

# Emergency Trauma Response to the Gaza Mass Demonstrations **2018–2019**

“A One-Year Review of Trauma Data and the Humanitarian Consequences”





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# Glossary of abbreviations

AAH – Al Ahli Arab Hospital  
 ACS – Assalama Charitable Society  
 DWWT – Doctors Worldwide-Turkey  
 EGH – European Gaza Hospital  
 EMT – Emergency medical team  
 EMT-CC – Emergency medical teams-coordination cell  
 ENT – Ear, nose and throat  
 GBV – Gender-based violence  
 GCMHP – Gaza Community Mental Health Programme  
 GSW – Gunshot wound  
 HCEP – Hayat Center for Emergency Preparedness  
 HCH – Hayfa Charity Hospital  
 HeRAMS – Health Resources Availability Mapping System  
 HI – Humanity & Inclusion  
 ICRC – International Committee of the Red Cross  
 IRP – Islamic Relief Palestine  
 MAP-UK – Medical Aid for Palestinians-UK  
 MDM-F – Médecins du Monde-France  
 MDM-S – Medicos del Mundo-Spain  
 MHPSS – Mental Health & Psychosocial Support  
 MoH – Ministry of Health  
 MMS – Military Medical Services  
 MSF – Médecins Sans Frontières  
 NCCR – National Center for Community Rehabilitation  
 NGO – Nongovernmental organization  
 OCHA – United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs  
 oPt – occupied Palestinian territory  
 PAT – Patient Allocation Tool  
 PCRF – Palestinian Children's Relief Fund  
 PHC – Primary health care  
 PHR-I – Physicians for Human Rights-Israel  
 PMRS – Palestinian Medical Relief Society  
 PRCS – Palestinian Red Crescent Society  
 QRCS – Qatar Red Crescent Society  
 TSP – Trauma stabilization point  
 UHWC – Union of Health Workers Committee  
 UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund  
 UNICEF – United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund  
 UNRWA – United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees  
 WHO – World Health Organization

# Key definitions list

The definitions listed below apply only to the context of this report.

## Ambulance trauma stabilization point (TSP) bypass rate

The number (expressed as a percentage) that results from the calculation of the total number of patients transported by ambulance directly from the point of injury to the hospitals without stopping at a TSP over the total number of patients that were transported from the field to the hospitals by ambulance.

## Canister projectiles

These projectiles are also called gas grenades and are used at longer ranges. They are analogous to rifle grenades, providing increased accuracy and range over hand-thrown gas grenades. Serious injuries and even death can result from a canister projectile impact.

## Case fatality ratio

The proportion of death within a designated population of cases.

## Casualty

Refers both to someone who was killed and to someone who was injured and survived.

## Debridement

Surgical removal of nonviable or infected tissues.

## Disability

An umbrella term for impairments, activity limitations and participation restrictions denoting the negative aspects of the interaction between an individual (with a health condition) and that individual's contextual factors (environmental and personal factors).

## Emergency medical teams (EMTs)

According to the WHO EMT initiative, EMTs are groups of health professionals (doctors, nurses, paramedics, etc.) that provide direct clinical care to patients affected by an emergency or disaster. They can be national or international and governmental or nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). They can include civilian or military personnel. An EMT does not need to be verified by WHO to be considered an EMT.

## Environmental factors

Refers to the physical, social and attitudinal environment in which people live and conduct their lives, for example products and technology; the natural environment; support and relationships; attitudes; and services, systems and policies.

## Explosives

Any conventional explosive, including grenades, mortars, rocket-propelled grenades, bombs, missiles and shells.

## Firearm

A weapon small enough to be carried, such as a rifle or pistol, from which a projectile can be discharged by an explosion caused by igniting gunpowder.

## Gunshot injuries or gunshot wounds (GSWs)

In the context of this report, these terms relate to injuries sustained as a result of metal projectiles (bullets) fired by firearms. They exclude injuries that result from “rubber bullets”.

## Health Cluster

The Health Cluster ensures that international responses to humanitarian emergencies are predictable and accountable and have transparent leadership by making clearer the division of labour between organizations, as well as their roles and responsibilities in different areas. It aims to make the international humanitarian community better organized and more accountable and professional, so that it can be a better partner for affected people, host governments, local authorities, local civil society and resourcing partners. The Health Cluster lead agency is WHO.

## Health system

A health system consists of all the organizations, institutions, resources and people whose primary purpose is to improve health. The key components of a well-functioning health system include leadership and governance, service delivery, human resources, essential medical products and technologies, health information systems and health financing.

## High-energy gunshot wounds

In the context of this report, these wounds are caused by metal projectiles (bullets) fired from military rifles, where the kinetic energy is above 1000 Joules. They present a high risk of infection secondary to a wide zone of injury and devitalized tissue caused by the cavitation effect.

## Personal factors

Factors that relate to the individual, for example age, gender, social status and life experiences.

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