



lebanon-support.org

**The Second Health Cluster Meeting in Shatila
- July 11th, 2007 -**

Lebanon-support held its second Health Cluster meeting at CYC in Shatila, in order to support the coordination process among actors, in terms of exchanging data and identifying needs.

The PRCS

On the light of the previous meeting, Dr Aouni SAAD (PRCS) has clearly spoken about the services provided by the PRCS at the health level and which can be resumed by the following:

- 1- The patient is fully covered by the UNRWA; he receives all his medications except for those unavailable at the PRCS.
- 2- Delivering the medications that must be taken by the patient, yet unavailable at the PRCS.
- 3- All patients transferred from the UNRWA must pay minimum assurance fees for the registration and transfer processes, in order not to increase the number of unregistered patients.
- 4- The PRCS offers preventive medical services in Shatila, Burj El Barajneh and Mar Elias camps.

In addition, Dr Aouni SAAD tackled the pending issues between the PRCS staff and the patients, asking the Community based associations to launch awareness campaigns in order to inform the Palestinian community of the PRCS limited capacities on one hand, and the rules to be taken into consideration while providing some medications and other medical services, on the other hand.

Cases not covered by the PRCS:

- 1- Babies hemorrhage
- 2- Cancer
- 3- Brain hemorrhage
- 4- Coma
- 5- Chronic diseases medications

It is to be noted that all cases which are not covered by the PRCS are being transferred by the UNRWA to Beirut Governmental Hospital, the AUH or Al Sahel Hospital where the UNRWA is paying the fees of one bed for a period of three days (renewable upon UNRWA approval).

As of July 7th, 2007, the UNRWA started to cover all patients who have entered the hospital as emergency cases.

UNRWA sees a great dysfunction in the relationship between the patients and the PRCS staff, and thinks that PRCS staff shall be aware of what can and cannot be offered to people in matter of assistance.

Cases that are not covered by the UNRWA:

- Cases caused by a third party, such as gun shots and car accidents.

Nahr El Bared Relief Campaign

The said campaign owns an important budget just for medicines and medications, but it prefers to use its money in the relief of Beddawi population, and to consequently prevent the chaotic situation prevailing in Shatila camp (the campaign in Shatila is not able to identify a lot of medical prescriptions transferred by either the UNRWA or the PRCS).

It is to be known that Nahr El Bared campaign receives assistance from a lot of contributors, as well as from the American University of Beirut.

In the same context, Nahr El Bared campaign and the PRCS have agreed on holding a joint meeting and discussing over an effective coordination mechanism, as well as they suggested to put the UNRWA clinics and storehouses at the campaign's disposal.

The CYC

The CYC considered that the present meetings will not be effective unless the donors were attending same.

Moreover, the CYC thought that poor people shall be given priority in terms of medications distribution, and that medicines for chronic diseases are urgently needed.

For that matter, the center suggested to set a mechanism for checking on health bills and medications.

The Palestinian Women Humanitarian Organization

The said organization has delivered some medications to a MD working inside Burj El Barajneh camp.