



## SYRIA GENERAL HUMANITARIAN SITUATION UPDATE<sup>[1]</sup>

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### ● **Conflict & Access**

The hostilities in the Tartous, Latakia, Homs, and Hama governorates of Syria in early March continue to displace families into the North and Akkar governorates of north Lebanon reaching now nearly 30,000 individuals.

### ● **Displacement & Returns**

As of 3 April 2025, UNHCR estimates that over 1.4 million Syrians have returned including 372,550 Syrians returning from abroad and 1.05 million IDPs who have returned to their communities. There remain an estimated 674,000 IDPs in Syria.

### ● **Changes in Government**

On March 29, Syrian interim President Ahmad al-Sharaa announced the formation of a new government, emphasizing unity to rebuild the state. Key priorities include combating corruption, revitalizing institutions, strengthening the economy, and attracting Syrian professionals. A Ministry of Emergency and Disaster Management was established to enhance crisis response.

<sup>1</sup> (UNHCR)

[reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/unhcr-regional-flash-update-21-syria-situation-crisis-3-april-2025](https://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/unhcr-regional-flash-update-21-syria-situation-crisis-3-april-2025)



## WHO (WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION) HIGHLIGHTS IN SYRIA DURING MARCH 2025<sup>[2]</sup>

- On World Health Day, themed "My Health, My Right," WHO Syria, the Ministry of Health, and health partners reiterated their commitment to Universal Health Coverage by working to make Syria's health system more resilient, accessible, and high-quality—ensuring care for all, regardless of financial status.
- During the 8th Senior Officials Meeting in Brussels on April 17, WHO's Dr. Rick Brennan and Dr. Iman Shankiti warned of Syria's worsening health crisis, citing rising needs, shrinking funding, and system fragility. They called for flexible, sustained funding to support early recovery, maintain essential services, and protect Syrians' right to health.
- Please have a look at the following key figures for all health interventions by all health actors in Syria during March 2025, in addition to the top four morbidities reported.

### Top four morbidities reported by Early Warning Alert and Response System (EWARS & EWARN)

Influenza-like illness (ILI)

**192,029 (68%)**

Acute Diarrhea (AD)

**76,057 (27%)**

Acute Jaundice Syndrome (AJS)

**3,551 (1%)**

Leishmania

**5,738 (2%)**

### Key figures

**563,330**

Treatment courses provided



**2,140**

Trauma cases delivered



**2,656**

Healthcare providers trained



**38,714**

Outpatient consultations provided



**59,76**

Tonnes of health supplies delivered



**88%**

of sentinel sites submitted weekly disease surveillance reports



**85%**

of disease alerts were responded to within 72 hours



## SAMS SYRIA RESPONSE & ACHIEVEMENTS

### MARCH 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

#### Damascus National Office (SAMS Syria Country Office)

SAMS newly-opened Damascus National Office is increasing its capacity over a transition period and will serve as the central hub for overseeing all SAMS projects across Syria's subnational regions, in coordination with SAMS Türkiye and SAMS Iraq offices.

Key developments in SAMS' national response include:

- The final report on Syria's health priorities and national needs assessment—jointly conducted by SAMS and health sector partners—has been endorsed by the Ministry of Health (MoH), and publicly released. Access the report here: [SAMS Syria Health Sector](#)
- SAMS secured \$1 million to procure urgently needed medical consumables. In coordination with the MoH, these supplies have been procured and are being prepared for distribution to the most underserved health facilities across the country.
- SAMS shipped 20 dialysis machines from the U.S. to Turkey and, following MoH priorities, is now being prepared for distribution to key dialysis units across Syria.
- SAMS also delivered a new shipment of essential medications and supplies from the U.S. to Turkey and is currently distributing them to high-need health facilities in Syria, in coordination with the MoH.
- SAMS participated in the national technical assessment of the kidney program in Damascus, Reef Damascus, Daraa, and Latakia under the umbrella of MoH.





## SOUTH SUBNATIONAL OFFICES UPDATES

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### Damascus & Southern Syria

#### ● DAMASCUS & DAMASCUS SUBURBS

- March Medical mission activities began in March at university hospitals, generating a notably positive impact. Further details are provided in the Medical Missions section of this report.
- The MRI machine in the public pediatric hospital in Damascus has been maintained and reactivated by SAMS.

#### ● DARAA

- SAMS delivered a second round of rapid emergency response support to the National Hospital in Daraa, including essential medications and medical consumables.
- Additionally, SAMS is planning to establish an Oncology Medication Treatment Center in Daraa. The full design is currently under development, and funding opportunities are actively being explored.

