will therefore last approximately 3-5 minutes. The patient history is taken in details and entered into an electronic medical file.

Mental health and psychosocial support

9. Mental health care needs are not sufficiently covered by UNRWA; there are no specific medicines available through UNRWA. In order to bridge this gap, this INGO has received funding by UNICEF and has been implementing a Mental Health and Psychosocial support project in partnership with other local NGOs to implement related activities across Lebanon's camps. The activities are offered at a four-level intervention pyramid, ranging from structured play groups for children with staff trained to detect some sign and symptoms of mental health problems to consultations with psychiatrists for a very limited number of children. The activities focus on children, but there are also offered to parents and survivors of gender-based violence; services are accessible for all regardless of nationality and if living inside or outside of refugee camps. However, the location of the community centers where the services are offered is inside the camps, which means that the children attending the centers are mainly the camps residents. The purpose is to improve wellbeing and resilience in the population.
10. Through local partners, psychosocial support services are available across Lebanon. The services are provided inside the refugee camps with an emphasis on prevention and resilience building rather than treatment of individual cases.

Disability

11. There are not sufficient interventions for people with disabilities because of insufficient funding. The INGO supports three disability partners who have centers (one in South Lebanon, one in Beirut, and two in northern Lebanon). The interventions target children and the services offered include speech therapy, special education for children with disabilities (e.g. educational support for children with learning difficulties), physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and psychological support. There is currently a long waiting list for the services offered at these centers. The projects also work to improve community awareness about disability issues, inclusion of people with disabilities, and the rights of people of with disabilities.
12. The disability centers have limited capacity and do not meet the demand. Also, finding specialists to work in the centers is a challenge. Some prosthetic devices are provided; however, the quantity is not sufficient to meet the demand.

Drug addiction clinics

13. The INGO includes awareness raising of the dangers of using drugs in its activities but do not refer to any specialised treatment facilities.

Private hospitals outside of UNRWA's referral pathway

14. For use of private hospitals outside of the UNRWA contracted hospitals, the INGO stated that PRL currently residing in Lebanon are unlikely to have the funds to cover these expenditures. In cases where a PRL can afford treatment at a private hospital, it will be at their own expenses. It is possible for a PRL to seek care at a private hospital on the condition that a deposit is paid in advance (depending on the estimated cost of in-patient care and surgery costs).

15. Access to money in cash is a crucial aspect of being able to access medical care in Lebanon according to the interviewed INGO. Any patient needs to show proof of ability to pay prior to any intervention such as surgery. This aspect is particularly challenging at the time of the interview. In terms of access to own funds the INGO explained that the banks are currently closed and even before the closure, there were strict limitations as to how much money each person could withdraw from their personal bank account. The INGO referred to an incident of a Lebanese woman, who wished to access her funds in the bank to pay for her sisters cancer treatment and who was denied payout by the bank. She then threatened the bank to get access to her own funds enabling her to pay for her sister's treatment. The INGO further noted that there is an increase in robberies and kidnappings for ransom as a means for people to obtain cash.
16. A person who have sufficient funds to pay in advance will be able to obtain treatment. Hospitals have become selective and take in patients that are able to afford the interventions. The prices are extremely high and hospitals will not provide services until funds are available or a deposit has been provided.
17. The private hospitals are experiencing difficulties in the current financial situation. There is a shortage in health care staff, including doctors, specialists and nurses, as many leave Lebanon if they can. The INGO further stated that to their knowledge, essential hospital are struggling with shortages in fuel (hence electricity) and water needed for their operations. Some hospitals had to temporarily close some units such as the kidney dialysis unit due to these shortages.

SIDC

20 September 2022 (online) and 11 October 2022 (in Beirut)

Society for Inclusion and Development in Communities and Care for All (SIDC) is a non-governmental organisation founded in 1987 and has its headquarters in Beirut. SIDC is a nonprofit civil society organisation, which offers a multitude of services to vulnerable populations "to promote their health and wellbeing pertaining to HIV, Harm reduction, SRHR, and mental health, to support them in enjoying their human and gender rights, and to work towards an inclusive society free of stigma and discrimination at the national and regional level."[225] *SIDC Lebanon is funded by a number of international donors including The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, UNICEF, Expertise France, UNFPA, and GIZ among other donors.*

Background

1. SIDC confirmed that Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) in Lebanon was legalised in 2011. Drug use in Lebanon is criminalised and according to SIDC the punishment of people who use drugs is frequent. The current law on drugs allows a person who is arrested on the grounds of drug use as a first time offence to be referred to a drug addiction treatment center instead of being sentenced to prison. Drug users who are in prison cannot be enrolled in any form of OAT programme. The only exception may be drug users who already have a prescription for OAT and a family member who can pick-up the medicines at one of the designated pharmacies and bring it to the person in prison.
2. SIDC is recognised as a harm reduction center in Lebanon and receives persons who are in need of OAT referred to the center by a judge for treatment as well as other persons who are in need of OAT.
3. SIDC staff have not experienced any harassment by the authorities in connection with their work with drug users. However, that treatment center has moved location three times due to pressure from neighbours and others living in the specific area.
4. In 2010, the organisation established a drop-in center called SIDC-Escale. SIDC-Escale has three main programmes: a drop-in harm reduction programme, an outreach programme and a legal aid programme. These programmes focus on a broad spectrum of services including drug addiction, harm reduction services, overdose management, mental health services, prevention for substance abuse and Hepatitis B & C. The center has a broad variety of staff; including psychiatrist, medical doctors, social workers and nurses.
5. According to SIDC, the organisation has the required capacity to respond to the current volume of users: OAT can be offered free of charge as long as the current level of donor financing is maintained.
6. SIDC added that the health care sector in Lebanon is currently suffering from important shortages of medicines.

Drop-in harm reduction programme

7. The beneficiaries at SIDC-Escale are people who use drugs (particularly injecting drug users), people in OAT, and people who are suffering from mental health disorders. Finally, the partners and/or relatives of the beneficiary are also included in the approach, to the extend possible. It is thus not a requirement but rather a strong added value to have a family member involved

[225] SIDC, *Who is SIDC Lebanon*, 2022, url

8. The center offers 12 sessions of psychiatric counseling per person, and critical cases are referred to other centers. The sessions can be conducted online or in person.
9. A multidisciplinary approach is adapted for the different interventions, and the beneficiaries are met by a cross-disciplinary team, including psychiatrists, psychologists, a doctor specialised in infectious diseases, social workers, psychotherapists and counsellors as well as a registered nurse. The center has a total of 25 staff.
10. The multidisciplinary harm reduction approach is adjusted to the need of the beneficiary. The approach can be a combination of individual- and/or group therapy with the different professionals from the team (psychiatrists, psychologist, social worker, etc.). The frequency of the consultations is based on the need of the beneficiary. At SIDC-Escale, the staff strongly recommended to involve family and relatives, if possible, for support. However – beneficiaries are also welcome without supporting family members/relatives. It is also possible to receive treatment for other mental health comorbidities at SIDC-Escale.
11. The program is 3-months but is often extended, and the beneficiaries can be enrolled in the program as long as desired. The staff informs that there are beneficiaries enrolled in the program for years.
12. Currently 200 persons are benefitting from all the drop-in harm reduction programme including the OAT and harm reduction kits and services. A person entering the programme will be requested to come to the SIDC-Escale center on a weekly basis for the first three months. Hereafter visits to the center take place biweekly.
13. Prescription for OAT's is taking place at SIDC-Escale but the center does not have the medication in house. Instead, the beneficiaries will have to go to specific dispensaries under the Ministry of Public Health in Lebanon. According to the interlocutors, these dispensaries are the only ones that hand out the medication used in OAT (Opiates Agonist Treatment opioids-alike medicines). Generally, methadone is not used as a part of OAT in Lebanon. At SIDC-Escale, Buprenorphine is mainly used. However, according to the staff at Escale, it is a general problem that the supply of medicines used for OAT is unstable. Consequently, patients are frequently converted from one opioid-alike medicine to another and noted that this was problematic for patients, as each medication impacts the patients differently and each patient has to readjust dosage and effect of the medicine when new medication is introduced, due to unavailability.
14. Based on the responsible party for dispensing OAT in Lebanon, SIDC predicts that Buprenorphine will be available at the dispensaries for another four to five months.
15. Currently, 135 patients are enrolled in the drop-in harm reduction program receiving OAT at SIDC (40 additional are on the waiting list for their admission).

Price of treatment and medicines and availability

16. Beneficiaries who are enrolled in the harm reduction program are required to pay a small monthly participation fee in LBP (approximately 2 USD).
17. The government has so far covered 75 % of the cost of medicines used in OAT. However, SIDC informed that the subsidisation will end within a short period of time in a maximum of four months. Consequently, patients will have to pay cash directly when they are collecting their medicines. SIDC estimates that the cost of two weeks use of Buprenorphine is approximately 20 USD. As for the

SIDC Escale center, SIDC requests that the patients pay one time a month for all the services offered at the center.

18. Medicines for other existing mental health issues are paid out of pocket by the beneficiary. SIDC emphasised that it is a general challenge that prices go up and down for medicine (as is also the case for other commodities in Lebanon at the moment). SIDC is witnessing shortages in mental health medicines in Lebanon and in case they exist, they are expensive for the beneficiaries. Therefore, the patients are at risk of abusing other medications.
19. Prescriptions are renewed on a bi-weekly basis for persons in treatment at the center and the medicine is only available from three specific government health centers/hospitals. Two of them are placed in the Beirut area (Rafic Hariri University Hospital) and Mont Lebanon (Governmental Hospital Dahr el Bachek) and the third one in the Beqaa valley in the town of Zahlé Elias Hrawi Governmental Hospital.

