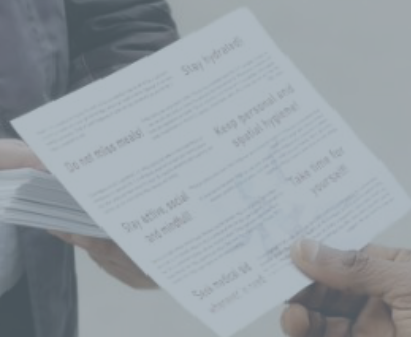


DRC DANISH
REFUGEE
COUNCIL



DRUŠTVO CRVENOG KRSTA/KRIŽA BOSNE I HERCEGOVINE
CRVENI KRIŽ FEDERACIJE BOSNE I HERCEGOVINE



APRIL 2023
HEALTH FACTSHEET



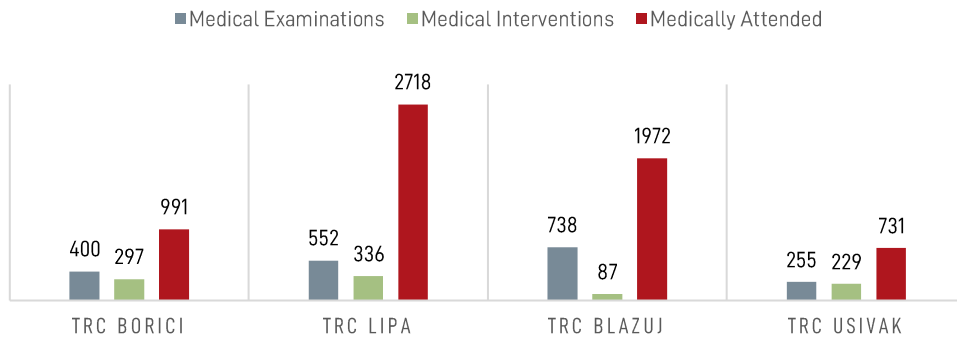
Photo: "Health for All"/Promotional session/ TRC Blažuj



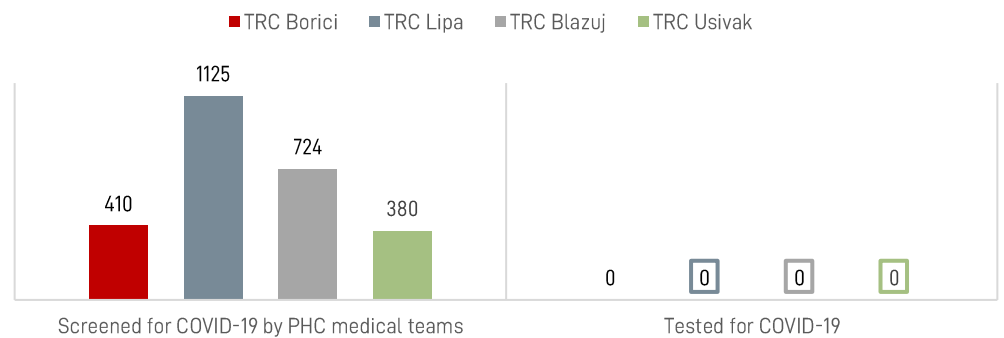
1. KEY HIGHLIGHTS & MONTHLY TRENDS

- ❖ DRC has ensured **1,945 medical examinations** and **949 medical interventions** in April 2023. Alongside this, there were **6,412 PoCs medically attended directly by DRC staff** inside TRCs in Bosnia & Herzegovina. Moreover, out of these, DRC facilitated **357 pediatric examinations & interventions** within two pediatric units in TRCs Usivak and Borici.
- ❖ DRC has facilitated **26 referrals towards PHCs** and **11 referrals towards SHCs** for specialized healthcare and diagnostics. Moreover, **6 PoCs were hospitalized** in healthcare facilities.
- ❖ As a part of DRCs COVID-19 response, **PHC medical teams performed 2,639 medical screenings** in four reception centers. There was **no PoC tested for COVID-19**.

