Health-related Quality of Life of Palestine Refugees Inside and Outside Camps in Jordan

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Background: Jordan hosts more Palestine refugees than any country in the world. Conditions under which people in a community live influence their health-related quality of life (HRQOL).

Purpose: The study purpose was to compare HRQOL of Palestine refugees in Jordan who lived inside camps with those who lived outside camps.

Method: Participants, recruited from inside the Baqa’a camp (n = 86) and surrounding Abu Nsair community (n = 91), completed the World Health Organization Quality of Life Brief Questionnaire.

Discussion: There were disparities in education and social relations and environment HRQOL related to income and residency, but not gender, among refugees.

Conclusions: Refugees living inside camps, particularly if poorer, fared worse than refugees living outside camps. Enhanced programs and policies may be needed to improve HRQOL, education and socioeconomics for camp refugees. Nursing’s perspective on refugee health could be an important contribution to humanitarian efforts and health diplomacy.