Access to SIDC-Escale and inclusion criteria

20. Beneficiaries can show up and ask for assistance without prior appointment. They will be met by a social worker, and possibly also by a health professional. A plan for the treatment will be made, and if relevant, prescription for medicine is taking place. The patient will be enrolled under discretion – if desired – and referred to as a number (and not full name).
21. SIDC targets vulnerable population groups (drug users, LGBT+ persons, HIV-positive persons, transgender individuals and transgender couples) regardless of nationality. Palestinian refugees from Lebanon can use the services. The peer educators in the field also reached out to people who use drugs. They distribute harm reduction kits and encourage them to test for HIV/HCV/ HBV and to take other tests in the mobile unit and also to come visit the harm reduction center (Escale) The interlocutors state that it is not allowed to use drugs inside the center and no dealing of drugs near the center.

Mental health services

22. SIDC also offers mental health services for other vulnerable groups (as mentioned above) who do not use drugs. SIDC has begun a special activity targeting parents and caregivers of drug users to help them cope.[226]

[226] SIDC, *Mental health support*, 2022, url

UNFPA Lebanon country office

9 September 2022 (online)

Background

1. UNFPA is carrying out a vast programme in Lebanon in which the agency supports the Government in (i) enhancing access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services[227] and (ii) in addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) needs.[228]
2. The SRH services, which UNFPA supports include a reproductive health (RH) service package at the primary care level, family planning counselling, development of SRH service delivery guidelines, capacity development on SRH to health workers and provision of commodities (contraceptives, PEP kits, RH drugs, etc.) and interventions at the policy /advocacy levels. UNFPA is involved in the procurement of contraceptives that are distributed to more than 300 health facilities in Lebanon including to dispensaries located in remote difficult to access areas. UNFPA has funded the recruitment of a number of midwives to strengthen SRH services including maternal care in primary health care clinics across the country. UNFPA is also supporting the clinical management of rape (CMR) in Lebanon including for the development of the national strategy on CMR, capcity development of care providers on CMR, provision of post exposure prophylactic kits to the CMR facilities, etc. In addition UNFPA is adopting an integrated SRH/GBV approach in its programs to ensure addressing health and protection needs of women and girls including their physical and psychosocial wellbeing.

Health care situation in general in Lebanon

3. UNFPA is involved in the humanitarian response to the on-going financial and economic crisis in Lebanon; according to UNFPA 3.2 million people are estimated to be in need of humanitarian assistance (as of 2021). This crisis has led to increased level of GBV with an increased need for psychosocial, medical and legal support to women and girls including for health care services, psychosocial support, provision of cash voucher assistance to promote access to care, case management for survivors of gender based violence etc.[229] One effect of the crisis in Lebanon is food insecurity, which negatively affects the health of pregnant women and lactating mothers. UNFPA in collaboration with MOPH is supporting development of national guidelines on nutrition for Pregnant lactating women to be followed by capacity development for targeted heath care providers.
4. With regards to the health workforce, migration of health care providers from different disciplines have been noted for several reasons including insecurity, financial crisis/ drop in wages, etc; furthermore a number of health care providers are not attending to their duty stations because of difficulties in paying for transport to get to their work. Latest figures on the number of health workers who have left their work in Lebanon are
    - 40 % of medical doctors
    - 20 % of nurses
    - 8-10 % of midwives

[227] UNFPA Lebanon, Sexual and Reproductive Health, 2022, url
[228] UNFPA Lebanon, Gender Equality and Gender-Based Violence, 2022, url
[229] UNFPA Lebanon, Humanitarian Response, 2022, url

Procurement of medicines and medical supplies

5. The main MoPH warehouse has been destroyed by the Beirut port explosion hence medicines and medical supplies were relocated to two or three different locations designated by MOPH with attention to cold chain management. WHO and UNICEF have helped reconstruction of the MOPH main warehouse and are providing support for its functionality

Mental health services

6. There are two major hospitals in Lebanon, which offer psychiatric services in addition to other health facilities providing mental health care services. As per the health sector/ National mental health program, at the time of the interview there were shortage of medicines for patient with psychiatric diseases. Efforts are being conducted to solve this problem.

Harm reduction services

7. There are not many clinics in Lebanon, which offer treatment against drug addiction; there is a few clinics offering treatment against drug addiction and harm reduction services in Beirut.

Cancer

8. Cancer patients are particularly exposed to shortage of cancer medicines. There is very limited availability of anti-cancer medicines, including chemotherapy (at the time of the interview). Efforts are being conducted by the MOPH to solve this problem.

Main challenges

9. The health care sector in Lebanon is facing the below main challenges:
    - Reduced access to and availability of health care services due to the economic crisis. There is a shortage of medicines and medical supplies; and patients and their families are increasingly unable to pay the costs for those medicines that may be available.

    - Increased transportation barriers: The lack of fuel and the economic and financial crisis have made it difficult for patients, their families as well as for health worker to pay for transport to health facilities.

UNICEF Lebanon Country Office

19 September 2022 (online)

The health care system in Lebanon

1. The international organisation emphasised that overall the health care system in Lebanon is in a state of collapse. Due to the economic situations in Lebanon followed by COVID-19, a lot of health care services shut down in the country and many health staff left the country looking for better working opportunities. One effect of the crisis is the fact that primary health care and child vaccination programmes are suffering; noting that one out of 10 children is missing out on their vaccination schedule. The interviewees stated that the current situation in the health care sector was not yet alarming (at the time of the interview) but with the current hyperinflation they found that it could deteriorate rapidly. At the time of writing, it was still possible to provide basics/primary health care. There is a risk of widespread child malnutrition in Lebanon. In addition, the financial situation is a great challenge now for everybody in Lebanon.
2. WHO procures medication for Lebanon based on the Essential Medicines List. These medicines are delivered to primary health care facilities across the country; the international organisation mentioned that there are approximately 150 primary health care clinics in Lebanon. UNICEF procures vaccines and supports public and UNRWA health facilities.
3. The health care system suffers from insufficient access to electricity. The consequence is that correct storage of medicines is difficult. Even though there is an increasing focus on installing solar panels at primary health care facilities, hospitals and dispensaries, this is a long and costly process.

Health care services for Palestinian refugees

4. The international organisation emphasised that the health care situation is particularly difficult for the Palestinian population in Lebanon (both PRS and PRL). There are five Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) hospitals serving the Palestinian population in affordable cost and these hospitals have a limited capacity in spite of their efforts to expand. There is not enough capacity to meet the demands at the PRCS hospitals, and some specialised services are not provided. The PRCS hospitals are contracted by UNRWA and thus UNRWA covers the majority of the costs for the patients.
5. According to the interviewed international organisation, PRL and PRS tend to prefer private hospitals over PRCS hospitals due to a perceived better quality of services at private hospitals. UNRWA also has contracts with a number of public and private hospitals but the costs are likely to be high and the patient still needs to pay a part of the costs.
6. All persons with legal stay in Lebanon can access medication and treatment regardless of nationality, if they are able to pay the costs themselves at private hospitals.

UNRWA's role and services

7. The interview confirmed that UNRWA is the main provider of health care services to PRL and PRS. However, a group of Palestinians (Non-IDs) have limited access to hospitalisation due to lack of legal status. Other organisations strive to fill the gaps where UNRWA is unable to meet the needs.
8. The international organisation found that currently UNRWA's ability to offer essential health care services is compromised by the fact that the agency has to finance these services using project

funds rather than financing these activities from UNRWA's General Fund. The critical financial situation of UNRWA is particularly challenging with regards to the provision of secondary and tertiary care, as UNRWA does not provide these services and the referral system through the contacted hospitals lacks financial coverage, particularly for complicated cases such as cancer.

Mental health

9. The international organisation confirmed that mental health is a challenge in the PRL and PRS communities. There is a lack of awareness about mental health issues within the refugee communities and people suffering from mental health problems or with mental disabilities are often victims of stigmatisation or may be viewed as crazy.
10. There is a generalised lack of psychiatric care available in the refugee camps in spite of the fact that the mental health situation is alarming. Médicins Sans Frontièrs (MSF) has had some programs but there is a considerable gap between the availability of services and the need. Some of UNICEF partners including MAP and ARCPA provide mental health services through their sub-partners

Disability

11. Disabilities are neglected in general and autism in particular.

Drug addiction and harm reduction programmes

12. Drug abuse is a major problem in the refugee camps, and it has created violence and crime. In the camps, persons involved in drug abuse are often considered criminals and are likely to face problems at checkpoints entering/leaving the camps.
13. Treatment for drug abuse is available to persons who have the required funds to fully cover the costs of participating in these programmes themselves. UNICEF NGO partners are working at prevention level- access to rehabilitation centres and specialised services is not covered by UNICEF at this stage. It will be inculded in the 2023 budget (pending avialability of funding).
14. The international organisation referred to the existence of platform of NGOs in Saida offering treatment against drug addiction for only those who have the freedom to leave the camps.

UNRWA Lebanon Field Office

12 September 2022 (online) and in Saida 12 October 2022

Background

1. In the past Lebanon was known as a leading provider of medical services in the Middle East; however, the various crisis have resulted in a swift deterioration of this status and in a loss of a high number of specialised health workers, in particular medical doctors, who have left the country.
2. UNRWA is also affected by the general crisis and thus challenged in recruiting and keeping qualified medical staff of whom all are Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (PRL).
3. UNRWA emphasised the fact that current problems with insufficient amount of petroleum, electricity and solar panels have led to reduced availability of medicines. Albeit that there is some petroleum for generators for basic operations, there is an important lack of electricity to maintain storage facilities function, for keeping vaccination program running and to continue the computerised work of health care services (health information systems, eHealth, etc.). As of now, it is impossible to forecast when the energy crisis will be solved, as it is closely connected to the financial crisis.

