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College of Medicine and Health Sciences

Spring 5-2022

Institute of Public Health Newsletter- Volume3, Issue2

Institute of Public Health (IPH)

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Issue 2, Volume 3
May - August 2022

IPH Newsletter



TABLE OF CONTENT

Opening Message	1
News & Activities	3
IPH Faculty and Staff Profiles	8
Interview	10
Graduate studies PhD, MPH	12
IPH Webinars	17
ASPHER News	19
IPH Publications	23
IPH Grants	25
IPH Journey	26
IPH in numbers	27
Social News	28

Allow me to introduce the amazing editorial board that worked tirelessly to produce this newsletter:



Prof. Michal Grivna
Director of the at the IPH.



Mr. Aminu Abdullahi
Medical Research Specialist at the IPH.



Dr. Iffat ElBarazi
Assistant Professor at the IPH.



Mr. Ismail El Konaisi
Postgraduate Administrator at the IPH.



Miss Bayan Abu Hamada
Research Assistant at the IPH.



Dr. Maryam Bashir
PhD Candidate at the IPH.



Dr. Rami Al-Rifai
Associate Professor at the IPH.

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS



UAEU IPH



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UAEU-IPH



@UAEU_IPH

OPENING MESSAGE

Editor-in-Chief Dr. Azhar Rahma



Dear readers: It is great to meet you again. Thank you for the great feedback and encouraging comments you showered us regarding the first issue of 2022. Your support and encouragements ignite our efforts to work tirelessly and give you our best.

In the summer, I was reading the book *Public Health 101: Healthy People-Healthy Population* by Richard Riegelman and Brenda Kirkwood, and I want to share an exciting story from chapter one. "I woke up this morning, washed my hands, brushed, flossed my teeth, and took my blood pressure and cholesterol medications with a glass of

water. Then I did my exercise and took a shower. On the way to the kitchen, I did not even notice the smoke detector I passed. I took the milk out of the refrigerator and drank it with my breakfast. Then I walked out my door into the clean air and got in my car. I put on my seat belt, saw the light go on for the airbag, and drove to work. I got to my office, where I paid little attention to the new defibrillator at the entrance, the "no smoking" signs, or the absence of asbestos. It was not a very eventful morning, but it is all about the successes of public health that we take for granted. From water chlorination and fluoridation that eliminated the transmission of common bacterial diseases and dramatically impacted dental health to the preventive successes related to cardiovascular diseases in terms of

exercise, medication, and cigarette smoking prevention efforts and the widespread availability of defibrillators, The food safety and refrigerators, the injury prevention and seatbelts, the quality of air and population health."

I shared this story with you to shed light on the fact that public health is everywhere. We at IPH are occupied with improving the health of the population. Therefore, the IPH newsletter features our commitment to this mission and vision, with all our news, activities, meetings, research, publications, and awards.

I wish you a happy time reading our second issue of the IPH newsletter for the year 2022 and looking forward to all your comments and feedback as I consider you (our readers) our partners in the mission of achieving better health for all.

UAE University Second Women Research Forum

Prof. Fatima Al-Maskari presented her research titled "Gestational Diabetes Mellitus: A Cross-Sectional Survey of Knowledge and Associated Factors among United Arab Emirates University Students" on August 25, 2022.



Emirates Health Technology Assessment (EHTA)

On April 12, 2022, the College Council approved a proposal from IPH & CMHS Research Office to establish a Health Technology Assessment Research Unit – "Emirates Health Technology Assessment (EHTA)". EHTA will open doors for further collaboration with health authorities and other industry entities in the UAE and abroad. Dr. Mohamed El- Sadeq had been appointed as the head of the Unit.



SINMAC 2022 - SEHA Nursing, Midwifery, and Allied Health Conference

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi has been invited to join the Scientific Committee of SINMAC 2022 - SEHA Nursing, Midwifery, and Allied Health Conference, which was held in September 2022.

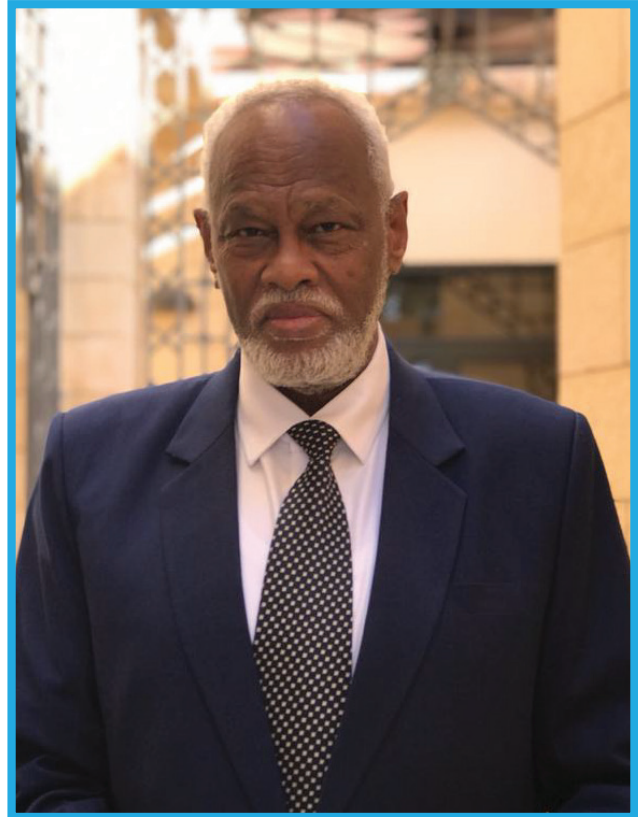
Prof. Timothy Johnson, President of the World Association for Public Opinion Research (WAPOR)

