

# Cyprus: assessing health-system capacity to manage sudden large influxes of migrants



Joint report on a mission of the Ministry of Health of Cyprus, the International Centre for Migration, Health and Development and the WHO Regional Office for Europe





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## Abstract

A joint assessment mission was conducted in December 2014 by the Ministry of Health of Cyprus, the International Centre for Migration, Health and Development and the WHO Regional Office for Europe. The aim of the mission was to assess the capacity of the health system of Cyprus to manage the acute phase of public health needs related to a potential sudden large influx of migrants and identify possible ways forward. Cyprus led a massive evacuation of foreign citizens from Lebanon in 2006, but no major influxes of migrants have entered the country in recent years. However, the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic has led to arrivals of migrants, albeit in small numbers, by sea. Thus a sudden large arrival of migrants is a potential scenario that needs to be taken into account from the public health perspective. The assessment mission was conducted within the project Public Health Aspects of Migration in Europe (PHAME) of the WHO Regional Office for Europe, which operates under the European policy framework Health 2020.

## Keywords

DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE – organization and administration

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HEALTH SERVICES NEEDS AND DEMAND

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## Contents

<b>Acknowledgments</b> .....	iv
<b>Contributors</b> .....	v
<b>Abbreviations</b> .....	vi
<b>Executive summary</b> .....	vii
<b>Introduction</b> .....	1
<i>Scope of the mission</i> .....	2
<i>Method</i> .....	2
<i>Site selection</i> .....	2
<b>Overall findings and recommendations</b> .....	3
<i>Type of emergency</i> .....	3
<i>Public health risk assessment</i> .....	3
<b>Leadership and governance</b> .....	4
<i>Findings</i> .....	4
<b>Health workforce, medical products, vaccines and technology</b> .....	6
<i>Findings</i> .....	6
<b>Health information</b> .....	8
<i>Findings</i> .....	8
<b>Health financing</b> .....	8
<i>Findings</i> .....	8
<b>Service delivery</b> .....	9
<i>Findings</i> .....	9
<b>Testing the assessment tool</b> .....	11
<i>Findings</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusions</b> .....	12
<i>Recommendations</i> .....	13
<i>Possible WHO collaboration</i> .....	13
<b>References</b> .....	13
<b>Annex 1. Programme of work of the mission</b> .....	15
<b>Annex 2. Government organizational structures</b> .....	16

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## Abbreviations

BNP	Basic National Plan
PHAME	Public Health Aspects of Migration in Europe
SNP	Specific National Plan
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNFICYP	United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

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