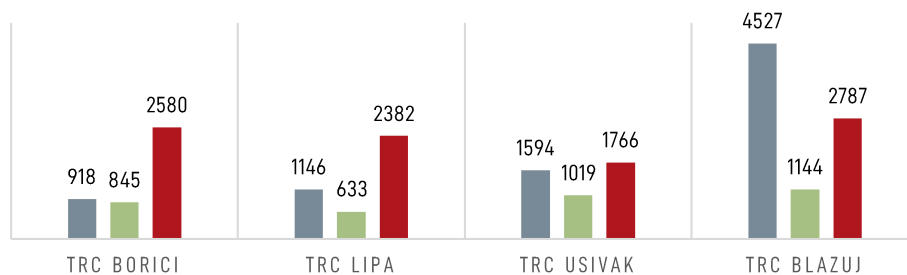


1. KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MONTHLY TRENDS

- ❖ DRC has ensured **8.185 medical examinations** and **3.641 medical interventions** in August 2022. Alongside this, there were **9.515 PoCs medically attended directly by DRC staff** inside TRCs in Bosnia & Herzegovina. Moreover, DRC facilitated 2.028 pediatric examinations & interventions within two pediatric units in TRCs Usivak and Borici.
- ❖ DRC has facilitated **49 referrals towards PHCs** and **77 referrals towards SHCs** for specialized healthcare and diagnostics. Moreover, **7 PoCs were hospitalized** in healthcare facilities.
- ❖ As a part of DRCs COVID-19 response, **PHC medical teams performed 4.825 medical screenings** in four reception centers. Furthermore, **720 PoCs were tested for COVID-19 using Rapid Antigen tests**, out of which 11 came back positive. No beneficiaries were tested for COVID-19 using the PCR test.

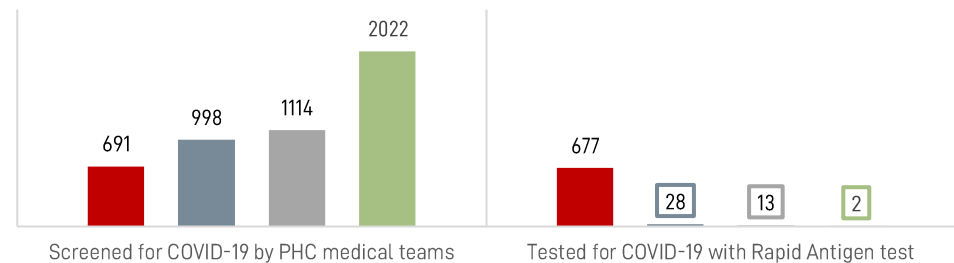
DRCs HEALTH RESPONSE INSIDE TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTERS

■ Medical Examinations ■ Medical Interventions ■ Medically Attended

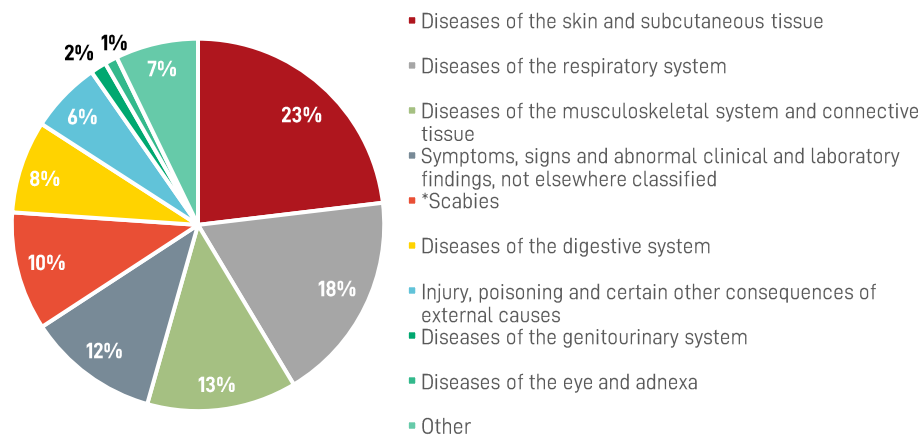


DRCs COVID-19 RESPONSE INSIDE TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTERS

