

Syrian Refugees in Turkey, Life Conditions

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Study/Objective: The objective of this study is to clarify basic information about Syrian refugees who are living in Turkey and to share formal data about refugees' life conditions in Turkey.

Background: Throughout history, migration is one of the most important problems of humanity. Particularly in some areas where people suffer from conflicts, violations, and lack of basic needs, this situation is more difficult. Since the beginning of the Syrian conflict in 2011, increasing number of refugees have come to Turkey for asylum. Most of them are children and women. Unfortunately, this dangerous voyage from Syria has ended up with not only social or economic problems, but also dramatic humanitarian needs.

Methods: In this study, authors have conducted descriptive data analysis by viewing formal data from government authorities and scientific articles from the literature.

Results: From the outset of the conflict, Turkey has followed an open door policy to refugees. Since that time, about 3-million people have come to Turkey and try to adopt a new life. Currently 300-thousand of the refugees have been living in 26 temporary protection centers (TPC) that were established in 10 different cities near the Syrian border. The protection centers have been managed by the Emergency Authority of Turkey. The other 2.7 million refugees have been living in different cities and regions in Turkey. Over 60% of the refugees consist of women and children. In the TPCs, some facilities such as accommodation, food, health, education, and other humanitarian needs are provided by the Emergency Management Authority of Turkey. About 311,000 thousand children continue their education, and 100,000 of the adult refugees have been educated by the Ministry of Education of Turkey.

Conclusion: The coordination between international organizations and Turkey need to be enhanced to provide more effective facilities for refugees.

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Analysis of 112 Emergency Medical Service Utilizations of Syrian Refugees Residing in Ankara, Turkey

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Study/Objective: This study aims to investigate 112 emergency medical service utilizations among Syrian refugees residing in Ankara.

Background: With the civil war in Syria, lots of Syrians left their country and migrated to neighboring, or more distant countries since March 2011. The number of Syrian refugees in

Turkey was 2,747,946 in March 2016. While some of the Syrian refugees have been living in camps, 2,475,134 of them have been living in metropolis areas such as Ankara. There has been a parallel increase in the number of Syrian refugees and the number of Syrian refugees who benefit from health services, including prehospital emergency medical services.

Methods: In this descriptive, cross sectional study, data was obtained from the Department of 112 Emergency Health Services of Ankara Provincial Health Directorate. Records from January 1, 2013 to January 6, 2015 were analyzed.

Results: Utilization of 112 Emergency Medical Services among Syrian refugees has risen from the beginning of 2011 to the first five month of 2015. First five stations, responded to nearly half of (42%) the calls from Syrian refugees, based in Altındağ region, where Syrians densely live in Ankara. Prehospital emergency medical services were used mostly by people under 18 years old.

Conclusion: Findings suggest that staff in regions where the burden on the system has been increasing should be supported, and should be provided with abilities to overcome language barriers and cultural differences.

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Surgical Needs of Internally Displaced Persons in West Darfur, Sudan

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Study/Objective: To quantify the burden of surgical disease in a population fleeing conflict.

Background: The burden of surgical disease in refugees and Internally Displaced Person (IDP) populations has not been well-defined and is difficult to quantify because of logistical obstacles. Populations fleeing conflict are highly mobile, limiting the effectiveness of traditional sampling methods. In this study, we used satellite imagery and GPS technology to conduct a population-based surgical needs assessment amongst IDPs in Kerenik, West Darfur, Sudan.

Methods: Satellite imagery was used to identify man-made structures. Ground teams were guided by GPS to randomly selected households following a computer algorithm. A novel, laptop-based, surgical needs survey was administered by a physician to household residents. One randomly selected individual per household was designated to answer demographic and medical history questions, pertaining to themselves and