



ICRC

**HEALTH IT'S A
CARE MATTER
IN OF LIFE
DANGER & DEATH**

Security Survey for Health Facilities

Objective

Security Survey for health care facilities is diagnostic tool that allows to:

1. Assess the current level of preparedness of any given facility to continue operating despite risks associated with armed conflict or other situations of violence
2. Identify which interventions should be prioritized to increase that level of preparedness.

Background

The tool has been informed by the recommendations from the publication “Ensuring Preparedness and Security of Health-Care Facilities in Armed Conflict and Other Emergencies” and by the Hospital Safety Index promoted by the World Health Organization and PAHO.¹

The development of the Security Survey, led by the ICRC/the Water and Habitat Unit, has been supported and promoted by the HciD Project, the International Federation of Hospitals, MSF Switzerland and the WHO, who form a working group promoting measures to increase the preparedness of health facilities exposed to the effects of armed conflict.

Structure

The survey consists of three modules:

1. the hazards that the facility is confronted with
2. management measures in place
3. state of physical infrastructure of the facility.

Each of these modules is further divided into categories and each category contains the indicators that represent the actual items considered when conducting the assessment. A detailed description of each indicator as well as instructions on how to conduct the assessment and how to analyse the findings are provided in the manual.

The Security Survey package includes: a User’s Manual and a Dashboard for a review of the results. The Survey can be downloaded from the ICRC website: www.icrc.org/en/publication/4315-security-survey-health-facilities.

The Security Survey is designed to be applicable to all range of facilities across geographical contexts. However, if a more in depth-analysis of measures related to a very specific threat or context is needed, it is recommended to supplement this survey with other tools.

Who can conduct an assessment:

Given the multidisciplinary nature of this survey, it is required that main assessor is familiar with basic understanding of the facility’s general management and also of its infrastructure. However, specific technical background is not needed if the evaluation of more technical indicators is verified by other experts.

¹ These recommendations were identified during expert consultations held under the framework of the Health Care in Danger Project (HciD Project) in Ottawa, Canada and Pretoria, South Africa, in September 2013 and April 2014, respectively.