Procurement

4. Medicines are not produced in Lebanon at large scale, and UNRWA procures its medicine from its HQ in Amman where the medicine is distributed to its five different fields of operations including Lebanon. Transportation, especially of large quantities of goods, can be challenging particularly in light of the recent crisis in the port of Beirut as well as the cost of shipment in Beirut due to the financial crisis. Whilst there can be delays in deliveries of medicine, UNRWA has not yet encountered inability to procure needed medicines.

UNRWA's referral pathway and coverage of secondary and tertiary care

5. UNRWA primarily offers basic and life-saving Primary Health Care (PHC) services to PRL through its network of primary health care facilities in the country. From the primary health clinics located in and outside of camps (27 of which two teams serve on a rotational schedule for small clinics in the gatherings as mobile health centers/health points), UNRWA refers patients in need of secondary and tertiary care to a contracted hospital to provide the needed services. In emergencies, patients can approach contracted hospital directly. At a PRCS hospital, costs are fully covered for the patient. At private hospitals, the patient has to pay a certain percentage of the costs out-of-pocket.
6. At private contracted hospitals, UNRWA covers 90 % of the cost for secondary medical treatment, which include the most common diseases such as operations like hernia, caesarian section delivery, etc. For tertiary care at a private contracted hospitals, UNRWA covers 60 %. This covers treatments such as neuro surgical operations and other complicated operations. For cancer treatment, UNRWA covers 50 % of the cost of medicines needed for the patient up to a ceiling of 8,000 USD then 25 % up to 12,000 USD, in addition to any surgical intervention needed under the hospitalisation policy and partially to the chemotherapy sessions where the patients need to balance the gap of costs out- of-pocket. This is in most cases financially impossible as and here these patients have already depleted their limited resources.
7. In total, 54 hospitals are contracted with UNRWA of which five are governmental. The tendering of contracts is renewed annually. However, generally, the same hospitals are contracted but prices for

services are renegotiated. PRCS hospitals are among the contracted hospitals. UNRWA worked with PRCS on a quality improving program since 2010. The quality of service at PRCS has improved in 3 out of its five hospitals. The two hospitals in Rashidieh and Burj Barajneh have the limitation of geographical location preventing quality improvements in structure in addition to availing funds accordingly. In addition, PRCS are mainly secondary level; therefore, some specialised services are not available there. UNRWA noted that in Saida area alone, 45 % of patients in need for hospitalisation prefer a PRCS hospital, whereas the remaining 55 % choose another contracted hospital, despite having to pay for parts of the admission out of their own pockets. In the remaining areas, where PRCS manage four hospitals, 20 % of PRL in need of hospitalisation choose PRCS hospitals.

8. In addressing a hospitalisation case of a PRL, UNRWA follows the rules laid out in its internal hospitalisation policy. The policy also lays out the financial coverage plans. Tertiary level admissions have a coverage ceiling up to 5,000 USD for 12 days if the bill crosses the ceiling then the case is eligible to the assistance of the Medical hardship program in an additional percentage starting from 10 % and not exceeding another 5000 USD. If a PRL chooses a hospital outside of an UNRWA contracted hospital because the service is only available at a non-contracted hospital, UNRWA may reimburse 30 % of the admission cost.
9. UNRWA informed that PRL can apply for coverage from UNRWA's Medical Hardship Fund. These cases are mostly tertiary care and have the same ceiling of 5,000 USD.

Availability and cost of medicine

10. UNRWA experiences a generalised and massive lack of anti-cancer medicines. There is a shortage of critical medicines and some patients and their families may rely on medicines bought at the black market with all the problems of counterfeit medicines of poor quality, high prices and lack of control of expiration dates that may entail. Contracted service providers are also finding it challenging to procure these medicines.
11. Due to the financial crisis in Lebanon, commodities, including medicines, have increased in price and is now more than ten times as expensive. This increase has implications for UNRWA's ability to cover the cost of medicines and reimbursements, which has led to UNRWA covering only 30 %, leaving the patient with a larger out of pocket payment.
12. Persons unable to cover their share of medical costs can apply for financial help from UNRWA (maximum of 4,000 USD). However, some operations are so costly that the price exceeds the support that UNRWA can cover. In such instances, a person can seek financial assistance from NGOs but without any guarantee of obtaining it.
13. As part of its reform efforts of PHC, UNRWA has introduced the Family Health Team (FHT) model of service provision. The FHT approach is centered on the individual patient but also on the family. A team is made up of core team of one doctor, one nurse and support members of a pharmacist, CHC (community health center) nurse midwife, cleaner and a clerk. Each team manages approximately the same number of 1500 – 2000 family cases. This approach has improved patient flow in the clinic and equalised the workload among staff.

14. The Family Health Team (FHT) teams offer services from maternal and child health to family planning, preventive and curative care, outpatient and diagnostic services, oral care, specialists, pharmacies and referrals.[230]
15. At UNRWA health clinics, UNRWA doctors offer consultations and they examine and prescribe required medicines to their patients. Medicines for basic health problems are available at the health center's own pharmacy and given to patients free of charge. The vast majority of UNRWA health centers have a pharmacy-storage in the facility staffed by a pharmacist and/or other relevant medical personnel. Medication for diabetes is also available in UNRWA health centers – also in the current environment where insulin is very difficult to find in pharmacies across Lebanon. Furthermore, UNRWA provides medicines for hypertension, which is also given to patients at UNRWA health centers. One of the biggest challenge for PRL in Lebanon is obtaining cancer treatment as this is very expensive and even the medicine is frequently unavailable.

[230] UNRWA, *What we do*, url

A local humanitarian organisation

5 September (online) 11 October (in Beirut), 12 October (in Saida)

Overall financial situation in Lebanon

1. The local humanitarian organisation explained that the political and financial situation in Lebanon has been particularly difficult over the last three to four years and in particularly since October 2022 where banks have been closed down, thus hindering people in accessing their cash. People who had money in the bank, started withdrawing their deposits about three years ago. For this reason, there is still a decent cash flow in the country and people with financial surplus can sustain a living. In addition, relatives living outside of Lebanon send money to their relatives in Lebanon. This is still possible through exchange agencies, but not through banks. As such, the most vulnerable group are people without preexisting funds or without a social network outside the country. A majority of Palestinians are considered as part of this vulnerable group.
2. People who had money in the banks before the bank crisis can only access an amount of 100-200 USD a month. When withdrawn the official exchange rate applies limiting the purchasing power by up to 90 %. Many people have lost their lifesavings and pensions due to the banking crisis.

General situation for Palestinian refugees from Lebanon

3. The local humanitarian organisation explained that Palestinian refugees from Lebanon (PRL) can be divided into different groups, namely:
    - PRL registered with UNRWA and DPRA (Directorate General of Palestinian Refugee Affairs)
    - PRL who fled to Lebanon as consequence of the 1967 war and who are categorised as 'non-ID's' and who are neither registered with UNRWA or DPRA
    - PRS (Palestinians from Syria)
4. Approximately half of the PRL population in Lebanon live in one of the 12 official camps or in gatherings of which there are eight in total. The local humanitarian organisation stated that generally, PRL are deprived of their humanitarian and civil rights due to the lack of inclusion policies within the Lebanese Government. For example, PRL do not have the right to own property and they are prevented from employment in at least 39 professions (such as medicine, law, engineering, etc.).
5. The level of poverty among Palestinian refugees from Lebanon is approximately 90 % and unemployment rates are 80 %.

Health services for PRL

6. Health care services are offered at three levels:
    - Primary health care provided by UNRWA at UNRWA clinics located in and outside of camps. UNRWA clinics can refer patients to a hospital for other treatments if their needs cannot be met at this level;
    - Secondary health care services at UNRWA contracted hospitals. These include private hospitals and PRCS hospitals;
    - Tertiary health care provided partly by PRCS (e.g. kidney dialysis and some orthopedic services) but mainly by private hospitals.

7. The local humanitarian organisation informed that PRCS has been contracted with UNRWA since 1999 and is currently operating five hospitals across the country. These hospitals are located in and around Palestinian camps and gatherings. Services at PRCS hospitals are free of charge.
8. In 2015, UNRWA decided to let patients choose whether they preferred to seek treatment at a PRCS hospital or at a private hospital contracted with UNRWA where there is a percentage of self-payment. UNRWA covers 90 % for secondary care and 60 % for tertiary care with a ceiling that differs depending on the treatment.

According to the local humanitarian organisation the five PRCS hospitals are:

1) Safad Hospital in central Beirut Area
2) Haifa hospital in southern suburb of Beirut
3) Nasraa Hospital in Mar Elias, Wetern Beirut
4) Hamshary Hospital in Saida, South Lebanon
5) Tal Satar Hospital in Rashidyea, South Lebanon

9. In addition to providing secondary and some tertiary services, PRCS offers some services to victims of domestic violence and car accidents, which UNRWA does not cover.
10. The current number of staff at PRCS hospitals are 650 medical doctors, nurses, midwives, etc. combined. The Palestinian Authority covers the salaries of 555 staff while PRCS funds the remaining salaries.
11. The local humanitarian organisation stated that PRCS has experienced a significant brain drain and it is increasingly difficult to get qualified staff for the hospitals. In Lebanon in general 40 % of nurses and 30 % of doctors have left the country over the last couple of years
12. Asked about whether the currently capacity at PRCS hospitals meets the need, the local humanitarian organisation informed that while the hospitals are generally able to deal the patient flow the increased number of people seeking treatment, the potential decrease in funding from partners and the turnover of staff makes the situation precarious. Incidents like the current cholera outbreak, a resurgence of Covid-19 or any other incidents leading to increased need for hospital treatment could quickly overwhelm already stretched PRCS hospitals. While PRCS has commitments from donors to support hospital operations in 2023 these remain soft pledges which do not always materialise.
13. The local humanitarian organisation stated that due to funding insecurities, it is currently unclear if all five hospitals will continue to deliver services and there is a risk that in the near future, two hospitals will not be able to operate due to financial shortages.
14. Due to the financial situation in Lebanon, where the official US dollar is pegged to the Lebanese pound (LBP), UNRWA covers 30 % of the invoice by so-called 'fresh dollars', meaning that the amount is transferred without a local/Lebanese intermediary bank first or that the amount is paid in cash. The remaining 70 % are covered in Lebanese pounds at government rate. This results in a gap between the UNRWA payment and the official billing cost. PRCS is left to cover this gap. For example, prior to the crisis a c-section would cost 600,000 LBP, equaling around 400 USD at the time. Now, UNRWA pays 30 % of this cost in USD and the remaining 70 % in LBP at the old official rate of 1,500 LBP, resulting in a huge gap.