Dr. Tatiana Karabchuk, Associate Professor from the College of Humanities & Social Science, UAEU, had invited Prof. Michal Grivna, Dr. Iffat ElBarazi, and Dr. Azhar Talal, to a meeting with Prof. Timothy Johnson, WAPOR President. The meeting took place in the Crescent building on May 17, 2022. The panel discussed opportunities to participate in the 75th WAPOR conference in Dubai in November 2022, as well as WAPOR membership and possibilities of publications in the Journal of Public Opinion Research (Q1).



International Public Health Microbiology Seminar Series - “A Global Pandemic - What have we learned?”

On May 18, 2022, Professor Mohamud Sheek-Hussein presented about the UAE's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and future preparedness planning. The seminar was hosted by the Scottish Health Protection Network (SHPN) Public Health Microbiology Group. SHPN is facilitating a seminar series with invited international speakers to discuss the COVID-19 pandemic response in different geographical cultures to share experience and knowledge. The invitation received by Prof. Mohamud is part of the international collaboration with Public Health Scotland led by Dr. Stephanie Thomas.



Meeting with Dr. Liane Comeau, Executive Director of the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE)

Prof. Michal Grivna and Dr. Iffat ElBarazi conducted an online meeting with Dr. Liane Comeau, the Executive Director of IUHPE. The meeting was held on May 24, 2022, and aimed to discuss collaboration between IPH and IUHPE on several levels. IUHPE is a global professional non-governmental organization dedicated to health promotion around the world. For more than 65 years, IUHPE has operated an independent, international, professional network of people and institutions committed to improving the health and well-being of the people through education, community action, and the development of healthy public policy.



WHO-EMRO Tropical Diseases Research (TDR) course in implementation research 2022

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi and Dr. Azhar Talal had been selected by WHO-EMRO to enroll in the Tropical Diseases Research (TDR) course in implementation research 2022. The course spans over 4 weeks and addresses the implementation research, diversity of contexts and settings, developing/designing implementation strategies, and implementation research outcomes.

Emergency, Crisis, and Disaster Management Consultant

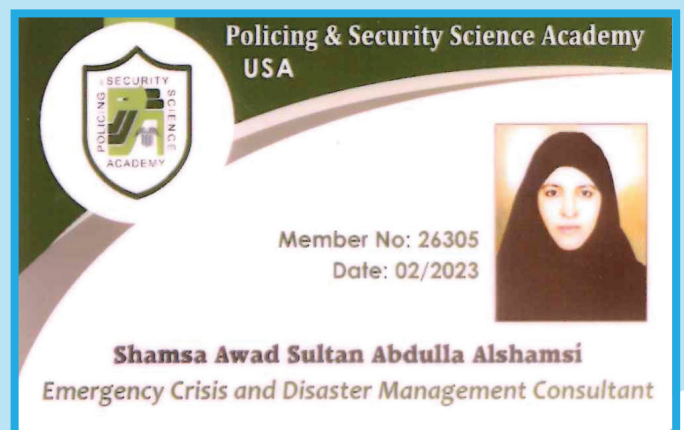
Mrs. Shamsa Al Shamsi (Senior Administrator at the IPH) was awarded a membership from the Policing & Security Science Academy, California, the USA, as an Emergency, Crisis, and Disaster Management Consultant.

A presentation about Emergence of NCD Risk Factors in Developed and Developing Countries: Prevention First

Prof. Syed Shah conducted a webinar on May 29, 2022, about the Emergence of NCD Risk Factors in Developed and Developing Countries: Prevention First. It was attended by international participants and received positive feedback.

MoU between UAE University and Pure Health Group

Dr. Javid Nauman conducted a meeting on May 26, 2022 with Dr. Erik Koornneef, Director of Research and Innovation at Pure Health Group, to discuss collaboration and research opportunities regarding the employee wellness program. Follow-up meetings are planned to sign an official MoU between UAE University and Pure Health Group.



CHMS - Department Chair Research Seminar Series

Prof. Michal Grivna, the Director of the Institute of Public Health, presented during the Department Chair Research Seminar Series about the IPH. The seminar took place on June 7, 2022, at the Yanah Theater in the CMHS. The hybrid event was moderated by Prof. Juma Al Kaabi Acting Dean, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates University. In his presentation, Prof. Michal highlighted the research activities of the Institute as well as the international and regional collaborations.



