URGENT DELIVERY

The challenges of giving birth in Afghanistan
PROVIDING MEDICAL AID TO THOSE MOST IN NEED REGARDLESS OF THEIR RACE, RELIGION, OR POLITICAL AFFILIATION.

HELP SUPPORT OUR CAUSE.

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WELCOME

Welcome to our new Without Borders. This is our first issue of MSF UAE’s re-designed quarterly newsletter, and we hope you like it.

In this issue, we want to shine a light on populations and health issues that are not getting the attention they need.

To start, there are the women of Afghanistan, who face a 1 in 8 risk of dying as a result of pregnancy or childbirth during their lifetime. We highlight the reasons why too many women are still dying preventable deaths and what MSF is doing to help more women get the essential medical care they need.

Then there are the people of Central African Republic, or CAR, who find themselves at the centre of a humanitarian catastrophe spiralling out of control. The deteriorating situation can be read on the bodies of our patients: the gunshot and mortar wounds, and the deep cuts from machetes, tell us of shocking new levels of violence. Our teams have been bringing care to all communities throughout this tragedy, and we will continue to advocate for the people of CAR for as long their plight remains in the shadows.

For people in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, their predicament is a long drawn-out one, marred by stress, anxiety and depression as a result of living under occupation. We share an update on how MSF is trying to help people restore an acceptable level of psychological health in the face of daily violence and intimidation.

We also highlight the global threat of drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB). Our doctors are reporting that DR-TB is spreading at an alarming rate. Standard drugs do not work, and doctors have to resort to long, expensive, and arduous treatments that only cure half the patients, at best. We are making urgent calls to decision-makers for new medicines and more funding to deal with TB, and you can help by signing our TB petition.

We are grateful for your interest in the people, places and health issues we are highlighting, and as always, thank you for your ongoing support for our work.

Ghada Hatim
Executive Director
Médecins Sans Frontières UAE

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Front cover photograph:
Pediatric nurse Isabelle Arnold examines a baby in the neonatal ward at the MSF Maternity Hospital in Khost, Afghanistan. © Andrea Bruce/Noor Images

MSF has been in the UAE since 1992 under the patronage of His Excellency Sheikh Nahyan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan.
Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) brings emergency medical assistance to people affected by conflict, natural disasters, epidemics or exclusion from healthcare in more than 70 countries around the world.

**MSF AROUND THE WORLD**

**IRAN**

**AIDING TEHRAN’S POOREST**

MSF has been working in Darvazeh Ghar, one of Tehran’s poorest neighbourhoods south of the Grand Bazaar, where obtaining medical care can be particularly difficult for people.

“We treat refugees and pregnant women here every day. It’s hard for them to pay for their treatment and they can’t travel further to the Ministry of Health clinics. Here it’s all free,” says Mona, MSF midwife, at the clinic.

Mona sees approximately 50 patients a day, offering prenatal, maternal and newborn care, family planning advice and contraception.

“This clinic offers some hope to Tehran’s poorest residents,” says Zarha, a nurse.

“When they come for the first time, they are suspicious, but by the third visit, they’re completely changed, they are more at ease because they know that we want to help them and that we are here for them. This is the only place where they can receive the medical care they need.”

**UKRAINE**

**MSF PROVIDES MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOLLOWING CLASHES**

Following the violent clashes between anti-government protestors and police in the Ukraine in February, an MSF surgeon helped treat 20 wounded at a health facility in Kiev.

In the Tomping camp living conditions are extremely poor. The camp is overcrowded and there is a lack of water and sanitation. With the start of the rainy season, residents need to be moved to a place that is less crowded with a better drainage system to avoid an increase in diarrhoeal diseases and malaria. A flooded overcrowded camp would make the situation untenable for the camp residents, many of whom are too fearful of being attacked if they return home.

**SOUTH SUDAN**

**PROVIDING MEDICAL CARE IN OVERCROWDED JUBA CAMPS**

MSF is providing medical care in two camps in Juba, South Sudan, where 40,000 people are seeking refuge from widespread fighting that erupted in mid-December following a fall-out between the President and the main opposition leader that has since developed into a full-scale conflict.