15. The local humanitarian organisation explained that there is a deficit caused by the way UNRWA reimburses PRCS, which is causing a precarious situation for PRCS as there is a constant need for fundraising from other sources to cover the gap - which is not easy to fundraise for. The limited funds for social cases including Non-IDs mean that a significant number of people are not able to get the treatment they need. The category in Palestinian refugees who are non-ID (Palestinian refugees who fled from West Bank and Gaza after war of 1967) those have not registration card of UNRWA, those are benefit from only primary health services at UNRWA clinic but they cannot benefit from inpatient hospitalisation.
16. According to the local humanitarian organisation UNRWA payments to PRCS hospital Hamshary in Saida is approximately 32,000 USD, which is the average patient admission cost. The local humanitarian organisation informed that fuel alone costs 37,000 USD, thus running costs alone are not covered.
17. The local humanitarian organisation underlined that without financial support and in kind donations in form of medicines and equipment from its partners (mainly Red Cross Societies), it would not be possible for PRCS to function.
18. The local humanitarian organisation noted that PRCS are currently able to operate all five of its hospitals, but that there is some uncertainty around the long term prospects of keeping them all running, due to potential financial shortfall.
19. In certain cases where the patient cannot afford the outstanding cost, this can be covered through funds provided by other humanitarian organisations if the case falls under so-called 'social cases' (e.g. PRS or non-IDs). Thus, this does not apply to all PRL.
20. Medicine costs while hospitalised are covered by PRCS but after discharge, the patient has to pay. PRL who work for the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) (in a civil or military capacity) will have their costs covered by the national Palestinian Health Security Fund.
21. The local humanitarian organisation explained that the government used to subsidies medicine, but that this was recently put to an end. It was also noted that for the last two years, the government has not reimbursed suppliers and hospitals the subsidies they were entitled to.
22. While medicines are paid for during admission many people are unable to pay for the medicines after being discharged resulting in negative coping mechanisms. This is especially true following the governments removal of subsidies for medicines, which have seen prices increase up to 1000 % for some medicines. As a coping mechanism some try to extend the periods they are admitted to hospital, to limit the costs of medicines sometimes resulting in violence and treats towards PRCS medical staff.

The step-by-step procedure for admission to PRCS hospitals

23. The local humanitarian organisation explained that there are two pathways to admission at a PRCS hospital:

- A patient can go directly to a PRCS hospital, and PRCS will contact an UNRWA Health Clinic (HC) that will visit the patient, assess the case and conduct the administrative work around the admission. This is most often in cases of emergency admissions.
- Most commonly, the patient will be referred by UNRWA HC to the PRCS hospital closest to the patient's home. However, in some cases, persons will be referred to Hamshary hospital in Saida, as this hospital offers the broadest coverage of medical services.

For admission, the person has to present their UNRWA registration card as well as a national ID card.

24. The local humanitarian organisation was asked about information relating to the following five topics.

Diabetes

25. As part of its non-communicable diseases component of primary health care services, UNRWA provides diabetes medicines at UNRWA clinics.
26. In case of more advanced treatment or hospitalisation, the local humanitarian organisation stated that PRCS hospitals usually have rapid-acting insulin available, though it is one of the medicines that is low in availability on the market.

Cancer

27. According to the local humanitarian organisation, PRCS does not offer cancer treatment at its hospitals and informed that anti-cancer treatment is the biggest challenge in terms of access to medicine and specialised treatment. The treatment is very costly and despite UNRWA covering around 40-50 % of the costs, the part, which the patient must pay, is high due to the expensive medicines. UNRWA covers 40 % of chemotherapy, which costs between 300-1000 USD per treatment. UNRWA operates with a ceiling system that limits the coverage though patients can apply for support through UNRWA's Medical Hardship Fund. It should be noted that the requirements to qualify for the UNRWA hardship fund are generally difficult to fulfill.

Cardiac diseases and hypertension

28. UNRWA only provides preventive care. Treatment is provided by PRCS hospitals, which is fully covered by UNRWA. Medicine for hypertension is included in UNRWA's coverage. Brand medicines are not covered. For most patients these medicines are expensive and unaffordable.

Chronic obstructive lung disease

29. The medical equipment for such treatment is not available at PRCS hospitals. Some medicines are available with UNRWA, however, nebulizers are neither available nor provided.

Mental health care

30. PRCS does not offer mental health care services; the existing mental health care services are considered to be of poor quality. Therefore, UNRWA refers mental health patients to contracted Lebanese private hospitals. PRCS elaborated that mental health issues are considered a taboo, which often prevents people from seeking treatment.
31. PRCS is offering limited services to victims of domestic violence. Without UNRWA support, PRCS is only able to reach a fraction of the people needing these services. Supporting victims of domestic violence is complicated intervention and without significant support from donors PRCS is not able to support, just as very few other options are available for this group.

Disabilities

32. PRCS manages two physiotherapy centers: one in the North and one in Hamshary hospital in Saida. Both centers offer services for children and adults. The centers have some wheelchairs for persons

with mobility problems. The centers can cover the current need of patients; however, the main challenge for the patients remains to cover transportation costs, particularly in light of the current financial crisis as well as the centers' ability to fully meet demands for equipment in terms of supportive devices.

Community based outreach activities and nursing care

33. There are community based health centers that provide first aid and psychosocial support. Nursing care in the homes of people who need assistance but who are not hospitalised exist but must be paid for individually by the patient and their families.

Existence of drug addictions clinics

34. PRCS does not provide treatment against drug addiction at its hospitals. Drug addiction is an important problem in Palestinian refugee camps. The drugs used include harder drugs as well as medicines bought over the counter such as cough syrup.

PRCS Hamshary Hospital in Saida

35. The local humanitarian organisation informed that Hamshary hospital is the central hospital for PRCS in Lebanon. The hospital thus receives referrals from other PRCS hospitals for specialised treatment that is not available other PRCS hospitals. The hospital is located in the city of Saida in the south of Lebanon. It is in close proximity to the Ein el Helweh refugee camp, which hosts the largest PRL population of the 12 camps in the country.
36. The hospital has 125 beds and the capacity meets the current needs. PRCS however, noted that there is an influx in patients choosing PRCS services, due the cost increase at other hospitals because of the financial situation in the country. PRCS explained, that while the services is free of charge for the patient (with the possibility of minor charges in some admissions), UNRWA covers approximately 75 % of the admission costs for patients that fulfil UNRWA's criteria as well as 70 % of medicine. The daily admission cost is 1,400,000 LBP, which used to be 90 USD. However, due to the financial situation, this price now equates to only five USD. Due to this, UNRWA now has agreed to pay 30 % of the price in fresh USD (cash), though still leaving a bigger gap for PRCS to cover. The price for ICU per night is 200,000 LBP and deliveries are 250,000 LBP.

Medical Services

37. According to the local humanitarian organisation The PRCS hospital in Saida offers the following specialties: cardiology, orthopedic surgery, eye surgery, obstetrics & gynecology, emergency medicine, internal medicine, gastroenterology, pediatrics. The hospital does not offer psychiatric treatment, cardio vascular surgery, hematology and chest surgery.

Hemodialysis

38. Hemodialysis is neither provided nor covered by UNRWA and PRCS is the main provider of this service to PRL free of charge. PRCS informed that more than 100 patients suffering from chronic kidney failure are receiving treatment at the hospital. The hospital provides more than 1,200 sessions a month and patients need 2-3 sessions a week. The service is fully reliant on an external donor.

Medicine and equipment availability at the central PRCS warehouse

39. The local humanitarian organisation informed that the Hamshary hospital currently does not have shortage in medicine stocks, however, the other four PRCS hospitals do not have the same amount of stock available as they used to and now only have stock available for one month at a time. This is both due to the increase in prices as well as less availability on the market. As an example, in 2019 a box of Ventolin would cost 20,000 LBP, which now costs 520,000 LBP. The local humanitarian organisation noted that currently many injectables and antibiotics are not available.
40. The local humanitarian organisation explained that the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has established rules and regulations regarding storage of medicines and medical supplies, and that the adherence to these rules are monitored through unannounced visits by the Ministry. All medicines received at the warehouse is registered electronically and registers are kept of distribution of medicines and only released upon request by authorised personnel. The MoPH conducts unannounced monitoring visits. For certain prescription medicines, these will be registered in an official 'green booklet', and inspections are done by the health authorities without prior announcement, where the booklet will be checked against the available stock. Morphine was only used in very rare cases and in such cases to staff have to sign off on this and the packaging has to be kept and showed to the MoH during their inspection.
41. The local humanitarian organisation explained that some newer types of medications are not listed in the WHO generic medicines list. PRCS procures these medicines on the basis of the MoPH generic medicines list. Around 20 % of medicines are produced locally, and the use of locally produced medicines has increased slightly, though many patients still prefer the brand medication. With regards to medical supplies, there is no shortages. These are available at the market. PRCS does the tendering for medical supplies for all five hospitals from Hamshary hospital. PRCS stated that some suppliers demand cash payment in USD.