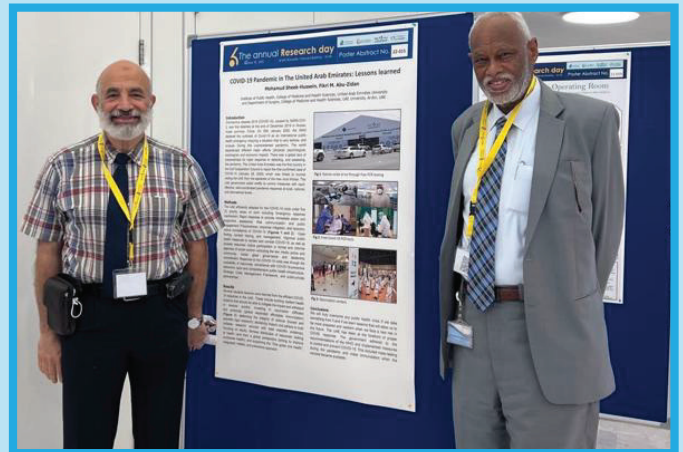
Collaboration with Gulf Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (GCDC)

On Wednesday, June 22, 2022, representatives from IPH met with the GCDC at the CMHS to discuss the roadmap of collaboration. Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussein facilitated the meeting and started it with the introductory welcome, then Prof. Juma Al Kaabi (Acting Dean) welcomed the GCDC team and emphasized that the partnership will strengthen the efforts of disease prevention. Dr. Rami Beiram (Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies) welcomed the GCDC team and indicated that such collaboration is an umbrella to work together to address both communicable and non-communicable diseases in the Gulf region. Prof. Fatma Al-Maskari (Acting Chair of the IPH) welcomed the GCDC team and thanked them for the initiative to collaborate with the Institute of Public Health which is a very active institute in terms of research and teaching. Dr. Stephanie Thomas from Public Health Scotland welcomed the team and envisioned a Gulf surveillance system with epidemic intelligence with regional relevance and fostering trust with stakeholders. Dr. Rami Al-Rifai introduced the IPH structure, pillars, activities, research, collaboration, taskforces, collaborators, and training.



The annual UAEU-CMHS & Tawam Hospital Research Day

Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussein presented a poster at the annual UAEU-CMHS & Tawam Hospital Research Day conducted on June 18, 2022 about COVID-19 Pandemic in the United Arab Emirates: Lessons Learned.



Prof. Fikri Abu - Zidan and Prof. Mahmoud Sheek

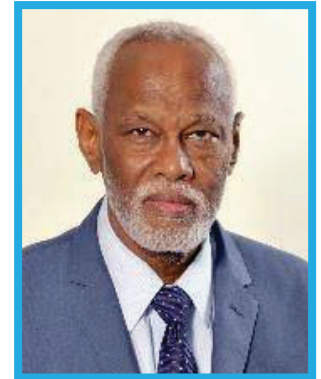
European Society of Medicine Assembly

Dr. Azhar Talal presented at the European Society of Medicine Assembly held between 4 and 6 August 2022. Her presentation was titled "The genetic and pharmacogenomics literacy of the community in the United Arab Emirates." The assembly shares the latest developments in medicine and serves as an opportunity to shape public health policy and tackle significant challenges in medicine.

The image displays a presentation poster and a social media-style announcement for the ES MED General Assembly. The poster, titled "The genetic and pharmacogenomics literacy of the community in the United Arab Emirates", lists authors including Dr. Azhar T. Rahma, Prof. Bassam R. Ali, Prof. George P. Patrinos, Prof. Luai A. Ahmed, Dr. Ifat Elbarazi, Mahanna Elsheik, Maram Abbas, Farah Afandi, Aisha Alnaqbi, Aminu Abdullahi, and Prof. Fatma Al Maskari. The announcement features the ES MED logo, the title of the presentation, and the dates "4-6 August Online". It also includes social media sharing icons for WhatsApp, Telegram, and Facebook, and identifies the presenter as Azhar Rahma from United Arab Emirates University. The year "2022" and the ES MED logo are also present.

PROMOTIONS

IPH distinguished colleagues - Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussein and Prof. Luai Ahmed have been promoted to FULL PROFESSORS! This is a well-deserved recognition of many years of hard and successful academic work.



Dr. Emad Masuadi, New Assistant Professor, Institute of Public Health

Dr. Masuadi earned a Master's degree in Statistics in 1998 from Yarmouk University, Irbid, Jordan. He graduated with a PhD in Statistics (Survival Analysis) in 2013 from Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK. Upon graduation, he joined King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Riyadh, KSA. Dr. Masuadi has over 20 years of experience in teaching. During his career, he taught a variety of courses such as Biostatistics, Statistics for Biology, Statistics for Social Science, Engineering Statistics and Business Statistics. In addition, Dr. Masuadi has extended experience in applied statistics as well as data analysis in different disciplines. He has over 120 publications in medical journals. Dr. Masuadi is an expert in statistical software such as R, SPSS, JMP, MINITAB, GAUSS, STATA, and SAS.