The fighting is affecting large parts of the country and has resulted in more than 10,000 deaths, 710,000 displaced people within South Sudan, and more than 170,000 having fled the country.

MSF carries out around 1600 consultations per week in the two camps, mainly for diarrhoeal diseases, malnutrition and respiratory tract infections. MSF also has in-patient facilities in both camps with a total of 50 beds.

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**GUINEA**

**MSF VACCINATES 400,000 CHILDREN AGAINST MEASLES**

Following measles outbreaks in three densely populated areas of Conakry, the capital of Guinea, the Guinean government asked MSF to carry out an emergency vaccination campaign in the areas. Over a three-week period 400 MSF staff vaccinated close to 400,000 children between the ages of 6 months to 10 years, in the three districts of the capital. Measles can lead to severe complications in young children that can be fatal, yet in Guinea only 37% of children had received the required measles vaccines.

**INDIA**

**NEW INTENSIVE CARE UNIT FOR SEVERELY MALNOURISHED CHILDREN IN BIHAR**

In February, MSF and the State Health society in Bihar state, India, opened a Malnutrition Intensive Care Unit at the Darbhanga Medical College Hospital. The first of its kind in India, the unit will provide specialised inpatient medical and nutritional care for children who are severely ill and at highest risk of dying. This is a step closer to addressing severe acute malnutrition in Bihar, one of the poorest states in India, where it is estimated that 8.6% of children under the age of five years are severely malnourished.

**ITALY**

**MSF TO TREAT HOMELESS PEOPLE IN MILAN**

MSF has opened a 20-bed health facility in Milan to assist homeless people in need of medical follow-up. Inside the facility, which complements the local health system, the MSF team provides medical and nursing care on a 24-hour basis. According to an MSF assessment of the health situation of homeless migrants and Italian nationals in the city, a total of 850-900 patients required medical follow-up for a variety of health problems. These include respiratory infections, pneumonia, skin infections, as well as illnesses requiring long-term medical attention such as heart, liver or kidney disease, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.
While there has been much progress in maternal healthcare in Afghanistan over the past decade, women and girls must overcome significant obstacles when they need to access healthcare. Low literacy rates, a lack of knowledge of health problems, and restrictions on their movement and access to money all limit women’s ability to access health services for themselves and their children. For cultural reasons, men are not considered appropriate healthcare providers for women, so the dire shortage of female midwives, nurses, and doctors poses a huge barrier for many women.

**Women face many barriers to receiving medical care**

“What we see and also hear from a lot of people, from elders outside, is that a lot of women are still dying in their villages. They live far away. It’s really difficult for them because there is no transport, roads are bad, they don’t know how to get here, or due to security problems,” says Kirsten Accoe, medical focal point at MSF’s maternity hospital in Khost.

In more remote areas, many public clinics are only open in the morning, which does not fit with the reality of labour, as women need access to delivery services at any time. Women who go into labour or experience bleeding in the late afternoon or at night are often unable to find free care nearby and are forced to either travel long distances at significant risk and cost, or to deliver at home. Without skilled medical help, these women are more at risk of illness or death if they face complications.

“We know that a lot of women deliver at home. After the delivery, they sometimes bleed a lot. Before they understand that it’s a complication, there is quite a delay. They then need to find transport and try to reach us. In these crucial hours, she might die on the road,” says Kirsten.

Women in most areas of Afghanistan require consent from their husbands in order to visit a health facility. Once consent is obtained, they are usually obliged to be accompanied by a male relative. If there is no male available, this can delay or prevent the visit to a healthcare provider.

The shortage of female midwives, nurses, and doctors poses another huge barrier for many women, especially in rural areas. In general, qualified specialists prefer to live and work in big cities, and are reluctant to work in rural and insecure areas.

**A lot of women are still dying in their villages**

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**Labour Pains**

Afghanistan is one of the most dangerous places in the world for a woman to give birth. Insecurity means that many women hesitate to make the long, dangerous and often expensive journey to health facilities offering quality maternal care. Too many women still die preventable deaths because they do not have access to the essential care they need.