UNRWA, Department of Health

10 August 2022 (online)

Access to health care services for Palestine refugees in Lebanon

1. UNRWA stated that the general health care sector in Lebanon largely relies on private providers. Lebanese citizens may recur to health insurance to cover their health expenses; however, there is no health insurance or Lebanese government funding for Palestine refugees in Lebanon (PRL). The only option is health care provision or financial support through UNRWA or through NGO's.
2. Because of the current economic crisis in Lebanon, there is an increasing shortage of medical doctors particularly impacting the hospital sector, including specialised medical doctors as many specialists have left the country. These shortages have resulted in difficulties in seeking medical consultations and the quality of the consultations might be affected. There is also an increasing shortage of medicines in Lebanon due to the economic crisis.

UNRWA's activities and assistance

3. UNRWA's Health Programme (HP) in Lebanon provides primary health care (PHC) through its 25 health clinics, and assists Palestine refugees to access secondary and tertiary health care services (hospital health care) through UNRWA contracted public and private hospitals in Beirut, Saida in the south and Tripoli in the north. UNRWA runs its own primary health centers while secondary and tertiary services that are not available in the PHCs are provided by partners contracted by UNRWA.[231]
4. The primary health care provided through UNRWA clinics is offered free of charge. Such PHC includes care for mothers and children, for diabetes and hypertension, and for other common conditions. As said above, UNRWA runs 25 clinics.
5. When patients need secondary or tertiary care (or hospitalised care), UNRWA support patients' access to hospitals by covering health care services expenditures for PRL through contracted health hospitals at a differential percentage: 90 percent of fees at secondary health care services and 60 % percent of tertiary health care services.
6. About the medicines at UNRWA clinics, UNRWA purchases and prescribes them based on the WHO 'List of Essential Medicine' (EML). In general, there is a good and regular supply in medicines. However, there were some difficulties through Covid-19 (due to increasing prices).
7. About the medicines at contracted hospitals, UNRWA recognises that there are increasing shortage of medicines at private hospitals or private pharmacies due to economic crisis. There are medicine stock-outs and lack of supplies at the market in Lebanon. This shortage sometimes affects UNRWA's PHC because some are treated at the private hospitals with more advanced medicines than those that are included in UNRWA's stock (and on the EML), and because of economic crisis and shortage of medicines, such patients often come to UNRWA's clinic to seek continuity of their treatment. In those cases, UNRWA recommends replacing the medication with a similar medicine that has the same active ingredients from EML to make sure that the patient can obtain the needed treatment. This is, however, not always possible.

[231] UNRWA Department of Health, 2022, *Annual Report 2021*, url

8. Complicated care such as medicines for cancer treatment and hemodialysis is also provided through UNRWA referral, however, only as much as the budget allows.

UNWRA's capacity

9. Asked about which effects the financial shortages have had on medical services, UNRWA answered that so far, UNRWA has not cut in basic health care service delivery. However, one effect of the financial instability is that UNRWA is unable to fully cover the health care needs of the targeted population. Provision of medicines on the EML remains a priority.
10. Currently, UNRWA has contract with more than 30 hospitals. UNRWA are contracting the same facilities, but the price for services goes up these years. Every year there is a discussion on prices taking place.
11. With the increasing demand in hospitalisation caseloads across all five fields of UNRWA operations – in terms of severity, frequency and numbers – it is anticipated that hospitalization demand will continue to outstrip supply capacities. UNRWA will engage in complementary activities with partners as a tool to enhance response and maximise opportunities to increase resource mobilization through association.[232]
12. If UNRWA funding does not suffice, there is a risk secondary and tertiary health care services will need adjustment in terms of outreach or that it cannot be provided at all.
13. In November 2022, UNRWA issued an Emergency Appeal for Lebanon Highlighting amongst other issues the growing shortage of medication and the fact that families are often unable to afford them since government subsidies on pricing were lifted. Too many Palestine refugee families are no longer able to afford secondary health care. Some are skipping lifesaving treatment to avoid accumulating debts. The appeal also addresses the increasing poverty among Palestine refugees in Lebanon.[233]

UNRWA mandate

14. UNRWA has an overall mandate to support and protect Palestine Refugees, and engage in human development and to act in specific activities include (but is not limited to) health, education, relief and social services.
15. As presented on UNRWA's website and in the Medium Term Strategy for 2016-2022 for decades the UNRWA Health programme has been delivering comprehensive primary health care (PHC) services, both preventive and curative, to Palestine refugees, and helping them access secondary and tertiary health care services.[234]
16. As such, comprehensive primary health care falls under UNRWA's core mandate, whereas UNRWA will help its beneficiaries obtain access to secondary and tertiary care through its hospitalisation programme with a focus on those with life-threatening illnesses requiring life-saving/ life-supporting medical care and treatment, but who lack the financial assets or insurance coverage to attain these.[235]

[232] UNRWA, *Medium Term Strategy 2016-2021*, url
[233] UNRWA, Hitting Rock Bottom- Palestine Refugees in Lebanon risk their lives in search of dignity, url
[234] UNRWA, What we do, url
[235] UNRWA, *Medium Term Strategy 2013-2021*, url

A local NGO

14 October 2022 in Beirut

Overall health care situation in Lebanon

1. According to the local NGO, the situation in Lebanon is changing rapidly in negative terms for the country as a whole but particularly for refugees. This is also reflected in terms of health care. To give an idea of the dire situation of the country, the local NGO noted that the Lebanese Government has just declared a cholera outbreak. The cost of a proper response to this outbreak alone is estimated at 50 million USD.
2. The hyperinflation is the root cause of all the current challenges, including brain drain of doctors, unavailability of and access to medicines, etc.
3. The local NGO explained that physicians are not being reimbursed for consultations and interventions they have performed, as insurance companies have reduced their reimbursements and also the hospitals are charging the patients paying out-of-pocket less (in US dollars). If you see a doctor at AUB or at private clinic, the initial cost would have been 100 USD, which is now the equivalent of 40 USD. This is causing doctors to either leave or to stop their medical practice.
4. In addition, the fact that medications are no longer subsidised by the government has made the price of medicine even more unaffordable for patients. Medicine suppliers are also not getting reimbursed and thus do not want to sell at the set prices, as this is not financially feasible. Suppliers are demanding to be reimbursed in US dollars or not sell medicine at all.
5. The issue of electricity shortages also impacts the health care system, including pharmacies and warehouses storing medicines. The country as a whole more or less runs solely on generators –that run on fuel, which is not only very expensive but also hard to obtain at times.
6. Palestinians often have to seek cash from relatives, other local organisations or the Palestinian embassy to obtain sufficient cash to pay for health care services and medicines.
7. Generally, if a person has the money s/he will get the needed treatment.

Service provisions

8. The local NGO underlined, that its funding situation is currently very unsecure and that at the time of the interview it is uncertain if most interventions will continue in the new year (2023).
9. The local NGO provides health security to Palestinian refugees from Lebanon by covering parts of the cost of secondary and tertiary health services. Both local and international humanitarian agencies offer primary health care services to refugees in Lebanon free of charge, however, large gaps in the coverage of secondary and tertiary care services remain.
10. Initially the local NGO focused its work around access to dialysis for Palestinians with kidney failure. This treatment was and is still not covered by UNRWA though the disease is chronic and the treatment is lifesaving. The Lebanese government also does not cover this service for PRL.
11. Over the years, the local NGO has expanded its focus to include financial coverage for other tertiary health care services (not preventive) such as surgeries and hospitalisation. Since PRL do not have access to the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) and there are a wide range of advanced medical care that UNRWA cannot cover fully, the local NGO bridges the financial gap up to a certain ceiling.

Treatment of kidney failure

12. The local NGO started funding the dialysis center in Saida, Hamshary hospital 25 years ago. It opened a second dialysis center in the North of the country, inside Bedawi camp in another PRCS hospital in 2016.
13. Due to the uncertain funding situation, the dialysis programme may not be able to take in new patients and the continuity of the programme is also uncertain.
14. PRCS is the implementing partner of the dialysis programme. The local NGO provides funding for the consumables; all the materials that is needed to run the dialysis sessions as well as partial funds for staffing.
15. Currently, 145 patients are enrolled in the dialysis programme.
16. The local NGO informed that it is running out of funding, after having run the dialysis programme for 25 years. The programme is therefore currently at stake as funding is not secured for the coming year. The programme costs 45,000 USD monthly.
17. According to the local NGO PRCS is overall providing proper care for patients but with the limited funding, services obviously do not meet the standard of some private hospitals.

Inherited blood disorders

18. Another disease that the local NGO provides coverage for that is not covered by UNRWA, is inherited blood disorders (such as thalassemia and sickle cell disease). These diseases require a high level of follow up and medications that are difficult to find at the market, more so at the time being. In addition, the medication has always been very expensive.
19. In practice, the local NGO refers these cases to AUB Medical Center (AUBMC). The local NGO covers the payment for doctor visits, blood tests, vaccines and other related medical treatment. The local NGO has a close cooperation with the hematologist at AUBMC.
20. The local NGO informed, that any Palestinian can apply to become part of this programme, as long as they can proof that they are either PRL or PRS and have legal stay in the country. A person who does not have legal stay in Lebanon will be able to obtain treatment but will not be able to purchase medicines. As for the referral, the local NGO sends a request to AUBMC on the patient and their medical needs.
21. 120 Palestinians from across the country are currently in treatment for thalassemia and sickle cell disease.
22. As for transportation costs, the local NGO is currently looking in to coordinating with another local NGO to ensure transportation of patients outside of Beirut, particularly from the south. As when looking at the data, it is clear that half of the patients living in the south have not gone to see the doctor for the entire year and it turned out this is due to cost of transportation.
23. It is currently uncertain whether the local NGO will be able to uphold funding for the blood disease programme – particularly for the adults in treatment, as the key donor may shift focus. Currently the budget runs until the end of April 2023. Hereafter it is unclear how and if funding will be secured to continue running the programme for adults. For children, PRCF is funding the treatment.