## Northern Syria: Aleppo and Idlib

### ● ALEPPO CITY

#### **SAMS Supported Hospitals**

Emirati Hospital – Hematology and Oncology Center

- Continued full operations, providing blood transfusions, thalassemia follow-up, radiology/lab diagnostics, chemotherapy, and other outpatient services.
- Visiting oncologists delivered educational lectures for medical residents.
- New medical documentation system launched to improve tracking and compliance.
- Internal upgrades: activated phone system, delivered critical pathology consumables.
- Staff incentives fully disbursed per SAMS policies by project accountant.

#### **Omar Bin Abdulaziz Hospital – Building Rehabilitation Project**

- SAMS partner Noor Al-Hayat continued the renovation efforts continued steadily throughout March including completed sewage system repairs and installed epoxy flooring, ongoing painting and maintenance of the oxygen generator, initiating rehabilitation of the new parking area and scheduled installation of a solar power system.
- Following completion of renovations, SAMS plans to support the facility to provide ER, IM, Peds, OB/GYN, general surgery, dialysis, imaging, Ophthalmology, cardiology, KICU, and laboratory services.

#### **SAMS Interventions at Aleppo University Hospital**

- SAMS held a coordination meeting in Aleppo with the Head of the Gastroenterology Department and the SAMS Gastroenterology Committee.
- Focused on evaluating the department's current status, setting priorities for service improvements, and developing an action plan for enhancing service quality and ensuring ongoing training for residents and specialists.



### Services Summary in Al-Emarati Hospital in Aleppo city

MARCH 2025



#### Radiology

### 252 total

US: 158 | CT: 87 | Mammo: 8 | X-ray: 0



#### Oncology/Hematology

### Consults

### 2,016

Oncology: 1,643 | Hematology: 302 | Hemophilia: 71



#### Pathology

### 15 cases

Biopsies: 14 | Consults: 1 | Fluids/Smears: 0



#### Surgical Oncology

### 60 cases

Age <35: 9 | 35-50: 26 | >50: 25



#### Admissions

Oncology: 94 | Hematology: 38 | Hemophilia: 3 | Referrals: 30



#### Lab Services

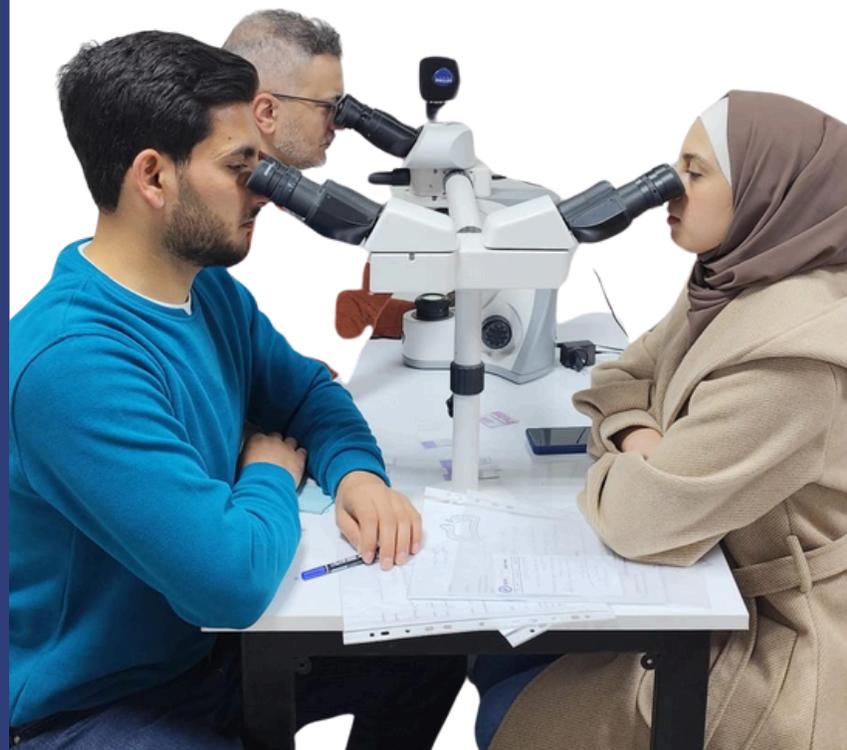
### 972 patients

Thalassemia Unit: 610 patients | 776 lab tests | 455 transfusions

Total services provided in  
March 2025  
**2,344**

#### ● IDLIB

- SAMS continues to manage 20 health facilities across Idlib Governorate, all fully operational as of March 2025.
- Two main general hospitals and five comprehensive primary healthcare centers face closure risk by July 2025 due to funding reductions.
- SAMS is actively identifying and mobilizing new funding sources to sustain these critical health facilities and prevent service disruptions.
- Please refer to the following tables which illustrates the health services SAMS is providing in Idlib.



