

COVID-19 AND YEMEN

WHAT IS GOING ON IN YEMEN?



The conditions in Yemen put the country in a vulnerable position when it comes to tackling coronavirus. The on-going war in Yemen has resulted in the world's worst humanitarian crisis with 80% of the population depending on aid to survive with many on the brink of starvation.

LACK OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES

In Yemen, many patients are being turned away from treatment due to the lack of protective gear by hospital staff. Additionally, many hospitals are unable to treat seriously vulnerable patients due to the lack of ventilators and equipment.



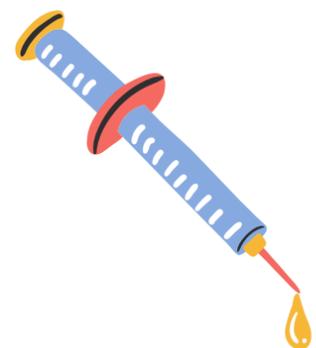
COLLAPSING HEALTH SYSTEM



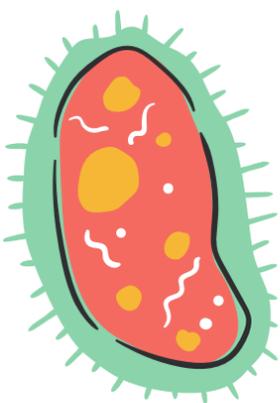
Due to the on-going war in Yemen, 3,500 medical facilities have been damaged or destroyed due to airstrikes and only half are thought to be fully functioning. Clinics have been reported to be overcrowded and basic medical supplies are being blockaded and prevented from entering the country.

MEDICS THEMSELVES ARE VULNERABLE

Due to the lack of protective gear by hospital staff, dozens of medics in the area have died as a result of this disease. The scarcity of masks and gowns puts medics in a vulnerable position in terms of treating patients and it's contraction by hospital staff makes the virus much harder to contain.



THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF CASES OF CORONAVIRUS IS UNKNOWN



Without accurate contact tracing and available testing centers, it becomes increasingly more difficult to prevent its spread or plan the number of patients that will be expected to contract the disease. The UN says that due to these conditions, the actual number of coronavirus cases is likely much higher than being reported by government officials.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

As of right now, there are many non-profit organizations that are seeking donations to help tackle both the on-going humanitarian crisis in Yemen and the coronavirus pandemic, such as the Yemen Hope and Relief. In doing so, this helps provide hospital staff in the area obtain proper PPE, medical supplies and other necessities that help contain the spread of the virus. Visit their website for more information!



SOURCES:

- [HTTPS://WWW.BBC.COM/NEWS/WORLD-MIDDLE-EAST-53106164](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-53106164)
- [HTTPS://WWW.BROOKINGS.EDU/BLOG/FUTURE-DEVELOPMENT/2020/06/15/YEMEN-AND-COVID-19-THE-PANDEMIC-EXACTS-ITS-DEVASTATING-TOLL/](https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2020/06/15/yemen-and-covid-19-the-pandemic-exacts-its-devastating-toll/)

WEBINAR DATE: OCTOBER 17TH

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