



مجموعة العمل من أجل فلسطينيي سورية
Action Group For Palestinians of Syria

08-04-2020

No. 2723

التقرير اليومي

الخاص بأوضاع اللاجئين الفلسطينيين في سورية

Daily report on the situation of Palestinian refugees in Syria

VIBHAKRAM
INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL



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Date 01/04/2020

Patient Name : Mr. [REDACTED]

Age : 56 Years old

HN : 16236/61

To whom it may concern

Medical Summary

- Problem List :
1. Acute asthmatic attack with acute respiratory failure since 28 March, 2020 to now
 2. Post cardiac arrest status post CPR 5 minute since 28 March, 2020
 3. Aspiration pneumonia

Investigations : CBC show leukocytosis with PMN predominate
CXR: no lung infiltration

"Sick Palestinian Refugee in Need of Urgent Treatment"

- Health Situation in Daraa Exacerbated by Coronavirus Pandemic
- Anti-Coronavirus Measures Taken in Khan Eshieh Refugee Camp
- Palestinian Refugees in Syria to Receive Cash Aid by UN Relief Agency
- Palestinian Brothers Mohamed and Samir Sheteiwi Forcibly Disappeared in Syrian Jails
- Food Boxes Distributed to Palestinian Families from Syria in Lebanon

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Latest Developments

Activists have called on the international humanitarian institutions, the Palestinian Liberation Organization, and all concerned human rights bodies to urgently work on saving the life of a displaced Palestinian woman from Syria in Thailand.

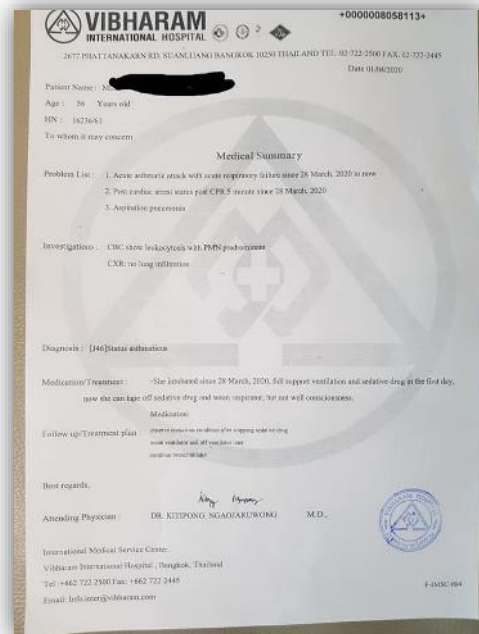
Speaking with AGPS, a Palestinian refugee in Thailand said his mother sustained life-threatening respiratory disorders and is in need of urgent treatment.

A medical summary of her case indicates that the 56-year-old patient suffers from an acute asthmatic attack with acute respiratory failure since March 28, 2020. She has also been diagnosed with post-cardiac arrest status (CPR 5 minutes) and aspiration pneumonia.

The mother was transferred to a nearby hospital, where she has been hospitalized at an intensive care unit after her heart beat stopped for five minutes.

The motionless patient is also undergoing convulsions and has had her body shivering.

Her son said medics refused to transfer her to a public hospital, saying her condition is likely to take a turn for the worse. The mother is currently tied to a mechanical ventilation machine replacing her spontaneous breathing. Medics said if she remains unresponsive





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over the next couple of weeks she will have to undergo a tracheostomy, a surgically made hole that goes through the front of the neck into the windpipe to help the patient breathe.

Her treatment has reached up to 261,088 Thai Baht. Sometime earlier, a Thai charity paid 100,000 TB while another benevolent contributed 800 Sterling Pound. An unidentified donor also contributed 10,000 TB for treatment fees. The family still needs a sum of at least 5,630 USD.

In another development, residents of Daraa Camp for Palestinian refugees, south of Syria, continue to sound distress signals over the absence of health services and life-saving medical kit. Most of the clinics and medical centers in the area have gone out of operation in the warfare.