Dr. Emad Masuadi with H.E. Zaki Nusseibeh, Chancellor

NEW APPOINTMENT

Dr. Zufishan Alam, Medical Research Specialist

IPH welcomed a new Medical Research Specialist in May 2022. Dr. Alam is a medical graduate from Fatima Jinnah Medical University, Pakistan. After graduating as a medical doctor, she moved to Australia and completed her Australian Medical Council eligibility exams. Having developed a strong passion for research in Community Medicine and Public Health during her undergraduate training, she entered into the MPhil program at the Faculty of Medicine, The University of Queensland (UQ), and successfully articulated to PhD program subsequently. She has finished her thesis submission and is awaiting graduation. During the course of her candidature, she has had the opportunity to develop expertise in mixed method research, author a number of publications, teach students from the MD program in public health course modules and provide them co-supervision on research skills during their placement at Centre for Health Services Research (CHSR), UQ. Her key areas of interest include preventive medicine, health promotion, women's health, and migrant health. She is also the recipient of a number of awards, including the Excellence in Research award by the Public Health Association Australia and the UQ School of Public Health BBV/STI Professorial Chair PhD scholarship award. In order to put her research into practice, she has actively participated in the development of cancer screening resources in liaison with NGOs and worked with the Queensland Government, Department of Health, for the implementation of the renewed cervical screening program.



General President of the World Institute for Remote Area Medicine worldwide

Dr. Nahyan Hilal, Adjunct Assistant Professor at IPH, was unanimously elected by the members of the Supreme Council of the World Institute as General President of the World Institute for Remote Area Medicine worldwide, based in the United Kingdom, handling the first election of its kind for an Arab doctor



INTERVIEW

Interview with Mrs. Souheila Zouhair Ali Hassan (Adjunct Lecturer at the Institute of Public Health (since 2012))

Interview conducted by Bayan Abu Hamada



Bayan: Could you briefly introduce yourself?

I am a health education specialist and currently working as the Corporate Senior Health Education Officer and Chairperson of SEHA Health Education and Wellbeing committee/subcommittees at Abu Dhabi Health Services Co. (SEHA).

I earned my MSc in Healthcare Management with Honor from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and a BSc from the American University of Beirut. I am certified as Master Certified Health Education Specialist – MCHES®, a Certified Health Education Specialist – CHES®, and Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality –CPHQ.

As a seasoned professional with more than two decades of experience, 16 of which were spent in a healthcare facility, I have maintained, throughout my career, a high level of performance in health promotion and education, primarily in healthcare and community settings. My responsibilities include the following: initiate and oversee Health Promotion & Education service, manage and improve healthcare processes, design and manage intervention programs and activities, develop and implement health education resource inventory, lead multidisciplinary related accreditation teams, as well as communicate, promote, and advocate for health education for the intended audience.

I have also pursued my passion for training and teaching in health promotion and patient education; one real-life milestone is my position as an Adjunct Lecturer at the Institute of Public Health at the UAE University since 2012.

Bayan: What attracted you to the UAE generally and to the public health specifically?

The UAE is a fast-growing, ever-developing country that embraces excellent quality of living. Similarly, the healthcare system has progressed and robustly developed to provide preventative and curative approaches. This has provided an excellent opportunity to initiate and organize health promotion and education programs such as: establishing a patient education system in healthcare, developing health education resources, advocating for health, and enhancing health literacy practices among healthcare providers.

One of the greatest testaments of the country's public health sector came with the global coronavirus pandemic. The smooth transition from the lockdowns to the country's immunization campaigns allowed for the public's timely bounce back to a post-pandemic life. As a health education specialist, I was actively engaged in training staff, supporting processes and workflow build-up, facilitating reliable health education resources in addition to advocating and promoting preventative health measures.

Bayan: What contributions do you aim to make to our College/department in the future?

I am fortunate to be part of a dynamic team at the Institute of Public Health and to contribute to academia. I am proud to work with the UAE's first highly reputable medical school. I assist in teaching health promotion/ patient education to medical students and expose them to knowledge and skill areas that they can refer to in their practical experience.

It is a crucial step to mentor students as a means to offer them guidance and provide patient education and health communication insights. I look forward to enhancing my work in the field of public health research, especially in the areas of patient education practices, health literacy implementation, healthcare management and accreditation, and providing health promotion/education training to healthcare providers.

Bayan: Could you describe how you prepare for courses?

It is critical for me to correlate updated evidence-based theories with real experiences and scenarios while creating lessons or sessions in general. I strongly believe that this will help students relate to and reflect on their professional development pathway.

I also believe in applying a collaborative and interactive approach in the classroom rather than lecturing. It is important to allow the room for students to be as inquisitive and interactive as possible.

Bayan: What, in your opinion, are three traits that make an excellent Adjunct Professor?

Adjunct Professors bring to the classroom knowledge, experience, connections, and access to resources and complement the institute or the faculty's mission and objectives. Accordingly, I believe that working as an adjunct is a collaborative effort between the university and the adjunct. It is important to keep in connection with the university and get updates on course curricula and educational innovations.