To help women overcome some of the specific barriers they face, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is providing emergency maternity health care in three hospitals in Afghanistan – in Khost in the east, Helmand in the south, and eastern Kabul.

The MSF maternity wards provide a safe and healthy environment for women to deliver their babies free of charge, and to assist in complicated deliveries in order to help reduce the high maternal mortality rate. Across MSF’s maternity wards, medical staff delivered more than 33,500 babies in 2013.

Although the lack of qualified female medical staff living in or willing to relocate to remote areas is a major challenge, MSF tries to have an all-female medical team providing care to patients. MSF’s international doctors and midwives help fill the staffing gap and train local staff so that more women can receive the medical care they need.

**CARE FOR PREGNANT WOMEN AND NEWBORNS**

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**Learn More**

MSF full report – Between Rhetoric and Reality: The Ongoing Struggle to Access Healthcare in Afghanistan – reveals the serious and often deadly risks that people are forced to take to seek both basic and emergency care. Download the report at www.msf-me.org
Q&A: CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

THIS WAS MY MOST DIFFICULT MISSION

Jessie Gafric is a Doctors Without Borders/ Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) project coordinator who has carried out several missions for MSF in violent and conflict settings, including Yemen and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. She recently returned from the Central African Republic, where she says her mission at the Bangui Community Hospital was her “most difficult” to date. We asked her about her experience there.

WHO ARE MSF’S PATIENTS AT THE BANGUI COMMUNITY HOSPITAL? WHAT KINDS OF WOUNDS HAVE THEY RECEIVED?

In Bangui, we treat primarily men between the ages of approximately 20 and 35. Most are combatants. Women and the elderly make up a minority of the patients. They happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. Children under the age of 15 were treated at another facility. However, a large majority of the patients who came from outside the city - from villages in the provinces that had been burned and looted and who are transferred by the ICRC or other MSF teams to the community hospital – were women and children.

Nearly all of our patients are victims of violence. The most common injuries are bullet and grenade wounds, followed by knife and machete wounds. The next category includes victims of lynching, confinement and torture, and, lastly, people who have been wounded while fleeing.

WHAT WERE THE OBSTACLES AND CONSTRAINTS THAT YOU FACED IN YOUR WORK?

Insecurity is the main problem and that’s what makes it hard for us to do our work. For example, we have to manage our time differently - our teams cannot stay in the hospital after the 6pm curfew. It’s too dangerous. So we have to do a full day’s work during the 11 hours that we are there. Sometimes, we had to lock ourselves in the operating room – “hibernate” there – or evacuate immediately. The insecurity also meant that there were few or no staff members at the hospital at night. When it was time for us to go, we had to leave patients alone without medical monitoring. We didn’t know whether they’d be alive when we returned.

As Project Coordinator, you were responsible for the teams’ security. How did you manage that?

It took a huge amount of time. The situation was chaotic - between the armed men who came into the hospital, armed patients, and family members and visitors – also possibly armed – who were always coming and going. Some categorically refused to turn over their weapons at the hospital entrance. In any event, it was impossible to search everyone. Everyone was terrorised and very suspicious, which complicated things even further.

We were constantly telling people, “The hospital is a place where people come to receive medical care – conflicts must remain outside.” We talked with the patients a lot, as well as with everyone living on the hospital grounds. MSF places all patients together and does not distinguish based on group or religion. We had to talk to the patients about that policy and explain it to the families. That took a lot of time, too. But I think that in spite of the daily threats to the patients and the presence of weapons in the hospital, it allowed us to avoid serious problems. The people respect our work and accept our rules. However, on some days, when we left for the night, we weren’t sure whether we’d find all our patients there the next day. It was awful.

WERE YOU EVER AFRAID?

