



Aleppo Governorate Situation Report Whole of Syria Health Sector/Cluster

February 9, 2016

GENERAL CONTEXT

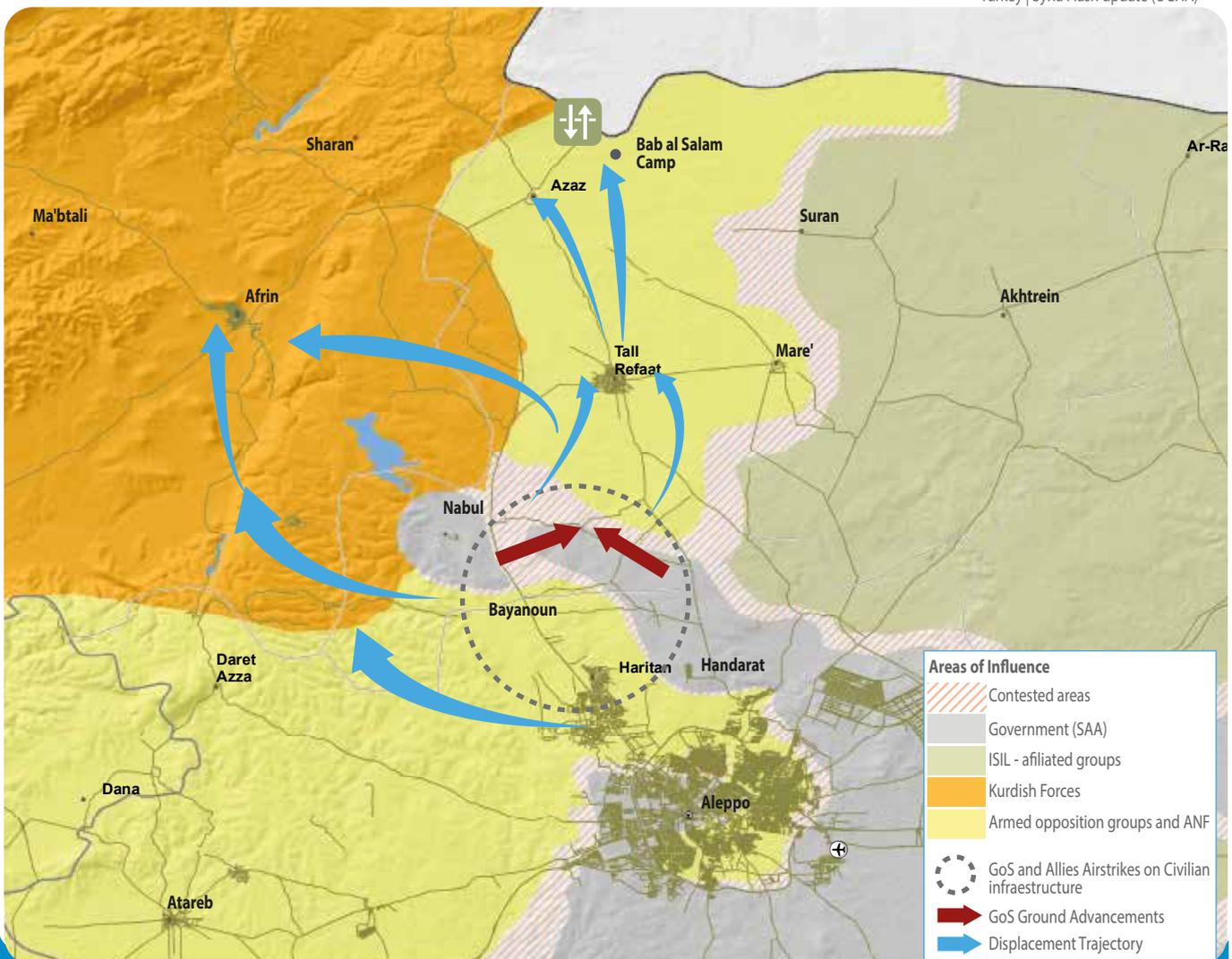
Around 40,000 people have fled areas around Aleppo city following heavy fighting between the Government of Syria (GoS) and Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) in recent days. This has cut off Aleppo city from a major cross-border humanitarian supply route through the Azaz corridor. Populations have fled north towards Tell Rifaat, Azaz and the Turkish border as well as west towards rural Aleppo and Idleb governorate. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are currently residing in Azaz town and around the string of IDP camps along the Bab Al-Salama border-crossing point, and Afrin. In west Aleppo and Idleb numbers have increased steadily. An estimated 8,500 families are in need of humanitarian services in Nubul.