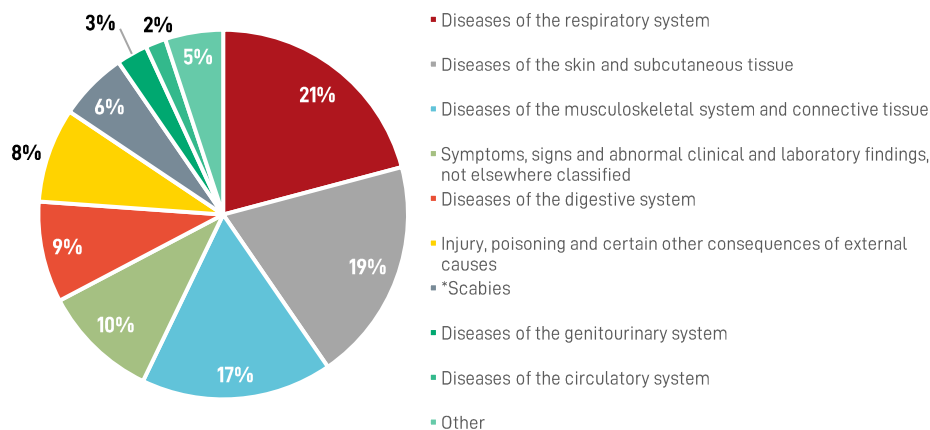
DRCs HEALTH RESPONSE INSIDE TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTERS



DRCs COVID-19 RESPONSE INSIDE TEMPORARY RECEPTION CENTERS



CLASSIFICATION OF MOST FREQUENT DISEASES AND HEALTH RELATED PROBLEMS



OBSERVATIONS

- 📦 Number of medical examinations have decreased in 21% compared to March 2023, which corresponds to lower number of PoCs residing inside the centers. Nevertheless, ratio of individuals with health concerns from the general population accommodated inside the center have increased.
- 📦 There has been decrease in scabies cases, of up to 53%, as well as other infectious and parasitic diseases of up to 76%. This could correspond to improved weather conditions, corresponding to expected seasonal decrease in scabies cases. Moreover, continuous health promotion activities on personal hygiene, which were conducted as a part of bed bugs eradication, have contributed significantly to this decrease in morbidities.
- 📦 When it comes to referrals for specialized health care and diagnostics, namely PHC referrals were for dental care and laboratory services. Moreover, SHC referrals were for specialist examination, namely orthopedic surgeons attending injuries, and ophthalmologist.
- 📦 Hospitalizations were mainly due to acute psychiatric decompensation, as well as trauma needing immediate surgery and intensive care.

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/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 (99%).
- ❖ **DRC has successfully addressed 5,295 incoming health related inquires/referrals** received from other organizations in April 2023.
- ❖ **DRC has successfully facilitated 34 medical escorts**, ensuring access to culturally sensitive specialized health care, diagnostics and in-patient treatment inside the local health facilities.

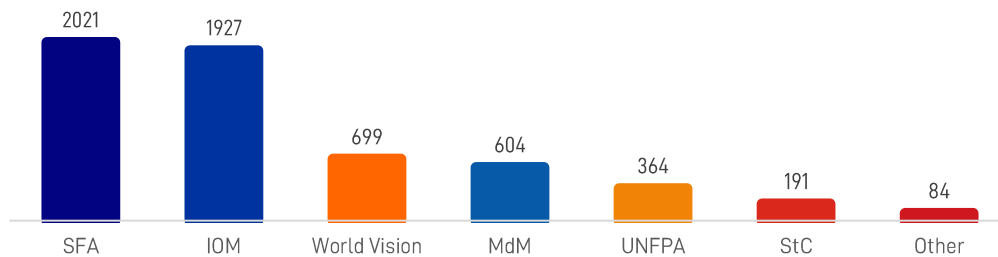
INCOMING INQUIRIES/REFERRALS AND MEDICAL ESCORTING

5,295
Incoming healthcare referrals

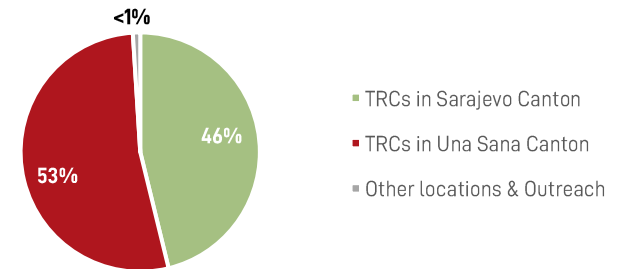
152
Health related expertise provided

34
Medical escorting to health facilities

HEALTH INQUIRIES/REFERRALS RECEIVED FROM:



INCOMING HEALTH INQUIRIES AND REFERRALS: TRCs & OUTREACH



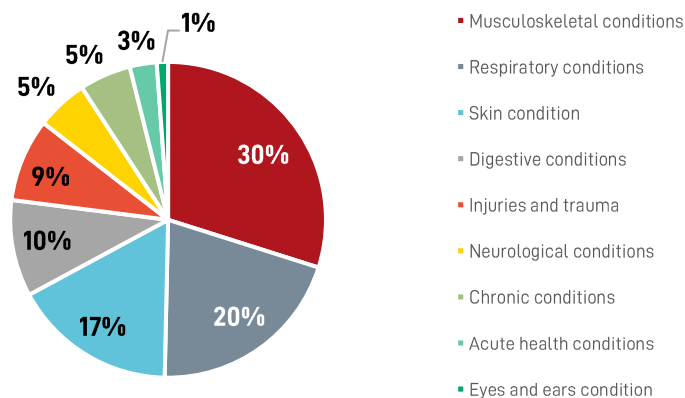
DRC ASSISTANCES & REFERRALS IN OUT-OF-SITE AREAS

523
Basic medical assistance provided

45
Different locations

22
Referrals for further support

HEALTH CONCERNS IN OUT-OF-SITE LOCATIONS



OBSERVATIONS

- 🏥 Number of medical assistances in out-of-site locations have remained similar compared to March 2023, namely due to improved weather conditions, with PoCs spending more time in out-of-site locations.
- 🏥 There has been significant increase of incidence in reported skin conditions of up to 38%, namely due to poor hygienic conditions in out-of-site locations .
- 🏥 Number of locations have increased from 35 in March, to 45 in April, contributing to the higher movement of PoCs in between centers and ou-of-site locations.



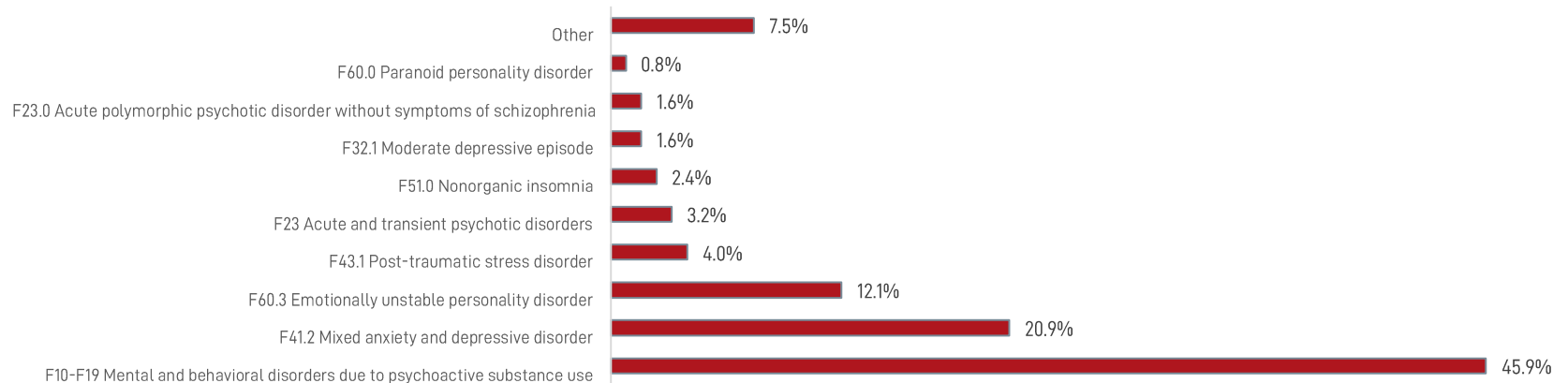
3. MENTAL HEALTH & PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

Médecins du Monde - MDM

- ❖ During April, MDM, assisted **72 new direct beneficiaries** residing in TRCs in Una- Sana Canton and Canton Sarajevo. A total of **107 individual psychological counselling sessions** were conducted. In addition, **333 participations to group (empowerment and psychoeducational) sessions**.
- ❖ In April, during the individual psychological counselling sessions, main concerns reported by PoCs were sleeping problems, symptoms of psychoactive substance abuse, feeling nervous, restless, or tense, symptoms of anxiety disorder, poor mood.
- ❖ MDM Psychiatrist provided regular and follow up psychiatric consultations to PoCs residing in all four TRCs. Total of **96 psychiatric care consultations** were conducted for 70 individuals.