Coverage of other health care services

24. The local NGO has a programme for hospitalisation and surgery that Palestinians can apply for if they do not have funds to cover medical bills, not only to PRCS or UNRWA contracted hospitals but to any hospital that the Palestinian may have received medical treatment from. The challenge is

however, that a lot of the hospitals are now demanding cash in USD, which the local NGO does not provide. They rely on writing cheques and this has become problematic as it limits the places that the local NGO can cover. The local NGO noted that when someone approach a private hospital, the hospital will request a certain amount of cash up front before they even take the patient in. This is also the case at AUBMC.

25. As such, the local NGO has a reimbursement programme in place but has had to limit the hospitals they work with currently, due to the inability of providing cash payments. The list of hospitals that they are now able to work with constantly changes but currently they include Labib Hospital, Hammoud Hospital, Jabal Amel and Rasoul Azam Hospital.

Diabetes

26. The local NGO does not provide support for diabetes treatment (other than dialysis). UNRWA covers preventive care.

Cancer

27. The local NGO informed that a cancer patient in need of hospitalisation or an acute illness can apply for coverage for surgery and hospitalisation. For example, if a patient needs a tumor removed or if in chemotherapy, and this causes an infection leading to the need of hospitalisation this can be covered. Cancer medicines are not covered.
28. The local NGO informed that cancer medication is difficult to find currently at the market, however, the local NGO does not have knowledge of the cost or availability.
29. The local NGO confirms having heard of Palestinians being rejected at hospitals for cancer treatment, where the hospitals state that they do not have the needed medicines, which is not the case. Basically, the hospitals prefer treating Lebanese patients. However, this is second hand knowledge and not something, the local NGO has witnessed directly.

Cardiac complications

30. For cardiac complications, the local NGO covers 20 % up to 2,500 USD. This is considered a tertiary treatment and thus is only covered 60 % by UNRWA if the surgery was conducted in a contracted hospital. On average, and depending on the hospital, the cost of cardiac surgery is between 5-15,000 USD depending on the specific procedure.

Chronic obstructive lung disease

31. The local NGO does not cover for treatment of chronic obstructive lung disease

Mental Health

32. The local NGO does not provide financial support for persons needing mental health services.
33. The local NGO explained that they are currently designing a study on mental health needs focusing on dialysis patients. The study will be done in cooperation with AUB and the purpose is to identify what needs there may be and then develop a capacity building programme addressing these once data has been collected. This, however, is still all on the drawing board and a donor also needs to be identified. A second phase of this programme would focus on thalassemia and sickle disease patients and mental health issues for this group.

Persons with disabilities

34. The local NGO no longer provides assistive devices. PRCF provides for children, however, the local NGO is not aware of their capacity.
35. According to their knowledge, the availability of assistive devices as well as medical devices such as pace makers generally in Lebanon is challenging in terms of both procurement and cost.

Annex 3: Treatment and medicines by health facility

The following data was collected in the period from 10 to 14 October 2022. All prices are in USD or in LBP. It was not possible to obtain information about prices of all medical treatments and diagnostics tests. The main reason for this is that the surveyed hospitals stated that such information depended on an assessment of the individual case. In these cases there have been left blank cells in the matrix.

American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC)

Cancer		
Inpatient treatment by a cancer specialist (an oncologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a cancer specialist (an oncologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	First visit: 100 USD Follow up visit: 70 USD
	Included in price	Only consultation
Inpatient treatment by an urologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by an urologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	First visit: 100 USD Follow up visit: 70 USD
	Included in price	Only consultation
Radiation therapy	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Chemotherapy	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	

	Included in price	
Laboratory research / monitoring of full blood count; e.g. Hb, WBC & platelets	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Laboratory research / tumor marker: PSA test (Prostate-Specific Antigen)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Prostate resection (transurethral resection of the prostate, Laparoscopic prostatectomy).	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Diagnostic test: Biopsy	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Cardiac complications and hypertension		
Inpatient treatment by an internal specialist (internist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by an internal specialist (internist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	First visit: 100 USD Follow up visit: 70 USD
	Included in price	Only consultation
Inpatient treatment by a heart specialist (a cardiologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available

	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by a heart specialist (a cardiologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	First visit: 100 USD Follow up visit: 70 USD
	Included in price	Only consultation
Inpatient treatment by a cardiac surgeon	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a cardiac surgeon	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Diagnostic imaging by means of ECG (electro cardio gram; cardiology)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	28.5 USD
	Included in price	
Diagnostic imaging by means of ultrasound of the heart	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	
	Included in price	
Maintenance and follow up of pacemaker by a cardiologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
Laboratory test blood: INR e.g., in case of acenocoumarol anticlotting	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	
	Included in price	

Laboratory test: monitoring full blood count: e.g., Hb, WBC & platelets	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	
	Included in price	
Diabetes type I and II		
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a general practitioner	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment by a specialist in diabetes (an endocrinologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a specialist in diabetes (an endocrinologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Reimbursement scheme	
	Included in price	
Laboratory test: blood glucose (incl: HbA1C/ glyc.Hb)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	
	Included in price	
Mental health (including alcohol and drug abuse, psychotic disorders, PTSD, dementia and cognitive disorders)		
Outpatient treatment possibilities by psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	Adult: 175 USD (first consultation) 120 USD (second consultation) Child: 220 USD
	Included in price	

Inpatient treatment possibilities by psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment possibilities by psychologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment possibilities by psychologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Special housing (like protected apartments) for chronic psychotic patients with outpatient care	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Assisted living / care at home by psychiatric nurse	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Psychiatric long term clinical treatment (e.g. for chronic psychotic patients) by a psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Care for mentally handicapped: day care	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Reimbursement scheme	
	Included in price	

Care for combined mental and physical handicapped: long term institutional around the clock care	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Chronic obstructive lung disease		
Inpatient treatment by a lung specialist (a pulmonologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by a lung specialist (a pulmonologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	First visit: 100 USD Follow up visit: 70 USD
	Included in price	Only consultation
Diagnostic test: lung function tests (e.g., spirometry)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	
	Included in price	
Diagnostic imaging: X-ray radiography	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	
	Included in price	

Governmental Hospital Beirut – Karantina

Cancer		
Inpatient treatment by a cancer specialist (an oncologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available (for children only)
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a cancer specialist (an oncologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available (for children only)
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment by an urologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Radiation therapy	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available (for children only)
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Chemotherapy	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available (for children only)
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Laboratory research / monitoring of full blood count; e.g. Hb, WBC & platelets	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available (for children only)
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Laboratory research / tumor marker: PSA test (Prostate-Specific Antigen)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	

	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Prostate resection (transurethral resection of the prostate, Laparoscopic prostatectomy).	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Diagnostic test: Biopsy	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Cardiac complications and hypertension		
Inpatient treatment by an internal specialist (internist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by an internal specialist (internist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment by a heart specialist (a cardiologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by a heart specialist (a cardiologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Reimbursement scheme	
	Included in price	

Inpatient treatment by a cardiac surgeon	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a cardiac surgeon	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Diagnostic imaging by means of ECG (electro cardio gram; cardiology)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
	Included in price	
Diagnostic imaging by means of ultrasound of the heart	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
	Included in price	
Maintenance and follow up of pacemaker by a cardiologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
Laboratory test blood: INR e.g., in case of acenocoumarol anticlotting	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
	Included in price	
Laboratory test: monitoring full blood count: e.g., Hb, WBC & platelets	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available (for children only)
	Price	
	Included in price	
Diabetes type I and II		

Outpatient treatment and follow up by a general practitioner	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)'	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment by a specialist in diabetes (an endocrinologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a specialist in diabetes (an endocrinologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Reimbursement scheme	
	Included in price	
Laboratory test: blood glucose (incl: HbA1C/ glyc.Hb)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
	Included in price	
Mental health (including alcohol and drug abuse, psychotic disorders, PTSD, dementia and cognitive disorders)		
Outpatient treatment possibilities by psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment possibilities by psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	

Inpatient treatment possibilities by psychologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment possibilities by psychologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Special housing (like protected apartments) for chronic psychotic patients with outpatient care	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Reimbursement scheme	
	Included in price	
Assisted living / care at home by psychiatric nurse	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Psychiatric long term clinical treatment (e.g. for chronic psychotic patients) by a psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Care for mentally handicapped: day care	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Reimbursement scheme	
	Included in price	
Care for combined mental and physical handicapped: long term institutional around the clock care	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A

	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Chronic obstructive lung disease		
Inpatient treatment by a lung specialist (a pulmonologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by a lung specialist (a pulmonologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Diagnostic test: lung function tests (e.g., spirometry)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
	Included in price	
Diagnostic imaging: X-ray radiography	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
	Included in price	
Devices for chronic obstructive lung disease		
CPAP machine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
Oxygen therapy with device and nasal catheter	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	

Oxygen therapy with O2 pressure tank for use at home	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	

Psychiatric Hospital of the Cross

Outpatient treatment possibilities by psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment possibilities by psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment possibilities by psychologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment possibilities by psychologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Special housing (like protected apartments) for chronic psychotic patients with outpatient care	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Assisted living / care at home by psychiatric nurse	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	

	Included in price	
Psychiatric long term clinical treatment (e.g. for chronic psychotic patients) by a psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Care for mentally handicapped: day care	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Care for combined mental and physical handicapped: long term institutional around the clock care	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Psychiatry: antipsychotic medication administration by injection (depot)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	