Yes. Some of the armed men in the hospital frightened me. I had to step between them to prevent the lynching of a patient. The attackers looked at me with hate in their eyes. I was also afraid when we travelled by car when there was shooting; when we would encounter combatants who looked really intimidating; and when we saw corpses on the roads. I was afraid at MSF living quarters, too, when there was shooting in the neighbourhood. That happened almost every night, but some nights were worse than others. We even had stray bullets enter the house. I was also afraid of making the wrong decision when we were evacuating a team. And of my responsibility for their safety.

HOW WAS THIS MISSION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC DIFFERENT FROM OTHER MSF MISSIONS YOU’VE BEEN ON? HOW WAS IT HARDER?

The constant tension and the complexity of the conflict. On my other missions, things were clear. This group was fighting that group. In the CAR, the clashes have developed into inter-communal conflicts. Everyone is fighting everyone today. The rise in violence, the levels it’s reached, the hatred that creates this fury to kill and mutilate – all of that was really hard.

The wounds and the injuries, particularly knife wounds, were horrible.

The heavy workload. We had several large inflows of patients where a majority involved serious cases. That’s unusual. In Bangui, the percentage of serious cases was greater than that of minor injuries. Even “normal” days were much worse than what I was used to. I think Bangui was the most difficult mission I’ve ever been on. Luckily, the team was great. We had a tremendous sense of cohesiveness, both at work and at the house. That and listening to Janis Joplin at night – that’s what helped us.

IS THERE A PATIENT WHO PARTICULARLY AFFECTED YOU?

There were several. One man arrived, upright, walking, with his throat slit and his trachea open to the air. He also had machete wounds on the back of his neck and one ear had been cut off. He had been tortured for four days. He died the next day.

There was Michael, who had been stabbed in the throat and thorax. The entire team mobilized. He was stabilized and the surgical team did an amazing job. He’s doing well and can move his arm – which had been lifeless – again. That was a small victory!

All the patients in the orthopaedic tent, too, who were there for weeks at a time, face to face, calm and in a pretty relaxed mood, despite their conflicts and differences. They had moved beyond what made them enemies outside.

MSF IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

The violence that has been sweeping through CAR since early December continues to spread.

Since the conflict escalated on 5 December, MSF has treated over 4,000 wounded in the country.

In total, MSF is providing free medical care to about 400,000 people in CAR, with around 240 international staff and 200 national staff working across the country.

“I had to step between them to prevent the lynching of a patient. The attackers looked at me with hate in their eyes.”
In the village of Salem, near Hebron, Wissam, an MSF psychologist, assists people whose daily lives have been blighted by stress, anxiety and depression as a result of the occupation and settler violence.

In the village of Salem, near Hebron, Wissam, is meeting with Um Taha for the second time. She is 48. Her husband died five years ago and she lives in Salem with her nine children.

Um Taha’s 28 year-old son was arrested recently by the Israeli army. Troops stormed the house one night, beat Um Taha violently and aimed a gun at her. They also turned the house upside down, destroying everything they found. Her son was sent to prison for seven years.

Since his arrest, Um Taha can no longer sleep, has nightmares and has become depressed. When the session is over, Wissam goes to Jaloud, a small village surrounded by four Israeli settlements. She wants to visit a former patient and her daughter. Um Fawaz is 56, but looks older. She was born and still lives in Jaloud. The settlers make frequent incursions into the village, armed with sticks and, sometimes, guns. They throw stones at residents’ windows, enter houses and threaten residents, frightened them. Violence and intimidation are daily occurrences.

Last May, Um Fawaz’s 13 year-old daughter, Soulafa, was at school when settlers tried to enter the classrooms. Soulafa and the other children were terror-stricken. “Luckily, the teachers locked the school doors and the settlers left after a little while,” Um Fawaz says. “But now I’m always afraid for my daughter when she goes to school.”

After talking for a few minutes, Um Fawaz wants to show Wissam the olive grove below the village. The settlers burned 10 trees a few days ago. They want the Palestinians to leave their houses and land. Um Fawaz will not leave. The price for her decision is living in fear and insecurity every day.