### SAMS Health Facilities - Idlib Governorate

Facility Name   Hospitals	Health Services Provided
Idlib National Hospital (Avicenna)	General PHC, RH, Diagnostics, Pharmacy, ER, Nutrition, laboratory, Pediatrics, NICU, PICU, Cardiac Pediatrics
Idlib Central Hospital	General surgery, Maxillofacial surgery, Orthopedic surgery, Gastrointestinal, ENT, Pediatric surgery, Plastic surgery, Anesthesia, Vascular surgery, Urinary, ER, Pharmacy, Radiology, Laboratory, Oncology
Ma'aret Mesrin Hospital	General PHC, Pharmacy, Diagnostics, ER, IPD, OPD (Endocrinology, Internal Medicine), Referrals
Idlib Maternity Specialized Hospital	CEmONC, P/NICU, MHPSS, Diagnostics, Pharmacy, Nutrition, RH, ER
Qah Maternity Hospital	CEmONC, P/NICU, MHPSS, Diagnostics, Pharmacy, Nutrition, RH, Pediatrics, ER
Al Dana Hospital	CEmONC, P/NICU, MHPSS, Diagnostics, Pharmacy, Nutrition, RH, Pediatrics, ER
Oncology and Hematology Center	Oncology center in Idlib central Hospital
Al Zira'a Hospital	IPD, OPD (various specializations), Diagnostics (inc. CT Scan), ER, ICU, Pharmacy, Cardiac Catheterization Services (Diagnostic and therapeutic)
Salqin Hospital	A specialized Internal Medicine Hospital , including: IPD, OPD (various specializations), Diagnostics (inc. CT Scan), ER, ICU, CHW, Safe Space (GBV/MHPSS), Pharmacy
SAMS Ambulance System	Patient Transportation and Referral System

### Primary Health Centers (PHC) & Mobile Clinic

Kafr Diryan PHC	General PHC, RH, Diagnostics, Pharmacy, ER
Hazzano PHC	Pediatric, Internal medicine, Gynecology (midwife), Dental, Lab, Pharmacy, CHWs, NCD clinic, Nutrition, CHW
Sarmin PHC	General PHC, RH, Diagnostics, Pharmacy, ER
Qah PHC	General PHC, RH, Diagnostics, Pharmacy, ER
Kurin PHC	General PHC, RH, Diagnostics, Pharmacy, ER
Kafr Iosien PHC	General PHC, RH, Diagnostics, Pharmacy, ER
Selwa PHC	General PHC, RH, Diagnostics, Pharmacy, ER
Hazzano Mobile Clinic	CHW, Pharmacy, and Basic PHC services

### Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) Center & Physical Rehabilitation Center

Alnafs Almotmaenna MHPSS Center	MHPSS outpatient
Termanin Rehabilitation Center	Physical therapy consultations & sessions, assistive devices provision

## Central Syria: Homs & Hama

### ● HOMS

#### **Al-Birr Hospital:**

- SAMS is establishing a long-term partnership with Al-Birr Hospital in Homs, supported by needs assessment and fundraising by healthcare providers originally from the city and familiar with the local communities and capacities.
- Partnership will reactivate or introduce critical departments (cardiovascular surgery, cardiac catheterization, stroke unit, pathology lab) and support medical education and training.
- SAMS and the partner charity are developing a sustainability model that facilitates equitable delivery of services, maintenance of equipment and continuity of adequate medical supplies.

#### **Hama-MCH Neonatal Unit**

- In coordination with SAMS, a group of healthcare providers in the US originally from the city and familiar with the local communities and capacities, are working to secure donations to enhance neonatal care in Hama city, focusing on equipment procurement, capacity building, teaching rounds, case discussions, online lectures, and ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

## Coastal Syria: Latakia and Tartus

SAMS implemented a health need assessment in Latakia and Tartus, and according to it SAMS started intervening in both governorates as following:

### ● LATAKIA

- SAMS is maintaining dialysis machines across multiple units in Latakia, with a focus on water treatment systems.
- Latakia University is preparing to host its scientific conference, fully sponsored by SAMS and under the patronage of the Ministry of Higher Education and MoH.
- SAMS upgraded the seminar hall at the university's Faculty of Medicine, installing a high-resolution data projector, high-quality audio equipment, and two air conditioning units.
- A comprehensive assessment is underway to identify equipment and material needs in all hospital laboratories in Latakia, following a \$100,000 donation from Syrian SAMS members in the U.S.
- Multiple times distributing medical supplies to multiple HFs in Latakia.
- Multiple internal Medical Missions to support the different available HFs in Latakia during the military escalation happened in the coastal area.