These developments have resulted in cross-border aid agencies operating from Turkey having to shift supply routes east into Aleppo and surrounding areas. These routes are longer and more dangerous, with the associated risk of a reduction in the frequency and volume of cross-border aid able to reach Aleppo City and surrounding areas in coming weeks.

Humanitarian agencies and their partners from both inside Syria and Turkey are reviewing response plans in case Aleppo City becomes inaccessible. Aleppo is currently hosting an estimated 300,000 persons living in opposition-controlled areas. The situation remains fluid and the Whole of Syria health sector/cluster is closely monitoring humanitarian needs on the ground and supporting the coordination efforts between Syria-based Damascus hub and Turkey-based health cluster team.

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Turkey | Syria Flash update (OCHA)





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HEALTH IMPACT

At the end of December three key referral hospitals, two of them in Azaz and one in Aleppo country-side, were no longer functional due to damage sustained during airstrikes. Limited services have been re-established in two of them. On January 30th airstrikes damaged Anadan Charitable Hospital, effectively shutting the hospital down and leaving 45,000 people without access to health services. On February 3rd, NGO-supported Tall Rifaat Pediatric Hospital was hit by an airstrike, temporarily closing while renovations take place. Other NGO-supported medical facilities have been forced to move out of areas directly affected by the fighting, but remain on standby to evacuate patients or treat the displaced. The Aleppo Governorate Ministry of Health has 13 functional public hospitals and 104 functional and accessible public primary health care centers, which are also able to absorb additional patients (see annex 1 for availability and functionality of public health facilities in Aleppo governorate). Health facilities in Idleb Governorate are overstretched due to increased demand from IDPs and some are already running out of critical consumables.

In addition, the Al Khafsa Water Treatment Plan in Aleppo governorate has been shut down since January 16th. This was the primary source of drinking water in opposition-controlled Aleppo, and has forced civilians to rely on stored water, water trucking and local wells. While there are an estimated 1,000 wells in the area, local well water is contaminated with fecal coliform and nitrates, leaving a population already at high-risk of water-borne diseases even more exposed. Water trucking services continue but prices are high and supplies limited.

Scarcity of fuel in the Aleppo area poses a major risk for the functionality of referral systems and of health facilities since most rely on generators and ambulances need fuel to function. The price of fuel in Aleppo increased over 50% in a recent 24-hour period, from \$.40/L to \$1/L.

HEALTH SECTOR/CLUSTER RESPONSE

The Health Cluster in Gaziantep and Health Sector Working Group in Damascus have held emergency contingency and response planning meetings over the past week to coordinate the health response in their hubs. Health partners from Turkey have conducted two rapid health assessments in the last three days. These assessments have shown that around 80% of the IDPs are children and women. Turkey-based health partners have mobilized and sent supplies through the Bab Al-Hawa border crossing to respond to urgent health needs. Three mobile clinics

are providing services to IDPs in Afrin and Azaz districts. UNICEF will be prepositioning nutritional supplies and primary health and reproductive kits inside of Syria from Turkey. WHO will also be prepositioning surgical supply kits and "Italian surgical kits" sufficient for 2,000 surgical interventions. Other cross-border partners have prepositioned medical supplies for Intensive Care Units and hospitals.

WHO Damascus has delivered 47 shipments of medicines, including 12 cross-line, as part of major preparedness measures over the past three months. The Health Sector Working Group in Damascus is also responding through close coordination with their hub in Aleppo City. Assessments are underway to identify medical services present in areas affected by the conflict and identify coverage and gaps in health service provision.

Health supplies have been delivered by the Damascus hub to Nubul and Zahraa, reaching an estimated 75,285 persons. There is one GoS public health facility still functioning in Nubul as well as a Syrian NGO supported clinic. Another NGO has launched Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) and Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) projects also in Nubul.