An MSF psychologist (assisted by a doctor and a social worker) treated her for six months, providing her an opportunity to talk about her suffering and learn to cope better with the violence that seems difficult, if not impossible, to escape. Through these sessions, MSF is trying – in spite of everything – to restore an acceptable level of physical and psychological health.

“Now I’m always afraid for my daughter when she goes to school.”

VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION ARE DAILY OCCURRENCES.

MSF has operated a psycho-medical-social program in Nablus since 2004. The patients who meet with the MSF teams present with post-traumatic stress syndromes and suffer from acute stress, anxiety and depression, which affect their daily lives. The tools that the teams use in therapy are based on conversational, cognitive and behavioral techniques, relaxation, play and drawing. Some illnesses, such as depression and anxiety, require medical treatment as well.

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HUNDREDS TAKE THE PLUNGE FOR MSF

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) relies on our committed supporters around the world who enable us to remain independent and able to treat the world’s most vulnerable people – regardless of who or where they are. In this section we highlight what people in the United Arab Emirates are doing to raise funds to support MSF’s medical humanitarian work in more than 70 countries.

More than 700 swimmers took part in the annual swim around Burj Al Arab to raise funds for MSF. The event, in its 13th year, saw record-breaking numbers of swimmers brave the early start to take part in the race around the iconic Dubai landmark. Participants of all ages and from all over the world participated in the 1,600-metre race and the shorter 800-metre swim that took place on 21 February.

COMPETING FOR A GOOD CAUSE

“I feel fantastic after winning because this is such a great cause and race,” said Thomas Dalgaro. 16, a pupil at Jumeirah College from Aberdeen, Scotland who won the 1,600-metre event in a time of 23 minutes and 11 seconds.

Gwen Van Beek, 18, a gap-year student from near Eindhoven, in the Netherlands, was the first woman to cross the line after 23 minutes, 47 seconds. “I trained about nine times a week, so I was really well prepared,” she said.

Emirati Olympian Obaid Al Jasmi, 32, was not too disappointed that he finished third after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. “I spoke with my coach before and after a time of 23 minutes, 23 seconds. “For me, it was more of a case of supporting such a good cause,” said Mr Al Jasmi, who represented the UAE in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics.

The top male fundraiser, Deepak Tolani, based in the United Arab Emirates completed the Dubai Marathon and then just seven days later completed the Muscat marathon in Oman.

Their efforts were rewarded with a watch donated by our supporter Brocot.

Over 50 dedicated volunteers were on hand to make sure the event ran smoothly. Regular MSF volunteers and Volunteer in UAE teams helped with the registration process, guiding participants, giving medals to the swimmers at the finish line, and handing out water to ensure participants and supporters remained hydrated.

Chris Perry, general manager of Wild Wadi, who organised the event, said he was delighted at how its popularity had grown over the years. “When we first started we had about 100 swimmers take part and now we have over 700,” he said.

With over 1,000 people on the beach at the event as friends and family gathered to cheer on supporters, it was a spectacular event that was enjoyed by all.

This was made possible by the costs of the shorter 800-metre swim that took place on 21 February.

Swimmers take to the waves at the start of the race.

MFS SUPPORTERS

“...For me, it was a case of supporting such a good cause”

SPOTLIGHT ON AN MSF SUPPORTER

Julia Llewellyn took on a phenomenal challenge in aid of MSF when she completed two marathons in two weeks. The teacher based in the United Arab Emirates completed the Dubai Marathon and then just seven days later completed the Muscat marathon in Oman.

If running two marathons was not enough, Julia was also a champion fundraiser. She encouraged friends and family to sponsor her efforts by setting up a fundraising page on www.justgiving.com/msfuae.

This online tool enabled Julia to create an online page that she could send to friends and family all around the world, where they could make a direct payment using a credit or debit card. Their generosity saw Julia raise Dh4,500 for MSF which is enough money to provide emergency health kits for 540 patients. In running terms that meant Julia helped 10 patients with every mile she ran.

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO RUN TWO MARATHONS?

I have always enjoyed physical challenges and as the two marathons were perfectly positioned one week apart from each other, it seemed like a good way of raising money for a brilliant cause.