In addition, I would say simply Adjunct Professors need to love to teach and work with students. Adjuncts need to be clear communicators who provide value-added comments and information to students. To do so, adjuncts need to participate in professional development activities that enhance their knowledge and skills.

Last, I would say that adjuncts need to be updated with the technological advances in the academic field, and an orientation in this area would be quite valuable when they start taking this role.

In short, I would say collaboration, value-based communication, and up to date with technology advances.

ACCEPTED ABSTRACTS FOR NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

ISPAH Congress 2022

Three abstracts were submitted by Dr. Ali Al Rahma, titled "Effects of a Workplace Exercise Intervention on Cardiometabolic Health: Randomized Controlled Trial," by Ms. Mitha Al Balushi (PhD student), titled "Association Between Depression and Body Fat Percentage Among Adults In UAE: A Pilot Data from The UAE Healthy Future Study," and by Mr. Aminu S. Abdullahi, titled "Pattern and Changes in Leisure-Time Physical Activity Before and During Pregnancy among Pregnant Women in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates: The Mutaba'ah Study" were accepted for presentation at the 9th International Society for Physical Activity and Health (ISPAH) Congress, 23rd – 26th October 2022 in Abu Dhabi.

EUPHA Conference 2022

Abstracts by Ms. Mitha Al Balushi (PhD student) titled "The Association Between Depression and Body Fat Percentage Among Adults in UAE" and Dr. Maryam Bashir titled "Prevalence of Chronic Diseases Among United Arab Emirates University Students: A Cross-Sectional Study" were accepted for presentation at the 15th European Public Health Conference 2022, EUPHA, Berlin, Germany on November 12, 2022.

IDF Congress 2022

The International Diabetes Federation accepted the abstract by Dr. Maryam Bashir (PhD student) titled "Impact of the COVID-19 RCOG Criteria on GDM Incidence in the United Arab Emirates: A Retrospective Study" for presentation at the IDF World Diabetes Congress 2022, Lisbon, 5- 8th December



Mr. Ismail El Konaisi and Mr. Aminu S. Abdullahi at the (ISPAH Congress)



Dr. Ali Al Rahma at the ISPAH Congress

Ms. Mitha Al Balushi (PhD student) presented a poster on "Association between body fat percentage and self-reported depression among adults in the UAE" on May 25, 2022, during the 16th New York University Abu Dhabi annual research showcase.



On June 4, 2022, **Ms. Shirien Yunus (PhD student)** presented a poster titled "Prevalence and associated risk factors for intimate partner violence in the Himalayan Mountain Villages of Gilgit Baltistan" at the 30th European Congress of Psychiatry (EPA 2022) held virtually.

Intimate-partner violence in the Himalayan Mountain Villages of Gilgit Baltistan
 Shirien Yunus¹, Gul Norehuda², Saeed M. Shah³
¹Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates University, ²Center for Clinical Research, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA, USA

Introduction: Intimate partner Violence (IPV) against women includes all actions that violate one's sense of self, physical body and sense of trust and involves episodes of violence of physical, psychological (emotional), or sexual nature, perpetrated by a current or former intimate partner. IPV is associated with an increased risk of physical and mental health conditions including major depression, suicidal behaviours, and anxiety.¹ Known risk factors for IPV include: unplanned pregnancies, low level of education of parents, younger age, unmarried status, living in isolated rural areas, and low access to information and communication technologies.²

The occurrence of IPV is a significant public health burden in Pakistan. Few data were available about the prevalence of IPV and its associated risk factors in this region's remote rural villages.

Study Objectives: We estimated the prevalence of and risk factors for intimate partner violence (IPV) in the Himalayan mountain villages of Gilgit Baltistan in Pakistan.

Methods: We employed a cross-sectional study to randomly select ever married women (n=789) aged 18-49, in high mountain villages of Pakistan. The sampling frame was from the Agha Khan Health Service Pakistan (AKHSP), utilizing a two-stage cluster sampling strategy among the total number of households in the Ghizer district. We used an adapted World Health Organization (WHO) domestic violence screening instrument to assess women's experience of IPV in the previous 12 months. This included physical and emotional abuse, but not sexual abuse due to cultural sensitivity. We used an indigenous validated instrument, the Agha Khan University Anxiety and Depression (AKUAD) scale, to assess self-reported symptoms of major depression according to the DSM-IV.

Trained nurses obtained socio-demographic and reproductive history through face-to-face structured interviews in Urdu. Multivariable logistic regression analysis was used to identify significant predictors of IPV using adjusted odds ratio [AOR] with 95% confidence intervals [CI].

Results: Data collection was completed in 2019, with a 94.9% response rate. The mean age of the participants was 38.3 years (SD: ±12.8) and the average monthly household income was about US \$7. The overall prevalence of IPV was 22.8% (95% CI: 20.0-25.9).