Planning is underway to deliver supplies to areas of Afrin and rural Aleppo overwhelmed with IDPs. Large-scale aquatab distribution, water trucking for hospitals and distribution of water storage containers is ongoing, and partners from Turkey are expanding support to IDP camps to accommodate a large influx of IDPs. Additional camps are reportedly being set-up by Turkish aid agencies inside of Syria but along the border.

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Aleppo | Snapshot on availability of healthcare facilities (as of Feb 7 2016)

This snapshot provides information on available health resources and services in Aleppo governorates, with insight on the key areas of displacement of 1st week of February 2016.

According to the recent conducted analysis for humanitarian needs overview (HNO 2016), out of a **total 11.5 million** estimated People in Need for health assistance in Syria; **2,237,750** are in Aleppo.

Overall Public Health Facilities Situation in Aleppo Governorate

The following sections provide information on availability of health resources and services in Aleppo governorate, which has been assessed using HerAMS¹ tool. Total public health facilities in Aleppo: **15** public hospitals and **228** health centres.

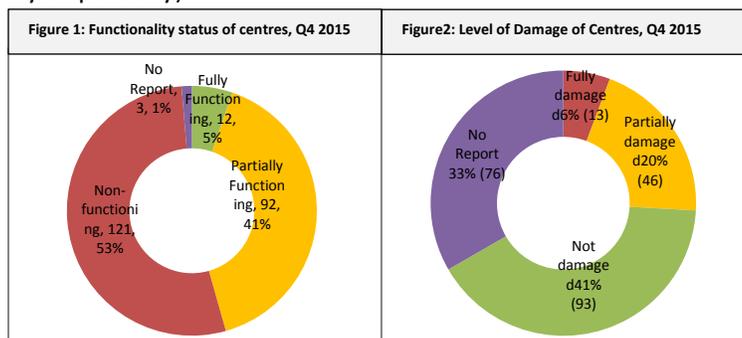
◆ Public Hospitals [MoH2 & MoHE3]:

13 out of 15 hospitals in Aleppo governorate are **functional** (either fully or partially) [Map], of which 6 are accessible. Eight hospitals are **damaged** (either fully or partially).

◆ Health centres [MoH]:

45% (104) of the total health centres (228) in Aleppo governorate are **functional** and **accessible** [Figure 1, Map].

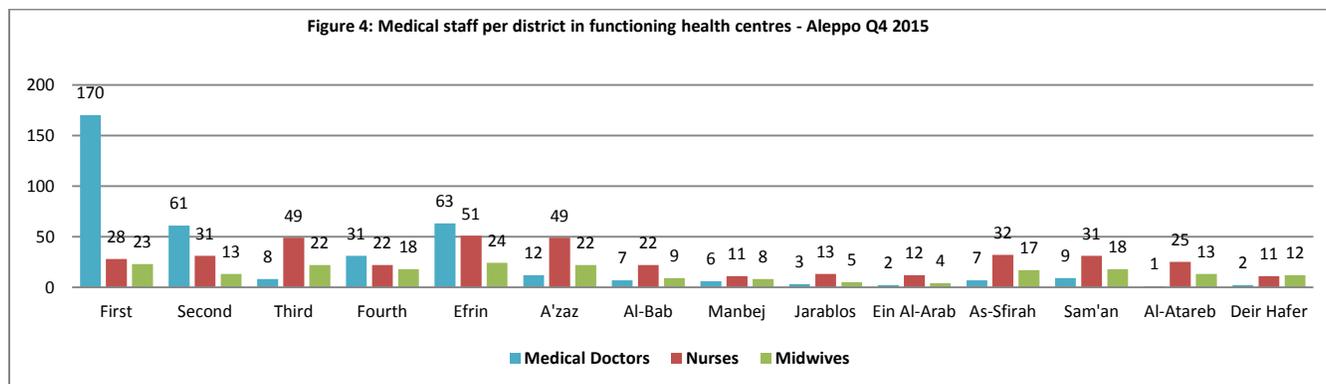
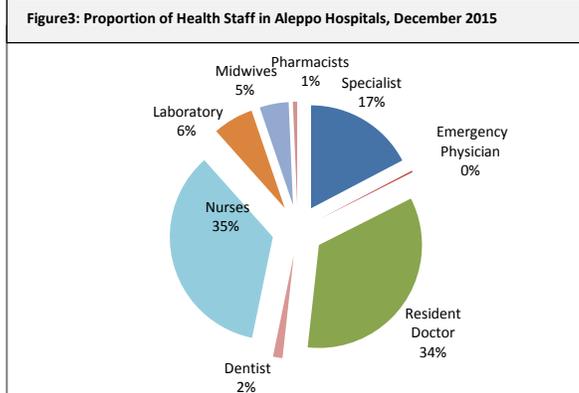
26% of the health centres are either **fully or partially damaged**, while the status of 33% is un-known [Figure 2].