Reporting from southern Syria, an AGPS correspondent said no cases of COVID-19 contamination have been confirmed in the camp, raising concerns that the absence of advanced virus detection mechanisms might lead to a health catastrophe.

UNRWA clinics and health centers have also gone out of operation in the government-held Daraa Camp, exacerbating the health conditions of hundreds of displaced Palestinians taking refuge in the area. Dozens of sick and elderly civilians face mountainous journeys trying to reach AlKashef area for treatment.

The residents have stressed the need for sterilization moves, awareness-raising campaigns, and medical assistance in the poverty-stricken camp.



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Founded in 1950-1951, Daraa Camp is home to over 650 displaced Palestinian families. As many as 4,500 families used to take shelter in the camp prior to the outbreak of the conflict in 2011.

Along similar lines, a set of precautionary measures have seen the day at UNRWA clinic in Khan Eshieh refugee camp to prevent COVID-19 contaminations.

UNRWA said in a statement that contacts have been held with the Syrian Health Ministry and the General Authority for Palestinian Arab Refugees (GAPAR) to allot teams to identify patients with respiratory disorders at the clinic as a precautionary measure against UNRWA.

Diabetes and patients with hypertension will also receive medicines for two months. Relatives of elderly patients will have to show up at the clinic to get medicines on their behalf. Visits for expectant women will be canceled. The agency also suspended routine tests for diabetes, patients with hypertension, and pregnant women. Children will continue to receive the prescribed vaccinations.

At the same time, Director of UNRWA Operations in Syria Amanyah Michael-Ebye told the political department chief of the Palestine Liberation Organization Anwar Abdul Hadi in a Skype call that the Agency has almost ended cash aid distribution for the Palestinians of Syria.

The UN official added that other financial aids will be delivered to the refugees next month.

Ebye also said UNRWA has implemented precautionary measures to fight COVID-19 outbreaks in Palestinian displacement camps and



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assist the refugee communities and vulnerable families fight the deadly virus.

In its Syria emergency crisis appeal for 2020, UNRWA said 91% of Palestinian refugee families in Syria live in extreme poverty and rely on relief assistance provided by the Agency.

In the meantime, Palestinian refugees Mohamed and Samir Ibrahim Abu Shteivi have been secretly held in Syrian government prisons since 2013.

The family told AGPS that Mohamed, born in 1957, was arrested on March 10, 2013 at a government checkpoint in Rif Dimashq. Samir was arrested in April 2013 at a checkpoint in Sehnaya town. Their condition and whereabouts could not be identified.



Lists of hundreds of forcibly disappeared Palestinian refugees and victims in Syria are available on AGPS website, both in English and Arabic. AGPS supplies a database of their names and possible times and places of arrest.

AGPS has documented the secret detention of over 1,790 Palestinian refugees, including women and minors, in Syrian government lock-ups.



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Meanwhile, AlSaraa Association, in cooperation with AlAqsa Companions Association, distributed food items to a number of displaced Palestinian families from Syria in Lebanon.

A campaigner said 100 Syrian and Palestinian families taking refuge in the southern Lebanese city of Sidon, Ein AlHilweh camp, AlMiya wa Miya camp, and Wadi AlZina area benefited from the move.

UNRWA has identified PRS in Lebanon as one of the most marginalized and poorest communities in the region.

In its 2020 Syria crisis emergency appeal, UNRWA said that PRS in Lebanon continue to face high vulnerability and marginalization, making them heavily reliant on UNRWA humanitarian support to cover their basic needs. The socio-economic hardships and unrest experienced by the country have compounded PRS' already dire living conditions.



According to a survey conducted by the American University of Beirut in 2015, nearly 90 percent of the PRS population in Lebanon live in poverty, including 9 per cent who are in extreme poverty and unable to meet even their most essential food requirements.



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PRS's vulnerability is further compounded by their precarious legal status. The lack of a valid legal status, often coupled with outdated civil registration documents, results in severely restricted freedom of movement for some PRS in Lebanon due to fear of arrest, detention or forced deportation.