Women exposed to IPV were less likely to have husbands educated at a college or a higher [AOR: 0.40; 95%CI: 0.22-0.70], household income in the middle or the highest tertile [AOR: 0.44; 95%CI: 0.29-0.68], and were more likely to have poor or very poor relationship with their mother in law [AOR:2.85; 95% CI: 1.90-4.28], to have a poor quality of health [AOR= 2.74; 95% CI: 1.90-3.92], poor quality of life [AOR= 3.54; 95%CI: 1.90-6.58], and higher odds of experiencing depressive symptoms [AOR=1.97; 95%CI:1.39-2.77].

Conclusion: IPV is a substantial public health burden in Himalayan mountain villages. Given the significant association with depressive symptoms, IPV merits serious attention.

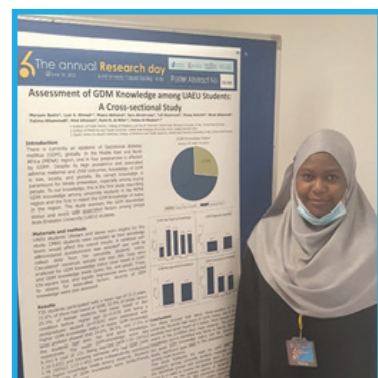
¹Campbell AC. Health consequences of intimate partner violence. *Lancet*. 2002; 359:1341-46.

²Maklesbach AK, Stock R, Mitha M, Mollander-Torres CJ, Siddiqui S, Ghazi CT, Humphreys DK. Risk and protective factors for intimate partner violence against women: Systematic review and meta-analysis of prospective longitudinal studies. *Am J Public Health*. 2020; 110:108-113.

United Arab Emirates University
College of Medicine and Health Sciences

معهد أبو ظبي للبحوث الصحية
الجامعة العربية المتحدة

Dr. Maryam Bashir (PhD student) presented a poster on "'Assessment of GDM Knowledge among UAEU Students: A Cross-Sectional Study'" on June 18, 2022, at the 6th Annual Al Ain Regional Research Day.



LAUNCHING OF OFFICIAL WEBSITE

On May 20, 2022, our PhD student, Ms. Mitha Al Balushi, launched her official website in English and Arabic for health awareness and community health research as a public health promoter, counselor in self-development, women empowerment programs coordinator, and family counselor.



LAUNCHING OF THE AL AIN HEAT SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Dr. Ghuwaya Alnuaimi (PhD graduate), Head of the Awareness and Communication Department at the Environment, Health and Safety Department is spearheading the launch of the safety in the heat campaign. It targets workers in the construction sector in Al Ain to enhance awareness of the importance of taking the necessary measures as well as understanding and implementing the heat stress management by employers. It continues till September 2023.

RESEARCH LICENSE ISSUED FOR MEDIA ZONE-ABU DHABI

Ms. Mitha Al Balushi was licensed as a "researcher" under the Abu Dhabi Media Zone Authority. This gives the permission to practice research-related activities within the Media Zone-Abu Dhabi.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

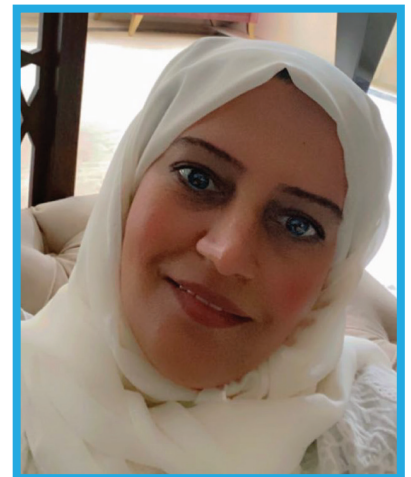
Dr. Mohammed Al Houqani is the Secretary General of the National Institute for Health Specialties, which is the accrediting and certifying body for postgraduate clinical training programs in the UAE. Dr. Al Houqani is an Associate Professor at United Arab Emirates University, Consultant of Internal Medicine, Respiriology and Sleep Medicine. He served as the Assistant Dean for Medical Education for 5 years. Dr. Al Houqani is a Fellow of Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, Internal Medicine & Respiriology. He published 26 papers on tobacco and sleep disorders, and he was a keynote speaker in various international and regional conferences, workshops, and webinars.