Availability of Health Human Resources in Aleppo Governorate

Availability of health human resources has been analyzed across functional hospitals and health centres, considering different staffing categories.

Figure 3 shows the proportions of available health human resources in **public hospitals**, while Figure 4 shows distribution of medical staff (i.e., medical doctors⁴, nurses, and midwives) in functional **health centres** at a health district level.



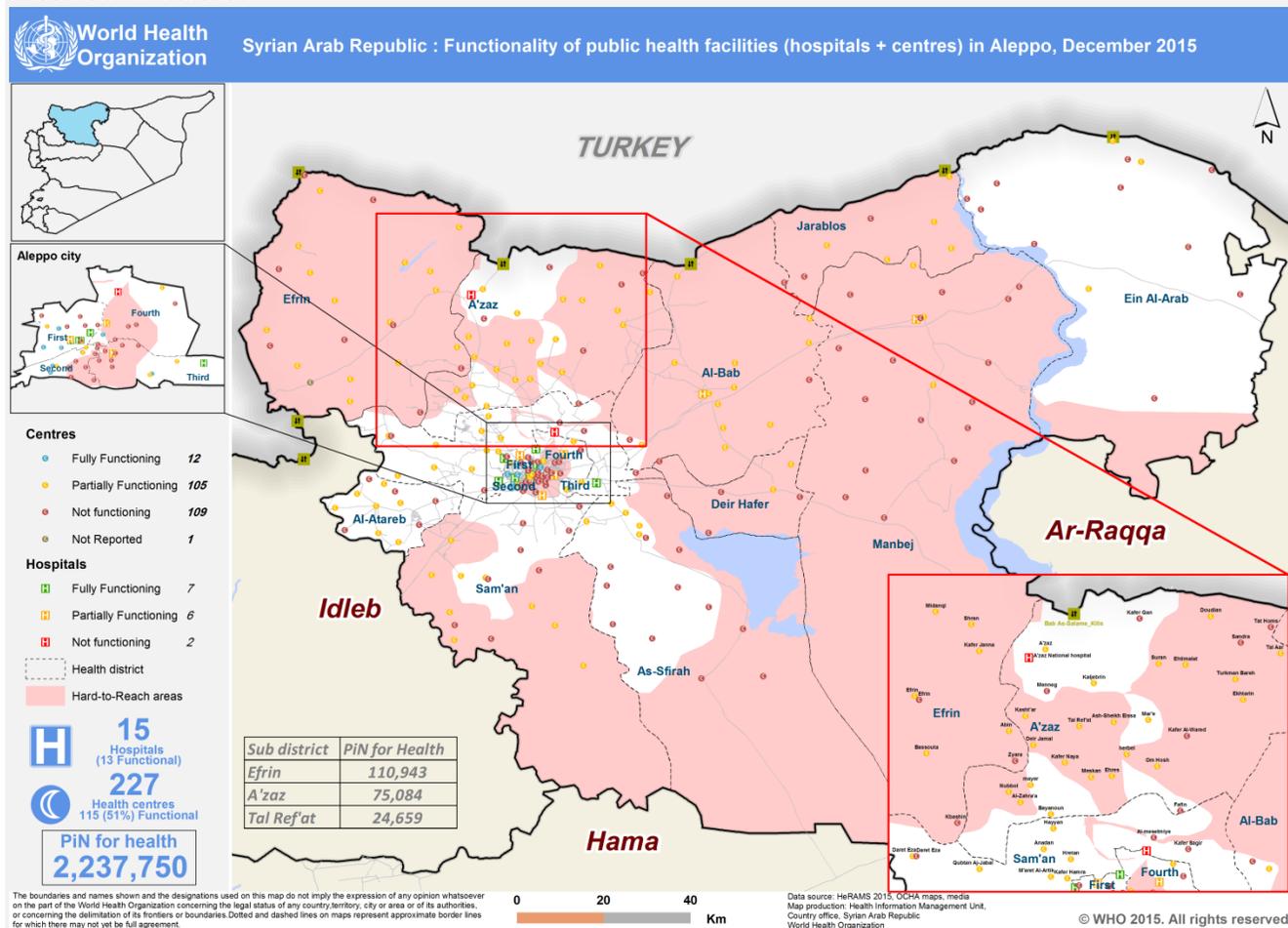
¹HerAMS: Health Resources & services Availability Mapping System

