



occupied Palestinian territory

GENERAL INFORMATION

The occupied Palestinian territory has an approximate area of 6 thousand square kilometers (UNO, 2008). The population is 4,409,392 and the sex ratio (men per hundred women) is 103 (UNO, 2009). The proportion of the population under the age of 18 years is 55% and the proportion above age 60 is 3% (UNO, 2009). The literacy rate is 99% for men and for women (UN Statistics, 2008). The life expectancy at birth is 71 years for males and 74 years for females (UNO, 2005-2010). The healthy life expectancy at birth is years for males and 74 years for females (UNPD, 2010). It is in the lower middle income group (based on 2010 World Bank criteria). The total expenditure on health as a percentage of gross domestic product and the per capita government expenditure on health (PPP int. \$) is not known. Information regarding the suicide and the global burden of disease of neuropsychiatric disorders is unavailable.

GOVERNANCE

An officially approved mental health policy does not exist. However, mental health is specifically mentioned in the general health policy.

A mental health plan exists and was approved or most recently revised in 2010. The mental health plan components include:

- Timelines for the implementation of the mental health plan.
- Shift of services and resources from mental hospitals to community mental health facilities.
- Integration of mental health services into primary care.

Dedicated mental health legislation does not exist. However, legal provisions concerning mental health are covered in other laws (e.g., welfare, disability, general health legislation etc.).

FINANCING

Mental health and mental hospital expenditures by the government health department/ministry are not available.

MENTAL HEALTH CARE DELIVERY

Primary Care

Prescription regulations do not authorize primary doctors to prescribe psychotherapeutic medicines. Similarly, the department of health does not authorize primary health care nurses to prescribe and/or to continue prescription of psychotherapeutic medicines. Official policy also does not permit primary health care nurses to independently diagnose and treat mental disorders within the primary care system.

The majority of primary health care doctors and nurses have not received official in-service training on mental health within the last five years. Officially approved manuals on the management and treatment of mental disorders are not available in the majority of primary health care clinics. Official referral procedures for referring persons from primary care to secondary/tertiary care exist as do referral procedures from tertiary/secondary to primary care.

Mental Health Services

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

Availability of mental health facilities

	Total number of facilities/beds	Rate per 100,000 population	Number of facilities/beds reserved for children and adolescents only	Rate per 100,000 population
Mental health outpatient facilities	18	0.41	1	0.02
Day treatment facilities	7	0.16	UN	UN
Psychiatric beds in general hospitals	20	0.45	UN	UN
Community residential facilities	0	0.0	NA	NA
Beds/places in community residential facilities	0	0.0	NA	NA
Mental hospitals	2	0.05	UN	UN
Beds in mental hospitals	231	5.24	UN	UN

Access to care

	Rates per 100,000 population)	Females (%)	Under age 18 (%)
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	3390.72	UN	UN
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	UN	UN	UN
Admissions to psychiatric beds in general hospitals	7.12	UN	UN
Persons staying in community residential facilities at the end of the year	UN	UN	UN
Admissions to mental hospitals	11.95	UN	UN

Long term care in mental hospitals (% of persons staying):

Less than 1 year	UN
More than 1 and less than 5 years	UN
More than 5 years	UN

HUMAN RESOURCES

Workforce and training

	Health professionals working in the mental health sector Rate per 100,000	Training of health professions in educational institutions Rate per 100,000
Psychiatrists	0.82	0.05
Medical doctors, not specialized in psychiatry	0.25	0.98
Nurses	3.31	7.08
Psychologists	0.34	2.04
Social workers	0.50	4.88
Occupational therapists	0.20	0.66
Other health workers	UN	NA

Informal human resources (Family and User Associations)

	User	Family
Present in the country/region?	No	Yes
Number of members	UN	UN
Participation in the formulation/implementation of policy/plan/legislation?	NA	not routinely

MEDICINES

Expenditures for medicines for mental and behavioral disorders

Type of Medicines	Expenditures per year and per 100,000 population (in USD)
All the psychotherapeutic medicines ¹	UN
Medicines used for bipolar disorders ²	UN
Medicines for psychotic disorders ³	UN
Medicines used for general anxiety ⁴	UN
Medicines used for mood disorders ⁵	UN

¹ N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

² N03AG01, N05A, N05B, N05C, N06A

³ N05A (excluding N05AN)

⁴ N05B & N05C

⁵ N06A

Data collected in 2011

UN = information unavailable, NA = item not applicable

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

	Data on number of people/ activities are collected and reported	Data on age and gender are collected and reported	Data on patient's diagnosis are collected and reported
Persons with mental disorders treated in primary health care	Yes	Yes	Yes
Interventions (psychopharmacological and psychosocial) delivered in primary health care for people with mental disorders	No	No	No
Persons treated in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Contacts in mental health outpatient facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Persons treated in mental health day treatment facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admissions in general hospitals with psychiatric beds	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admissions in mental hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Days spent in mental hospitals	Yes	Yes	Yes
Admissions in community residential facilities	NA	NA	NA

Note: Mental health data (either on the public system, private system, or both) have been compiled for general health statistics in the last three years, but not in a specific mental health report.

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