### ● TARTUS

- During the recent coastal clashes, SAMS sent emergency fuel resources to a local hospital to allow for continued functionality as a result of the clashes. Following the clashes, SAMS also sent an emergency medical mission, including medical personnel and healthcare supplies, to support local responding medical staff and support care for the injured.
- SAMS' response to the area remains ongoing -- all of which entails extensive and rapid coordination.

## Eastern Syria: Deir Ez-Zor, Al Bukamal, Ar-Raqqa, Al-Hasakah

SAMS has fully established and equipped its operational office in Deir Ez-Zor to coordinate and oversee healthcare interventions across the governorate. The office, along with its adjoining guesthouse, has been furnished to support efficient field operations. Through this hub, SAMS is driving health system strengthening efforts by managing health facility rehabilitation, ensuring the delivery of essential medicines, and sustaining key services at strategic locations.

### ● DEIR EZ-ZOR CITY AND ALBUKAMAL

- SAMS restored life-saving healthcare across Eastern Syria, focusing on facility rehabilitation, staff mobilization, and medical supply delivery, despite logistical and staffing challenges.
- Al Bukamal PHC served 768 patients following full rehabilitation and supply distribution.
- Al-Mayadeen Hospital provided care to 1,642 patients.
- The National Hospital Hemodialysis Unit treated 128 individuals with kidney failure.
- The Blood Bank supported 234 patients after the full installation of essential equipment and supplies.
- The Maternity and Children's Hospital served 786 patients, including 238 normal deliveries and 410 pediatric and gynecological consultations.
- Al-Madina Hospital delivered 3,445 essential services including outpatient, inpatient, ICU, emergency, and diagnostic care.
- Hreji PHC provided 483 patients with comprehensive care, including reproductive health consultations, malnutrition screenings, and access to essential medicines.
- **Total services provided in March 2025: 7,486**

## ● AR-RAQQA

- In March 2025, SAMS conducted a rapid assessment of mental health needs for men aged 18-30 in Deir Ez-Zor and Ar-Raqqa, completing 598 surveys, 28 focus group discussions, and 8 key informant interviews in urban and rural areas.
- 99.5% of participants in Ar-Raqqa and 90% in Deir Ez-Zor reported mental health symptoms (anxiety, stress, fatigue, depression).
- Results highlight the urgent need for early detection and community-based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services, with targeted outreach to young men.
- SAMS initiated phase two of the MHPSS program, launching MHPSS interventions, hiring psychologists and MHPSS workers to provide tailored support and strengthen community resilience across both governorates.

## ● AL-HASAKAH

SAMS continues to strengthen the primary healthcare system in Al-Hasakah through sustained support to two key health facilities:

- Al-Qahtaniyah PHC served 782 patients offering comprehensive services including reproductive and gynecological care, and access to essential medications.
- Assyrian PHC remains fully operational, providing uninterrupted healthcare services to 96 patients.
- **Total services provided in March 2025: 878**



## SAMS MEDICAL MISSIONS (MMS)

Following the liberation, SAMS continued to host medical missions to support hospitals across various provinces in Syria. In March, a team of 16 volunteer physicians arrived, representing a diverse range of specialities- including retinal surgery, interventional cardiology, cardiovascular surgery, OBGYN, oncology, neonatology, and pediatrics. The team provided essential medical services, from consultations to advanced medical interventions and surgeries, for patients across 21 health facilities in Damascus, Aleppo, and Idlib. In addition to delivering clinical care, the mission strengthened the skills and capacities of local medical staff through targeted educational activities and hands-on training.

## MEDICAL ACTIVITIES UNDER MMS

A total of **621 medical consultations** were provided across various specialties, alongside **97 surgical and interventional procedures**. Notable interventions included **9 vitrectomies**, a complex tumor excision, and **10 vascular procedures**, such as arteriovenous fistula closure and superficial femoral artery angioplasty with stent placement. In addition, **33 cardiac catheterizations**, along with **37 gynecological surgeries**, including advanced laparoscopic procedures for uterine fibroids, myomas, and hysterectomy, among others. These procedures provided local medical staff with valuable on-site experience in advanced techniques and case management.

