

War, Forced Displacement, and Lack of Healthcare in the Gaza Strip

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Abstract

Fighting and forced displacement are related to disability, mortality, and mental health illnesses. The current war in the Gaza Strip has resulted in children and adolescents leaving their academies and forced displacements into bomb shelters, parking bunches, and refugee structures. The trauma fears that Gaza children are facing possibly put enormous pressure on their physical and mental health, which may be borne throughout their lives. The slaughter of thousands of children is a comprehensive inhumanity. The sense of humanity in a battleground is to help relieve sorrow in the Gaza Strip, save lives and health, and provide consideration for human beings. All human activists hope for emergency aid to healthcare systems in the Gaza Strip. We call upon the UNICEF, WHO, and International Committee of the Red Cross to strengthen its struggles to accomplish humanitarian hospital visits, deliver medical help, and ensure contact with healthcare workers. We hope the entire international medical community will stand with hospitals in the Gaza Strip and criticize this invasion. Gaza, currently sorrowed from fighting, needs agencies with specialists, budgets, and supplies to equip them with necessities, social support, and suitable screening. Also, developing rehabilitation schedules with admirably educated specialists is necessary to supply the children with adequate coping strategies. Also, the media should recreate an intensive function in the battle period in generating schedules that support children adjusting to routine lives.

Keywords: War, Forced Displacement, Healthcare, Gaza Strip.

Introduction

Gaza Strip has faced several Israeli invasions for many years. Recently, the heavy bombing of people and healthcare systems in Gaza caused more than 14532 casualties and thousands of injured patients^{1, 2}.

The Palestinian Ministry of Health reported that the attacks on all hospitals and clinics in Gaza troubled medical and treatment aid for people. The critical requirements of Gaza hospitals comprise medical equipment, medicine, and fuel for power generators. For the past few days, the Israeli army has occupied hospitals with tanks and armored vehicles. Meanwhile, some children and people died in the ICU due to the lack of medical establishments, and the lives of dozens of other children are at risk. Officials report that all the hospitals and clinics in Gaza have been facing

shortages of medicine, medical equipment, and fuel due to the severe blockade and the lack of approval for carrying humanitarian aid to this area. Also, emergency non-communicable patients, such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, high blood pressure, and kidney failure, as well as gynecological and maternity cases, are at risk of dying because of the deficiency of medicine and bombing attacks. The growth in the rate of infectious and contagious illnesses because of unhealthy health circumstances and the deterioration of mental health following trauma is alarming and has been called the alarming limit. Infrastructure damage has severely hampered the entrance of emergency medical teams in the field. Officials reported that all hospital beds and operating rooms are occupied, and the war wounded cannot receive immediate treatment¹.

Nearly one million of the Gazan people are children and adolescents less than 18 years old. They were forced displacement from the north to the south of the Gaza Strip. Almost all Gazan children have likely been exposed to traumatic circumstances. War and forced displacement are particularly severe trauma because it affects the developmental processes, putting children and adolescents at risk of mortality, disability, developing anxiety, depression, and PTSD³⁻⁵.

Studies showed that fighting and forced displacement are related to disability, mortality, and mental health illnesses in children and adolescents. The current war in the Gaza Strip has resulted in children and adolescents leaving their academies and forced displacements into bomb shelters, parking bunches, and refugee structures. The trauma fears that Gaza children are facing possibly put enormous pressure on their physical and mental health, which may be borne throughout their lives³⁻⁶. The slaughter of thousands of children is a comprehensive inhumanity. The sense of humanity in a battleground is to help relieve sorrow in the Gaza Strip, save lives and health, and provide consideration for human beings. All human activists hope for emergency aid to healthcare systems in the Gaza Strip. We call upon the UNICEF, WHO, and International Committee of the Red Cross to strengthen its struggles to accomplish humanitarian hospital visits, deliver medical help, and ensure contact with healthcare workers. We hope the entire international medical community will stand with hospitals in the Gaza Strip and criticize this invasion. Gaza, currently sorrowed from fighting, needs agencies with specialists, budgets, and supplies to equip them with necessities, social support, and suitable screening. Also, developing rehabilitation schedules with admirably educated specialists is necessary to supply the children with adequate coping strategies. Also, the media should recreate an intensive function in the battle period in generating schedules that support children adjusting to routine lives.

We expect impartial, neutral, and independent international organizations such as UNICEF, WHO, and the International Committee of the Red Cross to act immediately without political views in the Gaza Strip conflict. Suppose the Israeli army attacks hospitals, clinics, and healthcare services or personnel in the Gaza Strip. The UNICEF, WHO, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the medical community, and organizations must perform serious actions such as condemning, sanctioning, and prosecuting to prevent further horrors and normalization of such invasions to healthcare systems.

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