Medical evacuation of Gaza patients

Oct 2023 - 30 Oct 2025

World Health Organization
occupied Palestinian territory

Timeline of medical evacuation

7987 Patients evacuated (7 Oct 2023 - 29 Sep 2025)
including 5533 children

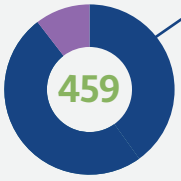
7 Oct 23 - 6 May 24 (Pre Rafah crossing closure)

5000 Total patients evacuated

4034 Children

7 May 24 - 18 Jan 25

Via Kerem Shalom due to Rafah crossing closure

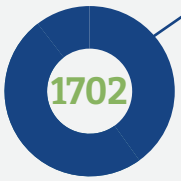


411 (90%) Patients evacuated by WHO support

227 Children

48 Outside of WHO support

19 Jan - 17 Mar 25 (Ceasefire period)



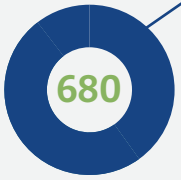
1702 (100%) Patients evacuated by WHO support

606 Children

1673 via Rafah crossing

29 via Kerem Shalom

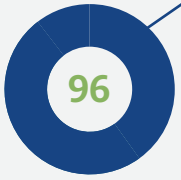
18 Mar - 12 Oct 25 (Resumption of hostilities)



680 (100%) Patients evacuated by WHO support

494 Children

13 Oct - 30 Oct 25 (Ongoing ceasefire)



146 (100%) Patients evacuated by WHO support

128 Children

Over 16 500 patients still need medical evacuation outside the Gaza Strip.

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Top five medical needs evacuated since 7 May 2024

- **830** trauma
- **746** oncology
- **267** ophthalmology
- **259** congenital anomalies
- **246** cardiovascular diseases

Top ten referral destinations since October 2023

3790	Egypt
1519	United Arab Emirates
970	Qatar
442	Turkey
513	EU countries
333	Jordan
136	Algeria
73	Tunisia
56	Oman
48	USA



WHO recommendations:

- Increase Member States' acceptance of patients from the Gaza Strip.
- Restore the medical corridor to the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.
- Increase corridors for medical evacuation through Egypt and Jordan.
- Scale-up of medical evacuations up to 50 patients per day plus companions, in line with the previous ceasefire .

Pathway for patient evacuation for medical treatment outside of Gaza

Severely ill or injured patients needing lifesaving, specialized care unavailable in Gaza can be medically evacuated.
The process is supported by the World Health Organization (WHO), in coordination with various stakeholders and health partners.

1. A medical doctor or specialist in Gaza examines the patient and if needed, issues a referral form for treatment abroad.
2. The patient submits the medical referral form through the patient services desk at the treating public hospital.
3. The hospital sends the referral form to the Referral Committee.
4. The Referral Committee reviews the case, decides the priority and approves the case for medical evacuation.
5. The Referral Committee shares the approved patients list with WHO.
6. WHO contacts patients to ensure that their medical information and documentation is complete.
7. WHO submits patient lists to countries that may be open to receiving patients.
8. The list of patients and their companions, approved for medical evacuation by host countries, is sent to the Israeli authorities for security clearance.
9. Following security clearance, patients are contacted by WHO to facilitate their medical evacuation in coordination with the host country.
10. WHO negotiates date for medical evacuation with receiving countries and Israeli authorities.
11. WHO manages safe transfers of patients from north to south Gaza, including overnight stay and medical care at collection points.
12. WHO assembles patients already in the south at the field hospital on the day of evacuation.
13. WHO transports patients to Kerem Shalom, where additional security clearance is carried out by the Israeli authorities.
14. Patients are transferred to buses and ambulances arranged by WHO at Kerem Shalom for onward movement to Ramon Airport or the Allenby Bridge.



Before October 2023 between 50-100 patients were exiting the Gaza Strip daily for medical treatment.