

Country: Cyprus

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No. Asylum seekers 2007	No. of persons granted protection	No. of Ngos'/ GOs'/ projects offering mental health services	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with persons with broken family links	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with survivors of torture	No. of NGOs'/ GOs'/ projects working with the elderly and frail
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Access to health system: Theoretical: According to the Refugees (Reception Conditions of Asylum Seekers) Regulations asylum seekers are entitled to free medical care (same access as Cypriots) if they do not have enough means of subsistence (excluding mental health services). In practice: free medical care is limited only to casualties and basic health care.

Legal Access to mental health care: A specific right to access to mental health care does not exist in any legal instrument. But it may be presumed that access to mental health care comes within the general right to health care provided for in the relevant Law and regulations.

Systematic assessment of mental health needs: No systematic mental health assessment is provided. Mental health needs may be only identified in the context of the provision of social and legal advice provided to asylum seekers and refugees from some NGOs such as KISA. Another possibility is mental health needs to be identified through the interview procedures for the assessment of an asylum application from the competent authorities.

Main stakeholders in the asylum system: Asylum Service (1st level of jurisdiction), Refugee Reviewing Authority (2nd level of jurisdiction) Supreme Court (3rd instance), Ngo's like KISA-Action for Equality, Support, Antiracism.

Country specific features: What drew my attention? Almost no NGO network for asylum seekers and refugees.

Difficulties: In practice it is difficult to access healthcare beyond emergency treatment and basic healthcare.