The MDM team celebrated World Health Day on April 7, 2023, by highlighting the significance of mental health and well-being as an integral component of overall health. As part of this event, the team created and distributed concise affirmations to their beneficiaries, which were well-received and proved to be a source of motivation.

MOST FREQUENT PSYCHIATRIC DIAGNOSIS



Red Cross

- ❖ Red Cross Teams, supported by DRC, have been operational in out-of-site locations (Tuzla, Goražde and in Sarajevo Canton). Red Cross teams **assisted a total of 643 PoCs** (526 adult men, 20 adult women, 3 girls and 94 boys). Red Cross teams provided **316 Psychological First Aid (PFA) consultations**. Moreover, **823 First Aid assistances** (for PoCs with muscle pain and cramps, blisters, wounds, strains, etc.) were provided, with **62 medical consultations** performed by medical doctors.



4. THEMATIC FOCUS – HEALTH FOR ALL

- ❖ On 7 April 2023 – World Health Day – the World Health Organization celebrated its 75th anniversary. In 1948, countries of the world came together and founded WHO to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable – so everyone, everywhere can attain the highest level of health and well-being.
- ❖ Over the past seven and a half decades, there has been extraordinary progress in protecting people from diseases and destruction, including smallpox eradication, reducing the incidence of polio by 99%, saving millions of lives through childhood immunization, declines in maternal mortality and improving health and well-being for millions more.
- ❖ To meet these challenges, WHO is urging countries to take urgent action to protect, support and expand the health workforce as a strategic priority. Investments in education, skills and decent jobs for health need to be prioritized to meet the rapidly growing demand for health and avert a projected shortage of 10 million health workers by 2030; primarily in low- and middle-income countries.
- ❖ Looking forward to the next 75 years and close to the turn of the next century, a renewed commitment to health equity will be the key to addressing future health challenges. In the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic, WHO’s roadmap to recovery includes an urgent paradigm shift towards promoting health and well-being and preventing disease by addressing its root causes and creating the conditions for health to thrive. WHO is urging countries to provide health by prioritizing primary health care as the foundation of universal health coverage.
- ❖ The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that protecting health is fundamental to our economies, societies, security and stability. Learning from the worst pandemic in recent history, WHO stands ready to support the countries of the world as they negotiate a pandemic accord, the revision of the International Health Regulations and other financial, governance and operational initiatives to prepare the world for future pandemics.

Source: World Health Organization who.int

- ❖ DRC arranged various thematic activities across TRCs to promote the slogan "Health For All" and emphasize the importance of continuous healthcare services, along with sharing “Six tips How to stay Healthy while on the Move”. The activities started during futoor (iftar) at TRC Lipa, where DRC conducted health examinations and awareness sessions, engaging with PoC's during the busiest time of the day. During April, DRC continued with health awareness sessions, vaccinations, and community engagement to raise awareness about refugee and migrant health, all aimed at ensuring health for all.
- ❖ Since 2019, DRC has collaborated with local healthcare institutions in BiH to provide access to healthcare services for PoCs, including migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees. DRC has supported 12 local healthcare institutions to provide primary and specialized healthcare services, diagnosis, and hospital treatment. DRC has also been involved in sanitary-epidemiological monitoring of TRCs and informal settlements, procurement and management of medical supplies, nursing care, and project administration. Alongside providing direct services, DRC has focused on strengthening the local health system through infrastructure upgrades, specialized equipment procurement, cultural sensitization, and other capacity-building measures, all aimed at providing quality healthcare for all.

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, basic medical and nursing care, medical escorting and health promotion and 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, vaccination and PPE distribution). 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/>