WHAT DID YOU FUNDRAISE USING JUSTGIVING.COM EASY?

Yes – it is incredibly easy to set up an account and to promote fundraising through Facebook etc.

WERE YOU SURPRISED WITH THE AMOUNT OF MONEY YOU RAISED?

Yes! I have been absolutely amazed by the generosity of people and am so grateful for their support.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHERS THINKING OF FUNDRAISING FOR MSF?

Go for it! It’s incredibly motivating knowing that the challenge you set yourself will benefit such a worthwhile cause. I also found MSF to be incredibly supportive and encouraging, and I was touched that they took the time to send me a letter of thanks after I had completed the challenge.

J justgiving is a fantastic tool for running fundraising online. You simply set up your page and share it with friends and family around the world who can make direct online payments to your efforts. The money is transferred to MSF directly saving you the hassle of collecting money directly from people. So set up a page simply follow the instructions at www.justgiving.com/msfuae.

GET INVOLVED

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) has partnered with both Airmiles Middle East www.airmilesme.com and Etihad Guest www.etihadguest.com so that you can use your airmiles to make a difference.

Simply select MSF from the reward options and the miles you choose to donate will be converted into a monetary donation to help support our humanitarian efforts. Every Mile Really Does Count!

As an independent organization we are proud of all our fundraisers. Every day people are raising money for MSF and we would love to hear from you. Whether you are hosting a dinner, running a marathon or asking people to donate for your birthday, why not send us your story and photos to info-msfuae@msf.org and tell us what you are doing to raise funds to help medical aid be delivered around the world.
Despite efforts to eradicate it, tuberculosis (TB) remains one of the world’s deadliest diseases. Now the disease is even more of a threat as strains of TB that are highly resistant to drug treatments are taking hold.

Drug-resistant forms of TB are much harder to cure: standard TB drugs don’t work, and doctors must turn to long, arduous, complex and expensive treatment regimens that only cure half the patients at best.

We need governments, pharmaceutical firms and researchers to help deliver new, shorter and more effective treatment combinations – giving people a chance at a cure, a chance at a life.

Sign our petition to radically improve survival rates for drug-resistant TB at www.msfaccess.org/TBmanifesto

8,000,000 people worldwide fall ill with TB every year.

500,000 New cases of multi-drug resistant TB occur every year.

$4,000 The cost of drugs needed to treat one patient with drug-resistant TB.

81% Cure rate for people receiving treatment for drug-resistant TB.

48% of people with drug-resistant TB don’t get the treatment they need.

13,000,000 people die from TB every year.

A young TB patient at an MSF Treatment programme in Tajikistan.

على الرغم من كل الجهود المتواصلة لاستئصال السل، يبقى هذا الداء الخطر أحرم أثر الأدوية المقصودة للتعافي من السل، وقد أصبح الداء بشكل حذر متزايداً جراء ظهور أشكال جديدة من الفئات المقاومة للمادة الدوائية.

ينبغي أن يكون العلاج للسل المقاوم للأدوية صعوبة، إذ تصبح أدوية السل المقاومة ضد العلاج البديلة في حالة تقدم الفيروسات المقاومة للعلاج، مما يضطر الأطباء إلى استخدام درجات معقدة ومكلفة لتلوين علاجات طويلة ومعقدة. ومع ذلك، فإن هذه العلاجات المكلفة لا تضمن نقص العلاجات ضد السل المقاوم للأدوية.

إذا، فإننا بحاجة إلى دفع الحكومات والشركات الصناعية، ومراكز البحث العلمية على تطوير تركيبات علاج جديدة، وتوفير الدعم لها. لضمان انتقال جميع المرضى نحو علاجات فعالة في مجال الحياة والبقاء.

ووفقًا على الأرقام من أجل تحقيق معايير الحياة من داء السل المقاوم للأدوية: 

www.msfacess.org/TBmanifesto

مسكو مدينة مложения ملكات السل في مركز علاج العيادة العامة بالحدود في طاجيكستان.