5 February 2019 – The World Health Organization (WHO) warns of increasing attacks on health facilities and workers in both frequency and scale. WHO has documented more than 41 attacks targeting health workers and facilities throughout 2018–2019 across the country. These attacks resulted in 6 health workers and patients killed and 25 health workers injured. An additional seven health workers were also assaulted during this period.

As the fighting across the country continues, the number of health facilities destroyed or damaged by attacks is increasing, depriving thousands of people in need of urgent and essential health care. In Libya, almost 75% of health facilities are closed or only partially functioning due to the ongoing political crisis, and there is a severe shortage of health staff. Increasing attacks on health care deprive thousands of people of health services and further weaken the health system.

"WHO once again demands that all parties in the conflict respect the safety of health workers, health facilities and medical supplies, and the overall sanctity of health care. The pattern of attacks indicates that health care is being deliberately targeted in the conflict area – this is a major violation of International Humanitarian Law and a tragic disregard of our common humanity. Such attacks are an outrage that put many more lives in danger in Libya and deprive the most vulnerable, including children and pregnant women, of their right to health services, just at the time when they need them most," Dr Jaffar Hussein, WHO Representative and head of the mission said.

http://www.emro.who.int/lby/libya-news/who-warns-of-increasing-attacks-on-health-facilities-in-libya.html