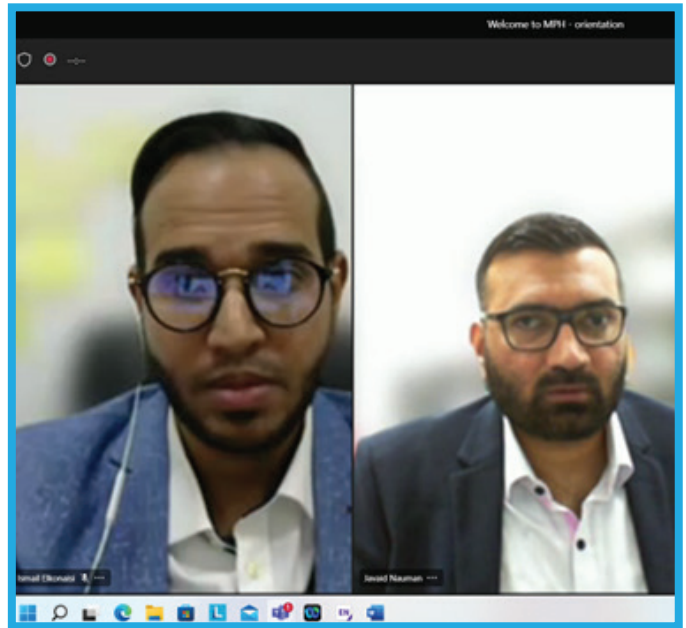
Ms. Bayan Abu Hamada is a research at the CMHS, UAE University and assistant at the Institute of Public Health at the United Arab Emirates University - UAE. She obtained her bachelor's degree in molecular biology in 2017 from the College of Science at MHS University. Then she had her Master's in Public Health in 2021 from the Institute of Public Health, United Arab Emirates University. Ms. Bayan previously worked at the Emirates Center for Happiness Research, UAE University, and has an experience in qualitative research and school-based research. In June 2022, she had her first publication as a co-author entitled "The effect of COVID-19 diagnosis on the physical, social and psychological well-being of people in the United Arab Emirates: An explorative qualitative study."



Dr. Sharifa Alblooshi is an Assistant Professor of Public Health and Nutrition at Zayed University, UAE. She received her PhD in Public Health from the UAE University, in 2017. She has around 20 years of leadership and four years of academic experience in Public Health and Nutrition in the UAE. Her research areas are mainly in Public Health and Nutrition: Vitamin D, Physical Activity, Diabetes Mellitus, and Obesity. She is a member of the Emirates Society for Nutrition (ESN), Emirates Public Health Association, the American Society for Nutrition (ASN), and the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) – UK.



An orientation for the new batch of MPH students was conducted in August, 17, 2022. Dr. Javaid Nauman, the Director of the MPH program, welcomed the students and introduced them to the structure of the MPH. Mr. Ismail Elkonaisi, IPH Postgraduate Administrator, walked them through the process of registration on blackboard and e-service. Mrs. Mariam Al Saedi, Admission Executive at CMHS, addressed their logistic questions. Dr. Azhar Talal, an Instructor at IPH, welcomed them and introduced them to the IPH activities and webinars. The students got the chance to raise their queries in the Q&A session and were satisfied with the orientation.



Defense of Dr. Ali Al Rahma

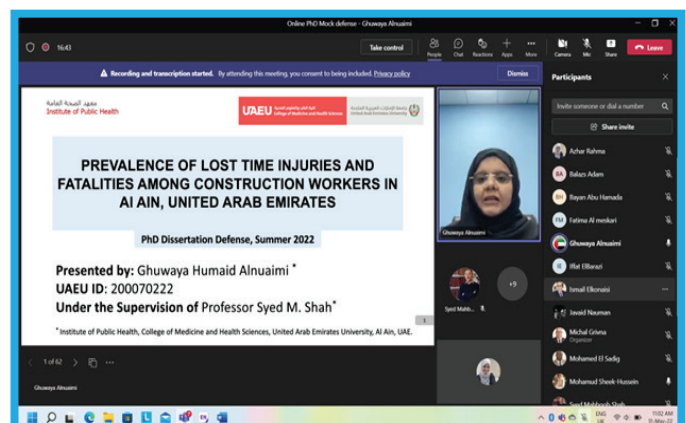
Dr. Ali Al Rahma successfully defended his PhD dissertation on June 1, 2022. His thesis was titled "Effects of a Workplace Exercise Intervention on Cardiometabolic Health: Randomized Controlled Trial."

Congratulations to Dr. Ali, his supervisor Dr. Javaid Nauman and his Thesis Advisory Committee!



Defense of Dr. Ghuwaya Alnuaimi

Dr. Ghuwaya Humaid Alnuaimi successfully defended her PhD dissertation on June 8, 2022. Her thesis was titled "The Prevalence of Lost Time Injuries & Fatalities Among Construction Workers In Al Ain, United Arab Emirates." Congratulations to Dr. Ghuwaya, her supervisor Prof. Syed Shah and her TAC!



The IPH would like to thank all the support from the College of Graduate Studies, CMHS Office for Graduate Studies – Dr. Rami Beiram, Ms. Mariam Al Saedi, Ms. Khatija Parekh, our PhD Coordinator in Public Health Program, Dr. Rami Al-Rifai and our Graduate Studies Administrator – Mr. Ismail Elkonaisi, and all the colleagues and peers who supported Dr. Ali's & Dr. Ghuwaya's successful PhD journey.

IPH WEBINARS

The Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine and Health Sciences (CMHS), United Arab Emirates University (UAEU) hosted a webinar on "Aid effectiveness and multi-stakeholder participation in Public Health". It was held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 7:00 pm UAE time (3:00 pm GMT).

The webinar was delivered by Dr. Padmini Murthy, Global Health Director/ Professor, Global Health Lead American Medical Women's Association, Focal point SDG3 Hub United Nations Academic Impact, Secretary General Medical Women's International Association, Chair International Health Section APHA, 1st Vice President Global NGO Executive Committee, Sr Fellow Public Private Alliance Foundation.

