

# Haiti Earthquake

## Situation Report #3

August 25, 2021

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Ongoing medicine and supply shortages, including wound care supplies and antibiotics, reported at impacted hospitals and health clinics.
- Project HOPE's local medical team conducting surge support at hospitals in Les Cayes and clinics outside urban areas.

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

The scale of health, water, sanitation and hygiene, and shelter needs in Haiti's Tiburon peninsula is immense. New estimates indicate that 650,000 people are in need of emergency humanitarian assistance in the departments of Sud, Grand'Anse, and Nippes. More than 119,000 people in the region lack access to potable water, increasing the risk of water-borne diseases.

Access to health care services continues to be a challenge in the aftermath of the August 14 earthquake. The main hospitals in Les Cayes and smaller clinics in rural areas continue to face shortages of equipment and medicines, including antibiotics. As patients with severe injuries and illness in rural areas are reached, medical evacuations by air are frequently required. A week and a half following the initial earthquake, health clinics continue to report significant but decreasing numbers of earthquake-linked injuries caused by damaged or collapsed buildings or landslides.

As initial injuries are addressed, needs around non-communicable diseases, including hypertension, are expected to increase. Additional public health concerns include infectious diseases, with particular concern regarding cholera, acute respiratory infections, diarrheal diseases and malaria. No spike in COVID-19 cases has been identified, but Haiti is continuing to roll out the COVID-19 vaccine during the emergency.

### Quick Facts

- 7.2M earthquake in Haiti on August 14
- 650K+ people in need of humanitarian assistance
- 2,207+ earthquake related deaths
- 12,268+ injuries
- 32 health facilities damaged or destroyed
- 130K houses damaged or destroyed
- 119K+ lack access to clean water

## PROJECT HOPE'S RESPONSE

Project HOPE's Emergency Response Team (ERT) is rapidly delivering and coordinating aid on the ground in Les Cayes, while conducting assessments of medical facilities further from major population centers in the Sud and Grand'Anse departments. The ERT is distributing donated and locally procured supplies to meet immediate needs, including medical supplies such as antibiotic creams and bandages for wound care, to hospitals and clinics as assessments are conducted. In Les Cayes the ERT is helping to facilitate the repair of an oxygen concentrator near OFATMA hospital.

Haitian doctors and nurses from the ERT have provided surge and relief support at 2 hospitals and 4 rural health clinics, including the MSPP clinic in Duchity and CAL Sainte Agnes in Beuamont where the team saw 82 patients. In Beuamont, the ERT's medical team relieved local healthcare workers that had not left the health clinic since the earthquake. Upon arrival, three patients with critical needs were connected with medical evacuations by our assessment team and airlifted to St. Boniface Hospital. Closer to Les Cayes, the team identified increasing long-term needs, including hypertension and rehabilitation, as the number of injuries directly caused by the earthquake begin to decline. Significant concerns related to untreated injuries as well as infectious and chronic diseases, water, sanitation and hygiene remain.

The ERT further identified mental health needs both for patients and for the medical staff at impacted health clinics. mhGAP training at MSPP facilities would empower non-specialized health workers to deliver priority mental health services and medications to populations unable to reach mental health services. Project HOPE is coordinating with local NGO, Espere to begin conducting mental health support programming.

Project HOPE continues to provide direct patient care and address urgent medical supply needs while assessing additional rural health clinics in in the Sud and Grand'Anse departments.

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