■ TRC Borici ■ TRC Lipa ■ TRC Usivak ■ TRC Blazuj



CLASSIFICATION OF MOST FREQUENT DISEASES AND HEALTH RELATED PROBLEMS



OBSERVATIONS

- 🏥 Number of medical examinations have increased in 75% in comparison to July 2022, which corresponds to higher number of PoCs residing inside the centers, as well higher number of newly arrived PoCs to the country. There is a subsequent incidence increase across all morbidities
- 🏥 However, highest incidence increase was recorded for Scabies, of up to 220% in comparison to July 2022, contrary to expected seasonal decrease of scabies cases during summer months. Additionally, incidence of skin diseases has increased in 92%, corresponding to higher number of PoCs spending time in unsanitary conditions with limited access to hygiene services. Moreover, incidence increase was recorded for injuries of up to 93%, corresponding to high number of newly arrived PoCs, who traveled for significant amount of time before reaching TRCs and proper health care.
- 🏥 When it comes to referrals for specialized health care and diagnostics, namely PHC referrals were for laboratory services and Dentistry (in USC). Moreover, SHC referrals were for specialist examination, namely orthopedic and general surgeons attending accidental injuries.
- 🏥 Hospitalizations were mainly due to trauma and acute conditions needing immediate medical aid.

2. HEALTH RESPONSE

- ❖ To stress the importance of DRC's Health Response inside and outside of TRCs, DRC has developed a tool to track incoming inquiries and referrals to enhance DRCs' service provision and the quality of the response, enabling informed programme adjustments. Most of the referrals and inquiries were received inside of TRCs (98%).
- ❖ **DRC has successfully addressed 4.812 incoming health related inquires/referrals** received from other organizations in August 2022.

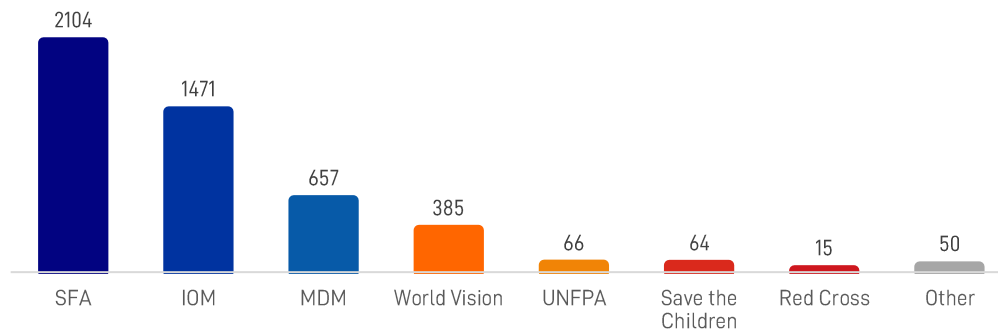
INCOMING INQUIRIES AND REFERRALS

4.530
Incoming healthcare referrals

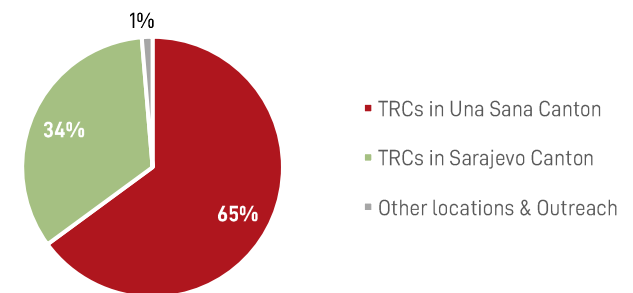
232
Health related expertise provided

50
Pediatric health expertise provided

HEALTH INQUIRIES/REFERRALS RECEIVED FROM:



