

HIGHLIGHTS

- Representatives from the Haiti's Emergency Response Commission reiterated that health partners should let the Ministry of Health know when they are leaving the country in order for other agencies to ensure continuity of care. Partners were also reminded to register details of their organization and medical resources with the Ministry of Health (currently only 46 partners are registered).
- The Ministry of Health reports a Spanish medical ship will arrive on 4 February.
- In order to match needs with existing capacities, the Health Cluster is building a database of medical human resources available in-country, in collaboration with the Clinton Foundation.



Jordanian Field Hospital
Photo: PAHO/WHO

ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING

- The Ministry of Health is concerned about patients undergoing long-term care, specifically for AIDS, as treatment has been interrupted for many patients. A Health Cluster working group will discuss and strategize about solutions for this issue. Those aware of problems in arranging long-term treatment for AIDS patients are asked to contact the Health Cluster.
- L'Hôpital St-Antoine de Jérémie, the reference hospital in the department of Grand Anse, has 102 beds. An emergency structure has been erected, with support from Médecins du Monde and the Jeremie Red Cross, to receive injured people coming to the facility. However, there is no orthopedic specialist, which is greatly needed for the type of injuries they are seeing. There are also not enough hospital beds.

GAP FILLING

DRUGS AND SUPPLIES

- Many medical supplies are still in large containers and need to be sorted and prioritized. This process is causing some delays in getting supplies distributed. PROMESS will provide updates daily at 4pm regarding status of medical supplies.

OUTBREAK CONTROL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- The Programme National de Control de la Malaria et de la Filariose Lymphatique has met with partners from CDC, PAHO/WHO, MENTOR and PSI to discuss the strategy for vector-borne disease control. The group will draft an advisory note for partners in WASH, shelter, and other clusters and will distribute copies of the national protocols for the diagnosis and treatment of malaria, dengue and filariasis. A strategic plan will follow shortly after.
- PAHO/WHO reminded partners that all patients should be vaccinated against tetanus. Both the vaccine and IG for treatment are available at PROMESS. Direct any questions to the medical supplies subgroup.

- Pests/insects, especially flies and mosquitoes, in health care settings (including operating rooms) are becoming a problem. PAHO/WHO noted that the Mentor Initiative is working on vector control.

PROVISION OF BASIC HEALTH SERVICES

- In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, CDC is working with PAHO/WHO to prepare a consolidated list of all organizations re providing basic medical services through mobile health facilities, including the treatment of respiratory infections, diarrheas, pregnancy, malnutrition or chronic diseases (they are also an excellent resource for health promotion). These mobile facilities are a priority now and will be in the coming months, with the arrival of the hurricane and rainy season, as temporary settlements can be easily flooded.
- The French military has a network of hospitals and a hospital ship anchored close to the USS Comfort. Triage for admission to these facilities will be via presentation at the Lycee Francais. The hospital network has its own helicopter to transfer patients and these services will remain in Haiti for the long-term.
- A new medical team from Puerto Rico arrived in Haiti with 32 staff. An additional 10,000 people (approximately) are available for deployment on a rotating base for one year. The 32 members will stay for two weeks. It is expected that this team will take the place of the Belgium FAST in Delmas 33 (the National Laboratory).
- A Canadian medical team of 10 people is working with an American NGO, SATHYA SAI Organization. They have a neurosurgeon, gastroenterologist, cardiologist, orthopedist and one nurse.
- The Aimer Haiti Joint Medical Mission has medical facilities near the U.S. embassy at Bojeux Park (Children's Amusement Park, now a primary/emergency care triage center and wound care facility - also deploying mobile medical teams). They are working in direct coordination with the nearby Brazilian Tertiary Care Hospital at the base of Brazil's UN Peacekeeping Unit. They are expected to be there for three months.
- The Turkish field hospital is beginning to work 24 hours-a-day with eight doctors, one orthopaedist, one general surgeon, one cardiovascular surgeon and 11 nurses. There are 20 beds, including an intensive care area to provide post-operative care, located in Police Academy-Petoinville (previous location of Russian hospital) and have an ambulance for transportation
- Medecins Sans Frontieres Spain is working in: Bicentenaire (Port-au-Prince), providing post-operative care and rehabilitation, Hopital de Saint Michel (surgery, post-op, internal medicine, paediatrics, maternity and emergencies) in Jacmel and in Carrefour Feuille.

WATER AND SANITATION

- Water chlorination began on Monday.
- The WASH Cluster, PAHO/WHO and partners are working on water quality, insisting that agencies supplying water are fully accountable to the general population and DINEPA for its safety.
- Medical waste management services have reportedly been used only by two hospitals. Some hospitals appear to be sending waste on their own to the landfill site. They are cautioned to closely monitor that waste is actually deposited in the landfill as opposed to being discarded in other sites.

COORDINATION

- All information relevant for the Health Cluster is available on the One Response website: <http://haiti.oneresponse.info> (Health Cluster).
- A new subgroup on information management will address issues including early warning systems, mapping (who, what, where), monitoring of morbidity trends, tracking resources and the delivery of services.

- The Logistic Cluster has three helicopters available.
- In the coming days, the following meetings will take place:
 - General Health Cluster: everyday at 4 p.m.
 - Epidemiology subgroup: everyday at 9 a.m. in the National Laboratory.
 - Primary Health Care/Mobile clinics: after the General Health Cluster.
 - Information management: everyday at Wednesday and Saturday after the General Health Cluster.
 - Disabilities subgroup: next meeting, specifically on prosthetics, will be held on Tuesday at 1 p.m. in St Germain. On Wednesday a general meeting on disabilities will be held at 2 p.m. in the PAHO/WHO tent.
 - The reproductive subgroup will be meeting every Monday (beginning 8 February) at 3 p.m. in UNFPA Tent.
 - On Wednesday, the mental health subgroup will be meeting in PAHO/WHO tent at 8.30 a.m.

CONTACTS

Pan American Health Organization
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IMPORTANT LINKS

www.paho.org

www.who.int

<http://onerresponse.info/Disasters/Haiti/Health/Pages/default.aspx>