



Euro-Med Monitor
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Geneva, 16 June 2019

Subject: Palestinians' right to health in the Gaza Strip is severely violated

Mr. Dainius PURAS, Special Rapporteur on the right to health
c/o Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights – Palais Wilson
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Your Excellency,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor. Palestinians in the Gaza Strip are facing a slow death, with the coastal enclave living the worst drug crisis ever.

Gaza patients are facing today a lack of the basic lists of drugs.

Perhaps there is no time to issue statements as Gaza patients are dying. Years of siege destroyed the health system in the Gaza Strip, where patients became the weakest target for the Israeli occupation. Some 52% of the basic drugs lists are missing from Gaza's hospitals, and all vital services received by patients will no longer be available very soon. **The ministry of health in the Gaza Strip pointed to the following:**

1. Because of this chronic crisis, hundreds of the children are still deprived of their milk, in addition to the suspension of treatment for cancer patients after the depletion of 62% of their specialized drugs counting 35 categories for about 8,000 patients
2. Patients and medical staff in dialysis departments are going through difficult time due to the lack of blood transfusion lines for children, which means depriving 40 children from receiving their hemodialysis sessions, which take place two to three times a week.
3. Shortage in Erythropoietin to treat chronic renal anemia, which will force 1150 patients of renal failure and renal transplantation to have continuous blood transfusion.
4. The inability of the primary care centers to provide 68% of treatment used for chronic cases as (diabetes and hypertension), in addition to the shortage of vitamins and supplements for pregnant women. Shortage of mental and neurological drugs and epilepsy treatment.

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The Euro-Med calls on your excellency to immediately intervene to stop this looming human catastrophe. The people of the Gaza Strip have a right to medical care, and they should not pay the price for political differences and policies adopted by various parties, especially the Israeli government.

We are looking forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely
Yousef Aljamal
Advocacy officer
Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor

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