SITUATION UPDATE

On July 8, Russian missiles struck cities across Ukraine, including Kyiv, reportedly killing at least 39 people and injuring many more. In the city center of the capital, a major rescue operation began after the Okhmatdyt National Children’s Specialized Hospital—Ukraine’s largest pediatrics facility—was struck and sustained major damage in the resulting blast. At least two people were reportedly killed and many more are trapped under the rubble.

Ongoing sustained attacks on critical infrastructure across the country have resulted in widespread power outages, including in Kyiv, making rescue efforts challenging. At least four other sites in Kyiv reportedly suffered damage, deaths and injuries in this most recent wave of attacks. City authorities reported that at least 29 people had died and many more injured in Kyiv.

International Medical Corps’ Response

After the attack, International Medical Corps quickly began coordinating with local authorities and immediately deploy an emergency response team of eight staff—including health, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), and water, sanitation and hygiene technical specialists—to the hospital to distribute needed supplies. To meet the urgent needs of first responders, civilians and hospital workers caught up in the attack, the team distributed 145 liters of water to first responders and others on the scene, and at the request of the hospital provided 210 packs of baby diapers.

The children's hospital specializes in treating severe cases of child illness. Working closely with the director of the hospital, we are preparing to provide various essential medical commodities needed to treat the hospital’s young patients. Our Health team is working in close coordination with the World Health Organization’s Health Cluster to ensure a cohesive humanitarian response among all actors to avoid duplication of effort. Though our emergency response team determined that no MHPSS services were required on site today, we remain in contact with the relevant authorities and are ready to provide such support as needed.