Hamshary Hospital

Cancer		
Inpatient treatment by a cancer specialist (an oncologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a cancer specialist (an oncologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Cardiac complications and hypertension		
Inpatient treatment by an internal specialist (internist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	Provided free of charge if approved by UNRWA up to a predefined ceiling. Hereafter there is a set percentage of self-payment.
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by an internal specialist (internist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	Provided free of charge if approved by UNRWA up to a predefined ceiling. Hereafter there is a set percentage of self-payment.
	Included in price	

Inpatient treatment by a heart specialist (a cardiologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	Provided free of charge if approved by UNRWA up to a predefined ceiling. Hereafter there is a set percentage of self-payment.
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by a heart specialist (a cardiologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Reimbursement scheme	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment by a cardiac surgeon	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a cardiac surgeon	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Diabetes type I and II		

Outpatient treatment and follow up by a general practitioner	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment by a specialist in diabetes (an endocrinologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment and follow up by a specialist in diabetes (an endocrinologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Reimbursement scheme	
	Included in price	
Laboratory test: blood glucose (incl: HbA1C/ glyc.Hb)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	Provided free of charge if approved by UNRWA up to a predefined ceiling. Hereafter there is a set percentage of self-payment
	Included in price	
Mental health (including alcohol and drug abuse, psychotic disorders, PTSD, dementia and cognitive disorders		

Outpatient treatment possibilities by psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment possibilities by psychiatrist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Inpatient treatment possibilities by psychologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment possibilities by psychologist	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Chronic obstructive lung disease		
Inpatient treatment by a lung specialist (a pulmonologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A

	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by a lung specialist (a pulmonologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Outpatient treatment by a lung specialist (a pulmonologist)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Treatment price (incl. lab test)	
	Included in price	
Devices for chronic obstructive lung disease		
CPAP machine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
Oxygen therapy with device and nasal catheter	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	

Mazen Pharmacy

Mazen Pharmacy prices according to exchange rate on 1/11/22		
Cardiac complications and hypertension (including post operation care)		
Simvastatin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Vascor
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	96,511
Atorvastatin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Apo-Atorvastatin
	Dosage	40 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	343,811
Clopidogrel	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Plavix
	Dosage	75 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	588,513
Acetylsalicylic acid	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Aspicot
	Dosage	81 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	120
	Price per box	52,127

Losartan	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Cozaar
	Dosage	50 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	28
	Price per box	619,047
Bisoprolol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Biscordex
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	177,349
Enalapril	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Enalapril maleate
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	199,991
Doxazosin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Cardular
	Dosage	4 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	275,816
Isosorbide monotritate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Monocinque

	Dosage	40 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	101,306
Amiodarone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Cordarone
	Dosage	200 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	272,883
Digoxin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lanoxin
	Dosage	0,25 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	100
	Price per box	98,155
Furosemide	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lasix
	Dosage	40 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	52,703
Warfarin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Amlodipine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Amlo tad
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	50
	Price per box	339,862
Spironolactone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Aldactone
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	10
	Price per box	209,193
Diabetes type I and II		
Fast acting insulin: Insulin aspart, Insulin glulisine, Insulin lispro, Insulin human	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Intermediate-acting insulin: Insulin isophane	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Long-acting insulin: Insulin detemir, Insulin glargine, Insulin degludec	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A

	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Metformin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Glucophage XR
	Dosage	500 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	177,795
Gliclazide	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Glyzide
	Dosage	80 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	233,063
Devices for diabetes type I and II		
Blood glucose meter for self use by patient	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	Not known (can be given upon request)
Blood glucose self test strips for use by patient	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	Not known (can be given upon request)
Insulin pump	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Can be bought from special medical supply centers
	Price	

Continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) implanted device	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Can be bought from special medical supply centers
	Price	
Mental health (alcohol and drug abuse, psychotic disorders, PTSD)		
Chlordiazepoxide	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Bipax
	Dosage	2,5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	53,638
Disulfiram	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Methadone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Morphine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	MST Continus
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	Tablet

	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	423,964
Buprenorphine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Buprenorphine and naloxone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Olanzapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Olizax
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	Tablet (mouth dissolving)
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	779150
Chlorpromazine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Chlorpromazine
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	50
	Price per box	78,191

Haloperidol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Haldol
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	25
	Price per box	100,721
Risperidone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available (shortages of this medication)
	Brand name	Risperdal
	Dosage	1 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	133,513
Clozapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Leponex
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	50
	Price per box	901,801
Quetiapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Rezal XR
	Dosage	50 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	424,549
Venlafaxine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Defaxine

	Dosage	75 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	14
	Price per box	106,899
Sertraline	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Sertine
	Dosage	50 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	147,128
Citalopram	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Cipralex
	Dosage	15 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	28
	Price per box	239,348
Mirtazapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Mirta tad
	Dosage	30 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	519,609
Diazepam	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Valium
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	25
	Price per box	91,409

Lorazepam	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lorazepam
	Dosage	1 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	40
	Price per box	78,758
Oxazepam	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Pregabalin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lyrica
	Dosage	150 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	56
	Price per box	320,586
Chronic obstructive lung disease		
Formoterol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Foradil
	Dosage	12 mcg
	Form	Capsule, inhalation
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	497,245
Budesonide and formoteol (symbicort)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Budesonide Arrow

	Dosage	1mg/2ml
	Form	Inhalation suspension for nebuliser
	# of units in container	20 x 2 ml
	Price per box	247,118
Fluticasone propionate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Salbutamol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Asthalin
	Dosage	2,5mg/2,5 ml
	Form	Inhalation solution
	# of units in container	20 x 2,5 ml
	Price per box	148460
Fluticasone furoate, umeclidinium bromide, vilanterol (Trelegy Ellipta)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Fluticasone propionate and salmeterol xinafoate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Tiotropium bromide monohydrate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available

	Brand name	Tiova-t
	Dosage	18 mcg
	Form	Rotacaps
	# of units in container	15
	Price per box	175,452
Beclometasone, formoterol/glycopyrronium (Trimbow)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Prednisolone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Prednisone
	Dosage	20 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	47,695
Devices for chronic obstructive lung disease		
CPAP machine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Can be bought from special medical supply centers - the pharmacy can order it upon request
	Price	Can be given upon request
Oxygen therapy with device and nasal catheter	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Can be bought from special medical supply centers - the pharmacy can order it upon request
	Price	Can be given upon request
Oxygen therapy with O2 pressure tank for use at home	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Can be bought from special medical supply centers
	Price	
Analgetics		

Paracetamol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Doliprane
	Dosage	500 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	16
	Price per box	52,703
Ibuprofen	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Brufen
	Dosage	400 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	125,664
Oxycodone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Oxynorm
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Capsule, hard
	# of units in container	56
	Price per box	33,535
Sumatriptan	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Imigran
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	2
	Price per box	313,483
Other (antihistamines, sleeping pills, vitamins, etc.)		
Cholecalciferol (d-vitamin)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Maxi D 10,000
	Dosage	Vitamin D3 - 10,000IU
	Form	Capsule
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	137,454

Magnesia	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Mavit
	Dosage	Magnesium 100 mg, Pyridoxine 10mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	96,511
Promethazine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Prometal
	Dosage	25 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	28,708
Sildefanil	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Sildenafil arrow lab
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	4
	Price per box	682,792
Omeprazole	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Axipron
	Dosage	20 mg
	Form	Capsule
	# of units in container	14
	Price per box	105,955
Cetirizine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Cetimed
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	79,135

Tresiquens	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Tamsulosin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Prostafine
	Dosage	0,4 mg
	Form	Capsule
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	122,953
Allopurinol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Aluric
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	50
	Price per box	35,507
Calcium	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	OSTRONG
	Dosage	Vitamin D3 - 500IU, Calcium hydrogen phosphate 600 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	91,978
Finasteride	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Sterifine 5
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	126,163

Pharmacy Alexandra

Pharmacy Alexandre prices according to exchange rate on 13/10/22		
Cardiac complications and hypertension (including post operation care)		
Simvastatin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Vascor
	Dosage	10 mg / 20 mg / 30 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	89,935 / 117,742 / 122,00
Atorvastatin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Tarden
	Dosage	10 mg / 20 mg / 40 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	157,694 / 197,038 / 236,412
Clopidogrel	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Apo-clopidogrel
	Dosage	75 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	526,000
Acetylsalicylic acid	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Aspicot
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet

	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	20,416
Losartan	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Losanet
	Dosage	50 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	136,574
Bisoprolol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Bisocor
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	99,000
Enalapril	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Doxazosin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Isosorbide monotritate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Amiodarone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Cordarone
	Dosage	200 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	262,000
Digoxin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lanoxin
	Dosage	0.25 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	100
	Price per box	90,605
Furosemide	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lasix
	Dosage	40 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	48,649

Acenocoumarol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Sintrom
	Dosage	4 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	67,407
Amlodipine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Amlo Tad
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	83,423
Spironolactone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Aldactone
	Dosage	25 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	105,000
Diabetes type I and II		
Fast acting insulin: Insulin aspart, Insulin glulisine, Insulin lispro, Insulin human	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Intermediate-acting insulin: Insulin isophane	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available, but general experiencing supply problems
	Generic name	Insulin aspart 30 %, Insulin aspart protamine 70 %
	Brand name	Novomix 30
	Dosage	100IU/ml
	Form	Injectable suspension
	# of units in container	5 x 3 ml
	Price per box	483,499
Long-acting insulin: Insulin detemir, Insulin glargine, Insulin degludec	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available, but general experiencing supply problems
	Generic name	Insulin glargine
	Brand name	Lantus solostar
	Dosage	100IU/ml
	Form	Injectable solution
	# of units in container	5 x 3 ml
	Price per box	674,310
Metformin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Glucophage
	Dosage	750 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	253,000
Gliclazide	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Diamicron
	Dosage	60 mg

