Population Mobility and Health Crisis in Conflict Situation
“Kuwait Experience”

Dr Mohammad A. al-Sharhan
Director, Department of EMS, MOH
Chairman, Patients Helping Fund
Kuwait

Options:
- Health services for the people in their home land
- Health services for the people in their country of refuge
- Treatment of patients in the donor country
- Treatment of patients in a third country

Advantages
- Multiple health aspects
- More people will benefit
- Improves the health system:
  1. Improve the general health status
  2. New equipment
  3. Training of local staff
  4. Create job opportunities
Advantages

- Prevent or lower refugee situation
- For individual medical problems:
  1. No costly transportation
  2. No immigration procedures
  3. Respects family ties

Disadvantages

1. **Low security:**
   - Difficult delivery of donation
   - Difficult store keeping
   - Risk to the staff

2. **Limited Control:**
   - Donated medicine sold in the market
   - Improper distribution (politics)

Health Services For The People In Their Country Of Refuge

- Pakistan
- Sudan
- Jordan & Lebanon
- Azerbaijan

Advantages

- Local people will benefit from the refugee facilities
- Safer environment
Disadvantages

- Load on the health system
- Immigration difficulties
- Limited capacity of the health facilities
- Hidden cost of individual cases (!)
- Conflict with local people

Preparation for a Refugee Situation During the War in Iraq

- Site for a refugee camp
- Health manpower allocated
- Large tents for the dispensaries and a camp hospital prepared.
- Equipment and medicine prepared and budget allocated
- Coordination with other governmental and non-governmental agencies
- Coordination with international agencies
- Establishment of Humanitarian Operations Center (HOC)

Proposed Refugee Camp

Treatment of Patients in the Donor Country

Afghan
Bosnians
Lebanese
Palestinians
Iraqis


**Advantages**

- Good health system exists
- Safe environment
- Free

**Disadvantage**

- Away from Family

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**Treatment of Patients in a Third Country**

- Iraqis in UK and Jordan
- Palestinians in Jordan

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**Advantages**

- Specialty medical care
- Easy access
- Close culture & language
- Good alternative for (2)
Disadvantages

- Monitoring may not be feasible
- Not a comprehensive system
- Only selective cases

Kuwait Refugee Experience During the Iraqi Invasion

- Unique:
  1. Almost half the population
  2. Refugees of a rich peaceful country
  3. People and Government
- Good accommodation (no camp situation)
- Good health coverage
- Choosing the country of refuge
- Good treatment by host countries
- No burden on the health system of the host countries
- No burden on IOM or UNHCR

Thank you
Merci
Gracias

Health and Migration – Kuwait Experience
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