## Improving support and providing access to healthcare for refugees arriving in the UK and mental health crisis support.

In 2020 the UNHCR estimated that global forced displacement surpassed 80 million people. Since then, other conflicts such as that in Afghanistan and climate change have increased migration.

Doctors of the World UK, part of the Médecins du Monde network of 16 countries, has delivered medical care to thousands of undocumented migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in its clinics, both static and mobile. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Doctors of the World introduced remote clinics covering the whole of the UK and published regular up-to-date information, both written and video, in many languages.

The average length of time our service users have been in the UK on first presentation is five and a half years. This means that by the time they feel able to seek advice, illnesses both physical and psychological are often very advanced and complex. In this session, I will present some case histories and describe an holistic approach to helping this particularly vulnerable group of people. I will refer to the lessons learnt from those fleeing the Syrian war. Finally, I will explain how those working in the clinic cope with what is extremely challenging work.

Dr Peter Gough October 2021