	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30 mg
	Price per box	154,054
Devices for diabetes type I and II		
Blood glucose meter for self use by patient	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	1,000,000
Blood glucose self test strips for use by patient	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	600,000
Insulin pump	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
Continous glucose monitoring (CGM) implanted device	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
Mental health (alcohol and drug abuse, psychotic disorders, PTSD)		
Chlordiazepoxide	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Disulfiram	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Methadone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A (requires special approval)
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Morphine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A (requires special approval)
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Buprenorphine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A (requires special approval)
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Buprenorphine and naloxone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Olanzapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Zolapine
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet, orodispersible
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	306,390
Chlorpromazine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Chlorpromazine
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	50
	Price per box	72,863
Haloperidol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Haloperidol
	Dosage	2 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	36,000

Risperidone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Depia
	Dosage	2 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	98,030
Clozapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lanolept
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	596,216
Quetiapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Seropine
	Dosage	25 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	260,483
Venlafaxine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Venlax XR 75
	Dosage	75 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	151,000

Sertraline	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Sertine
	Dosage	50 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	137,102
Escitapram	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Citoles
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	28
	Price per box	168,841
Mirtazapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Mirta Tad
	Dosage	30 mg
	Form	Form
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	500,000
Diazepam	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Valium
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	25
	Price per box	84,376

Lorazepam	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lorazepam
	Dosage	2 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	40
	Price per box	110,174
Oxazepam	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Pregabalin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Gabrika 75
	Dosage	75 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	164,000
Chronic obstructive lung disease		
Formoterol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Budesonide and formoteol (symbicort)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Fluticasone propionate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Fluticasone furoate, umeclidinium bromide, vilanterol (Trelegy Ellipta)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Fluticasone propionate and salmeterol xinafoate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Tiotropium bromide monohydrate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Tiova-T
	Dosage	18 mcg
	Form	Rotacaps
	# of units in container	15
	Price per box	169,000
Beclometasone, formoterol/glycopyrronium (Trimbow)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Ventoline	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available, but general experiencing supply problems
	Brand name	Ventolin
	Dosage	5 mg/ml
	Form	Solution
	# of units in container	20 ml
	Price per box	169,884
Prednisolone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Prednisone
	Dosage	20 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	47,695
Devices for chronic obstructive lung disease		

CPAP machine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A (can be bought at medical supply center)
	Price	
Oxygen therapy with device and nasal catheter	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A (can be bought at medical supply center)
	Price	
Oxygen therapy with O2 pressure tank for use at home	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A (can be bought or rented from medical supply center)
	Price	
Analgetics		
Paracetamol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Painol
	Dosage	500 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	11,088
Ibuprofen	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Profinal
	Dosage	400 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	24
	Price per box	77,000

Oxycodone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A (requires special approval)
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Sumatriptan	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Other (antihistamines, sleeping pills, vitamins, etc.)		
Cholecalciferol (d-vitamin)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Maxi-D 10,000
	Dosage	10,000 IU
	Form	Capsule
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	137,454
Magnesia	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Mavit
	Dosage	Magnesium 100 mg, Pyridoxine 10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	89,935

Promethazine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Prometal
	Dosage	25 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	26,752
Sildefanil	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Segurex
	Dosage	50 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	4
	Price per box	139,000
Omeprazole	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Omezol Benta
	Dosage	20 mg
	Form	Capsule
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	104,000
Cetirizine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Cetallerg
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	10
	Price per box	72,432

Tresiquens	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available (but no demand for this medication according to the pharmacist)
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	28
	Price per box	211,000
Tamsulosin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Prostafine
	Dosage	0,4 mg
	Form	Capsule
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	111,574
Allopurinol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Aluric
	Dosage	300 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	42,000
Calcium	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	OSTRONG
	Dosage	Vitamin D3 500IU, Calcium hydrogen phosphate 600 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	85,711

Finasteride	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Sterifine 5
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	117,566

Saida DT Pharmacy

Saida DT Pharmacy prices according to exchange rate on 14/10/22		
Cardiac complications and hypertension		
Simvastatin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Simvastatin nor-mon
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	28
	Price per box	108,110
Atorvastatin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Apo-atorvastatin
	Dosage	20 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	213,247
Clopidogrel	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Ceruvin
	Dosage	75 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	10
	Price per box	101,364
Acetylsalicylic acid	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Aspicot
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	100

	Price per box	55,439
Losartan	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Losanet
	Dosage	50 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	136,574
Bisoprolol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Biscordex
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	163,706
Enalapril	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, generally experi-encing supply problem
	Brand name	
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Doxazosin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Isosorbide monotritate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, generally experi-encing supply problem
	Brand name	
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Amiodarone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, generally experi-encing supply problem
	Brand name	
	Dosage	200 mg
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Digoxin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lanoxin
	Dosage	0.25 mg or 0.05 mg / ml
	Form	Tablet / elixir
	# of units in container	100 / 60 ml
	Price per box	90,605 / 129,678
Furosemide	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lasix
	Dosage	500 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	310,860

Warfarin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Amlodipine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Amlo Tad
	Dosage	5 mg / 10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	50 / 50
	Price per box	313,719 / 536,833
Spironolactone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Aldactone
	Dosage	25 mg / 100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20 / 10
	Price per box	100,232 / 193,101
Diabetes type I and II		
Fast acting insulin: Insulin aspart, Insulin glulisine, Insulin lispro, Insulin human	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experienc-ing supply prob-lems
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Intermediate-acting insulin: Insulin isophane	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experiencing supply problems
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Long-acting insulin: Insulin detemir, Insulin glargine, Insulin degludec	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experiencing supply problems
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Metformin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Dialon
	Dosage	1000 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	114,594
Gliclazide	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Glyzide
	Dosage	80 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	215,135
Devices for diabetes type I and II		

Blood glucose meter for self use by patient	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available on request
	Price	Depending on the company
Blood glucose self test strips for use by patient	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Price	18 USD
Insulin pump	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
Continous glucose monitoring (CGM) implanted device	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
Mental health (alcohol and drug abuse, psychotic disorders, PTSD)		
Chlordiazepoxide	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Disulfiram	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A

	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Methadone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Morphine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available on request and with special prescription from the Ministry of Public Health
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Buprenorphine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Buprenorphine and naloxone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	

	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Olanzapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Olanzamed
	Dosage	5 mg / 20 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30 / 30
	Price per box	258,248 / 856,663
Chlorpromazine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Chlorpromazine
	Dosage	100 mg / 25 mg/ 5 ml
	Form	Tablet / Injectable solution
	# of units in container	50 / 10x5 ml
	Price per box	72,863 / 150,270
Haloperidol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Haloperidol
	Dosage	2 mg / 5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	34,671 / 40,831
Risperidone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experienc-ing supply prob-lems
	Brand name	
	Dosage	

	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Clozapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lanolept
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	596,216
Quetiapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experiencing supply problems
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Venlafaxine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Efexor XR
	Dosage	75 mg / 150 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	14
	Price per box	308,623 / 344,298
Sertraline	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experiencing supply problems
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	

	Price per box	
Citalopram	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Cipralex
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	28
	Price per box	622,702
Mirtazapine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experiencing supply problems
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Diazepam	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Valium
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	25
	Price per box	84,376
Lorazepam	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experiencing supply problems
	Generic name	
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Oxazepam	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Pregabalin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Lyrica
	Dosage	75 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	14
	Price per box	95,057
Chronic obstructive lung disease		
Formoterol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Budesonide and formoteol (symbicort)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Fluticasone propionate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experiencing supply problems
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Salbutamol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Fluticasone furoate, umeclidinium bromide, vilanterol (Trelegy Ellipta)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Fluticasone propionate and salmeterol xinafoate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experiencing supply problems
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Tiotropium bromide monohydrate	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Partly available, general experiencing supply problems
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Beclometasone, formoterol/glycopyrronium (Trimbow)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Prednisolone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Predalone
	Dosage	15 mg / 5 ml
	Form	Syrup
	# of units in container	100 ml
	Price per box	122,494
Devices for chronic obstructive lung disease		
CPAP machine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Price	
Oxygen therapy with device and nasal catheter	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A

	Price	Dependent on the company
Oxygen therapy with O2 pressure tank for use at home	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A can be bought at medical supply centers
	Price	
Analgetics		
Paracetamol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Dolopan
	Dosage	500 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	127,670
Ibuprofen	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Brufen
	Dosage	400 mg / 100 mg / 5 ml
	Form	Tablet / Syrup
	# of units in container	30 / 100 ml
	Price per box	120,249 / 153,462
Oxycodone	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Sumatriptan	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	
Other (antihistamines, sleeping pills, vitamins, etc.)		
Cholecalciferol (d-vitamin)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Maxi-D
	Dosage	10,000IU
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	137,454
Magnesia	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Mavit
	Dosage	Magnesium 100 mg, Pyridoxine 10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	89,935
Promethazine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Prometal
	Dosage	25 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20

	Price per box	26,752
Sildefanil	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Sildenafil Arrow Lab
	Dosage	100 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	24
	Price per box	630,27
Omeprazole	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Axipron
	Dosage	20 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	14
	Price per box	98,734
Cetirizine	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Cetimed
	Dosage	10 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	20
	Price per box	73,743
Tresiquens	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	N/A
	Brand name	
	Dosage	
	Form	
	# of units in container	
	Price per box	

Tamsulosin	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Prostafine
	Dosage	0,4 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	30
	Price per box	114,574
Allopurinol	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Aluric
	Dosage	100 mg / 300 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	50 / 30
	Price per box	33,087 / 40,127
Calcium	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	O STRONG
	Dosage	Vitamin D3 400IU, Calcium (carbonate) 500 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	60
	Price per box	85,711
Finasteride (enlarged prostate)	Availability ("Available", "N/A" if not available, "Partly available". If "Partly available, specify time horizon for when it will be available)	Available
	Brand name	Finasteride
	Dosage	5 mg
	Form	Tablet
	# of units in container	28
	Price per box	150,064