**621** medical consultations 

**97** surgical and interventional procedures 



### Interventional Cardiology

Consultations: 52  
Catheterizations: 33



### Peripheral vascular

Consultations: 55  
Catheterizations: 10



### Ophthalmology/Retina

Consultations: 27  
Minor surgery: 1  
Vitrectomy: 9



### Oncology Hematology

Consultations: 88



### Oncology surgery

Consultations: 6  
Surgeries: 1



### Pathology

Consultations: 23



### Nephrology

Consultations: 13  
Procedures: 4



### Obstetrics and Gynecology

Consultations: 54  
Procedures/Surgeries: 37



### Internal Medicine

Consultations: 75  
Procedures: 2



### Pediatrics

Consultations: 211



### Neonatology

Consultations: 17

## MEDICAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES UNDER MMS

SAMS placed strong emphasis on capacity building through a series of structured and impactful medical education initiatives—comprising 23 sessions and reaching a total of 916 trainees—designed to transfer practical skills and up-to-date knowledge to local healthcare providers. Including:



**3 Hands-On Training Workshops:** combining theoretical instruction with practical application using mannequins and guided practice under expert supervision.



**3 Crash Courses:** each focusing on a single specialty and tailored to specific target groups.



**11 specialized training lectures** were provided across multiple disciplines, targeting physicians, residents, and fellows.



## SAMS SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

A two-day scientific conference was organized—one day in Idlib and the other in Aleppo—featuring 14 educational lectures delivered by a distinguished group of physicians. The conference highlighted the latest developments in various medical fields and reached a broad audience, including medical students. The total number of attendees reached 300 participants. These conferences and scientific events played a key role in strengthening professional networks, fostering collaboration, and facilitating the exchange of medical expertise among healthcare professionals.

### Medical Education & Training

	<b>SAMS Scientific Conference</b>		Sessions: 4 Trainees: 300
	<b>Crash Courses (3 Trainings)</b>	Retina, Peripheral vascular, key Techniques in TEVAR & EVAR	Sessions: 8 Trainees: 181
	<b>Hands-on Trainings</b>	Neonatal resuscitation, Peds resuscitation, Fetal malformations	Sessions: 3 Trainees: 60
	<b>On-Site Trainings</b>	Interventional cardiology, Peripheral vascular, Ophthalmology, Nephrology, Pathology, Internal Medicine, and Oncology surgery	Sessions: 11 Trainees: 86
	<b>Medical Educational Lectures</b>	Oncology, Nephrology, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology	Sessions: 11, Trainees: 289

## SAMS MEDICAL EDUCATION (ME) UPDATES

### ● SAMS Medical Technical Institute

Twenty female nurses completed their 18 months additional training at the Midwifery Program at the SAMS Medical Technical Institute. This included theoretical lectures, practical sessions, and clinical rotations based on an approved curriculum, and successful passing all required exams. The graduation ceremony will take place on April 20, 2025.

### ● GME (Graduates Medical Education)

Thirty-six physicians are currently under training across 14 residency and fellowship programs, including one physician in the radiation oncology residency program at the King Hussein Cancer Center in Jordan,. Two fellows in the adult intensive care program successfully graduated after completing their training and passing the final exam. In March, SAMS faculty members delivered 15 scientific lectures as part of the residency and fellowship programs, alongside clinical case discussion sessions and daily patient rounds.

### ● CME (Continuing Medical Education)

As part of the Continuing Medical Education program, SAMS delivered 20 scientific lectures across five specialties, including hematology, oncology, cardiology, neurology, and pediatrics. This initiative aims to build the capacity of medical staff in Syria, under the supervision of SAMS Institute and its diverse access to groups of Syrian specialists based abroad.

### ● Medical Simulation Lab. center (The Sim Lab)

SAMS conducted BLS and ACLS training for 12 intensive care unit physicians from Hama National Hospital at the Simulation Center in Qah, as part of its ongoing capacity-building plan for medical staff in Syria.

### ● AQL (Advanced Quality Learning) in MHPSS Project ( Ar-Raqqa)

SAMS finalized and shared the grades of 25 PSS students with Al-Sharq University (ASU), in addition to celebrating the graduation of 12 psychiatric nurses in February. The second semester of the Clinical Psychology practicum commenced, engaging nine students in hands-on training. SAMS also began preparations for a six-month work placement program for 10 psychiatric nursing graduates by holding coordination meetings with the Raqqa Directorate of Health and NESMA at Al-Madinah Hospital.





**SAMS**

## **SYRIA**

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