INCOMING HEALTH INQUIRIES AND REFERRALS: TRCs & OUTREACH



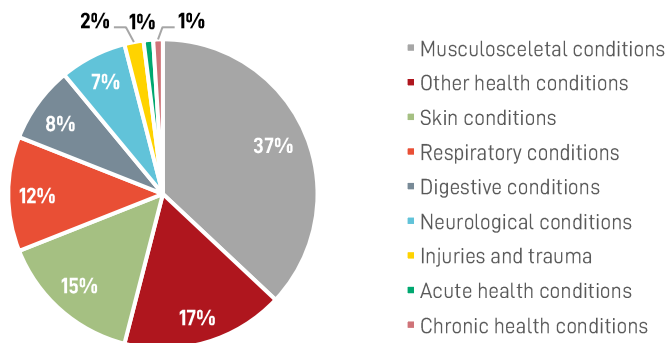
DRC ASSISTANCES & REFERRALS IN OUT-OF-SITE AREAS

475
Basic medical assistance provided

30
Different locations

58
Referrals for further support

HEALTH CONCERNS IN OUT-OF-SITE LOCATIONS



OBSERVATIONS

- 📦 Number of medical assistances in out-of-site locations have increased in 29%, compared to July 2022, which corresponds to higher number of new arrivals and PoCs spending more time in informal settlements.
- 📦 There has been no significant change in reported health conditions, with exemption of reported musculoskeletal concerns, which records an increasing trend for 3 consecutive months. This clearly corresponds to the fact that individuals residing in these locations are moving often to different locations and sleeping rough.

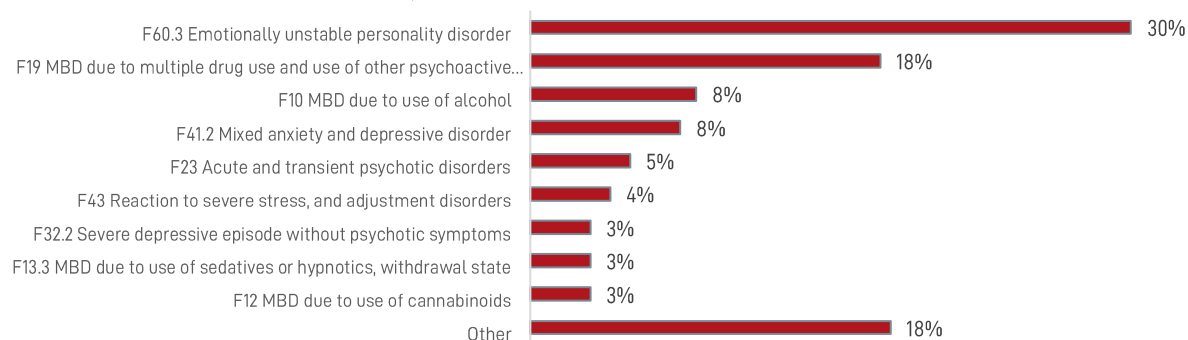


3. MENTAL HEALTH & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

Médecins du Monde - MDM

- ❖ During the month of August, MDM assisted 568 new direct beneficiaries (522 adults, 46 children) residing in TRCs in Una-Sana Canton and Canton Sarajevo. A total of 277 individual psychological counselling sessions were conducted. The main mental health issues being diagnosed were emotionally unstable personality disorder, substance abuse and combined anxiety and depression syndrome.
- ❖ In addition, group empowerment and psychoeducational sessions were organized in TRCs for a total of 681 participants. Psychoeducational group sessions included topics of: Depression and Symptoms of Depression Conflict resolution, Mental Health Awareness, Communication Skills, Emotional Awareness, Stress management and Prevention of substance use.
- ❖ MDM Psychiatric Specialists provided regular psychiatric consultations and follow up available to all beneficiaries in SC (TRC Blažuj, TRC Ušivak) and USC (TRC Lipa and TRC Boríci). Total of 95 psychiatric care consultations were conducted for 65 individuals (7 female beneficiaries, 58 male beneficiaries).
- ❖ MDM provided 16 MHPSS activities in outreach locations

MOST FREQUENT PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSIS



Red Cross

- ❖ Red Cross Teams, supported by DRC through ECHO funding, have been operational in out-of-site locations (Tuzla, Goražde, Bosanski Petrovac and in Sarajevo Canton). Red Cross teams **assisted a total of 2.709 PoCs** (2.285 adult men, 118 adult women, 34 girls and 272 boys). Red Cross teams provided **1.377 Psychological First Aid (PFA) consultations**, with **168 MHPSS consultations done by psychologist**. Moreover, **3.592 First Aid assistances** (for PoCs with muscle pain and cramps, blisters, wounds, etc.) were provided, with **222 medical consultations** performed by medical doctors.