²MoH: Ministry of Health

³MoHE: Ministry of Higher Education

⁴Medical doctors: a total of general practitioners, specialists, resident doctors, and dentists

The map below shows the available public health facilities in Aleppo, per health districts and categorized based on HTR areas⁵.



NGOs supported clinics:

During the last quarter of 2015 and January 2016, WHO has supported the delivery of primary, secondary and trauma health care to IDPs and vulnerable groups in Aleppo and rural Aleppo through its partnership with a total of six NGOs, of which one is operating in HTR and besieged areas.

Additionally, 10 shipments of life-saving medicines and supplies were delivered to Aleppo city and eastern Aleppo, Efrin, Rajo areas supporting **23,828** consultations and **126,291** treatments.

The type of available healthcare services per area:

Area	Total working Health NGOs	Type of available healthcare services
Eastern Aleppo, Efrin/ Rajo	1	2 health centres provide primary and specialized healthcare
Aleppo City	6	9 health centres and one hospital provide primary, secondary, and trauma care

⁵ HTR and besieged areas are based on OCHA map as of Jan 2016

Public Health Facilities Situation in the key areas of displacement:

(i) Efrin area:

- **Health facilities:** Two health centres [one is partially functioning while the other is closed (comprehensive clinic)]
- **Health staff** in Efrin functional health centre: 5 General Practitioner, 8 specialist, 4 dentist, 15 nurses, 11 midwife, 2 technicians.

Of note: The high number of staff and workload in the health centre is due to relocation of health cadre and displacement of people from the neighbouring insecure areas, since the 2nd Quarter of 2015.

(ii) A'zaz area:

- **Health facilities:** One partially functioning **health** centre (A'zaz Primary Healthcare Centre), while the national hospital of **A'zaz** is fully damaged and closed.
- **Health staff** in A'zaz Primary Healthcare Centre: 2 general practitioner, one dentist, 6 nurse, 3 midwife
- **Workload:** total consultations in the 4th Quarter 2015 is **2,510**

(iii) Nubul area:

- **Health facilities:** One partially functioning and intact health centre (Nubul Primary Healthcare Centre)

(iv) Az-Zahra area:

- **Health facilities:** One partially functioning and intact health centre (Az-Zahra Primary Healthcare Centre)

(v) Tal Ref'at area:

- **Health facilities:** One partially functioning health centre (Tal Ref'at Primary Healthcare Centre)
- **Health staff** in Tal Ref'at Primary Healthcare Centre: 6 nurse, one midwife
- **Workload:** total consultations in the 4th Quarter 2015 is **690**

*Details on health facilities in the mentioned areas above are shown in the Map above.

Key identified gaps and needs for the functional health centres, as reported through HeRAMS:

Medicines:

1. Anti-allergic including Steroids
2. Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORS)
3. Antibiotics
4. Anti-diabetic preparations (especially Insulin)
5. Delivery related medicines (i.e., Oxytocin , ...)
6. Cardiac and /or Vascular Drugs (Anti-hypertensive Drugs, Diuretics, ...)
7. Antiseptics

Essential Equipment:

1. Pulse oximeters
2. Oxygen cinders
3. Fetoscope
4. Weighing scale for infants
5. Weighing scale for adults
6. Length measurement device
7. Height measurement device
8. Sterilizer
9. Thermometers
10. Blood pressure device
11. Minor surgical sets