HEALTH

EXTENDING THE BENEFITS OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE ACROSS BOTH COMMUNITIES

Health post, Camp 4, Kutupalong camp:
There's an unmistakable hint of pride in Dr
Kazi Islam's manner as he shows visitors
around the bustling primary health care centre where he works as medical officer in
charge. At first sight, the location – next to a
busy unpaved road through Kutupalong's
Camp 4 – is unremarkable.

But as Dr Kazi quickly points out, the health post — operated by the NGO Partners in Health and Development with UNICEF support — only moved here recently because of the danger of landslides at its former site. Moreover, the neat, blue-painted building is constructed of brick and cement, and far more durable than the bamboo structure it replaced.

Inside, around 30 women, many with small children, sit in the waiting area. Twenty-year-old Olmorija has come with her three-month-old baby Abu Salam, who is suffering from a fever and cough.

"I heard about this place through the health volunteer who came to my shelter," Olmorija says, referring to one of eight volunteer counselors based at the centre who go door-to-door in the surrounding camp to promote its services.



Rohingya refugees wait to collect medicines at a UNICEF-supported Health Care Post in Kutupalong camp.

20 CHILD ALERT