4. THEMATIC FOCUS – SCABIES

- ❖ Scabies is a communicable parasitic disease affecting the skin, caused by the parasite *Sarcoptes scabiei* var. *hominis*. This disease affects people of all races and social classes. It is present on all continents and in all countries of the world. WHO states that an estimated 200 million people worldwide suffer from scabies at any one time. The source of infection (reservoir) is the skin of an infected individual, transmitting the disease upon prolonged contact with the infected individual, through direct skin-to-skin contact, infected clothes, bed linen, etc. The infected individual is contagious as long as there are live parasites on their skin. Due to the pathophysiology of the disease, and the life cycle of the parasite, scabies is more common in the winter period than in summer.
- ❖ The incubation period for the first infection with scabies is 2–6 weeks, and for re-infection, it is shorter, namely from 1–4 days. After incubation, the patient develops an allergic reaction to the presence of the parasite's proteins and feces in the scabies burrow, causing intense itch and rash. The infected individual is contagious after 14 days of incubation, even if asymptomatic. The patient is no longer contagious after effective treatment.
- ❖ The main symptoms of infection are intense itching (especially at night), and the appearance of a red rash on fingers, skin between fingers, hands, elbows, heels, armpits, pits, around the waist, and can spread to almost any part of the body, including the breasts, genital organs and the region around the anus. The face in adults is generally not affected.
- ❖ Treatment includes the usage of different topical medications (sulfur cream or benzyl-benzoate lotion) on the entire body, only excluding face and hair, with the following additional preventive measures:
 - Shower with warm water and soap before application of treatment, and 24 hours after treatment
 - Wearing clean clothes and changing bed linen
 - Washing old and new clothes and bed linen on minimum 60°C and hot/sun drying.
 - Direct contacts of the patient are to be treated even if asymptomatic.
 - 24 hours isolation upon treatment.
 - Practicing personal hygiene to prevent secondary infection of the skin lesions
- ❖ Scabies, together with other communicable skin diseases, has always been a top morbidity among the population on the move, as well as inside collective accommodations and among displaced populations. This is primarily due to prolonged travel, staying and living in unsanitary and/or crowded places, with limited access to hygiene and medical services.
- ❖ Since the engagement of DRC in the provision of healthcare services for people on the move in BiH (April 2019), up until now more than 10,000 cases of Scabies were recorded and treated among this population. During this period, on average, Scabies takes around 7% of all recorded diseases inside TRCs in BiH.
- ❖ Following the recommendations of local health authorities, adjusted to fit the context of mixed-migration and the setup of the TRCs, several preventive measures were implemented to stop the spread of scabies among the PoCs, namely:
 - Mandatory entry screening on signs and symptoms of scabies for all new arrivals
 - Isolation and proper treatment (including medication, WASH activities and NFI) of all suspect/confirmed cases and their direct contacts
 - Follow-up examination and/or treatment after 7-14 days
 - Health educational sessions on scabies prevention and treatment for PoCs and service providers.

Health Care Services are an integral part of the Danish Refugee Council's humanitarian assistance to migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers in BiH. DRC teams ensure timely access to primary and secondary health care, nursing care, medical escorting and health education. Additionally, in cooperation with relevant public health institutions, DRC ensures sanitary-epidemiological monitoring and infection-prevention and control measures, including the measures for preventing the spread of COVID-19 infection (medical screenings, testing, isolation and vaccination). The response complements the DRC health and protection program implemented in all reception facilities and in out-of-site locations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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<https://drc.ngo/our-work/where-we-work/europe/bosnia-and-herzegovina/>