معهد الصحة العامة
Institute of Public Health

UAEU United Arab Emirates University
College of Medicine and Health Sciences

جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
United Arab Emirates University

ASPHEM
The Association of Schools of Public Health
in the European Region

To watch the recording of the webinar, kindly

[CLICK HERE](#)

CME Accredited

Aid Effectiveness and Multi-stakeholder participation in Public Health

Dr. Padmini Murthy
Global Health Director at New York Medical College School of Health Sciences and Practice, USA

THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH

Wednesday, 18th May 2022 7:00 PM (UAE Time)

The Institute of Public Health, CMHS, UAEU organized a webinar on "Vulnerability and resilience in maternal, newborn and child health: The role of gender norms and opportunities for gender-transformative intervention" held on Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at 7:30 pm UAE time (3:30 am GMT). The webinar was delivered by Dr. Emmanuel Olamijuwon (CHERISH Research Fellow, School of Primary Care, University of Southampton, UK)

معهد الصحة العامة
Institute of Public Health

UAEU United Arab Emirates University
College of Medicine and Health Sciences

جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
United Arab Emirates University

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The Association of Schools of Public Health
in the European Region

To watch the recording of the webinar, kindly

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Vulnerability and resilience in maternal, newborn and child health: The role of gender norms and opportunities for gender-transformative interventions

Dr Emmanuel Olamijuwon
CHERISH Research Fellow, School of Primary Care, University of Southampton, UK

THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH

Tuesday, 28th June 2022 7:30 PM (UAE Time)

CME Accredited

IPH WEBINARS

The Institute of Public Health, CMHS, UAEU hosted a webinar on the topic "Smoking and Midwakh It's time to quit". It was held on Wednesday, May 31, 2022, at 7:30 pm UAE time (3:30 pm GMT). The webinar was delivered by Dr. Mohammad Al Houqani, Associate Professor CMHS, UAEU, and Dr. Budoor Al Shehhi, Head of the Chronic Disease Department at Abu Dhabi Public Health Center, UAE

To watch the recording of the webinar, kindly [CLICK HERE](#)

معهد الصحة العامة
Institute of Public Health

UAEU جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
College of Medicine and Health Sciences United Arab Emirates University

Dr. Budoor Al Shehhi
رئيس وحدة الأمراض المزمنة في مركز أبو ظبي للصحة العامة

التدخين و المدواخ ، قد
حان وقت الإقلاع

Dr. Mohammad Al Houqani
مستأذ مشارك بجامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة ، استشاري الصدرية و أمين عام المعهد الوطني للتخصصات الصحية

THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH

Tuesday, 31st May 2022 7:30 PM (UAE Time)

CME Accredited

The Institute of Public Health, CMHS, UAEU hosted a webinar on the topic "Adolescents' mental health." It was held on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 7:30 pm UAE time (3:30 pm GMT). The webinar was delivered by Dr. Rasha Bayoumi, Assistant Professor at the University of Birmingham Dubai, UAE

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معهد الصحة العامة
Institute of Public Health

UAEU جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
College of Medicine and Health Sciences United Arab Emirates University

ASPHER
The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region

Dr. Rasha Bayoumi
أخصائية نفسية- أستاذ مساعد في علم النفس بجامعة برمنجهام بدي

الصحة النفسية لليافعين

Dr. Rasha Bayoumi
أستاذ مساعد في جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH

Tuesday, 21st June 2022 7:30 PM (UAE Time)

CME Accredited

Webinar announcements:

Date	Topic	Speaker
November 22, 2022	Introduction to social determinants	Prof. Lorraine Dean, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA
December 13, 2022	Tobacco use by youth, current trends, and risks.	Dr. Salma El-Amin and Dr. Weal Al-Delaimy

Building the Public Health and emergency workforce: A roadmap

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as other ongoing and future challenges such as climate change, rising non-communicable disease burden, antimicrobial resistance and economic inflation, Member States face an unprecedented moment in human history. As countries recover and turn attention to investments in health systems to meet such challenges, now is an opportune time to bolster the public health workforce, including those personnel. On May 18, WHO Headquarters launched the roadmap for strengthening the public health and emergency workforce. This roadmap is the result of joint efforts across leading public health and emergency response experts, organizations and associations. The collaboration process highlighted the importance of engaging policymakers, politicians, practitioners and professional associations; the need to focus on developing competencies and skills as well as mapping and measuring the diverse occupations involved in delivery of the essential public health functions; identifying and understanding key stakeholders as well as defining roles from the outset; and contextualizing to regional, national and subnational settings.

The roadmap can be downloaded
<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/97892240050402>

CLICK HERE 

and the video recordings of the webinar
can be viewed here
(<https://www.youtube.com/user/ghwvideos/featured>) in English, French and Spanish

CLICK HERE 



Invest in Primary Health Care and Public Health for the Pandemic and Beyond: An ASPHER Statement

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as other ongoing and future challenges such as climate change, rising non-communicable disease burden, antimicrobial resistance and economic inflation, Member States face an unprecedented moment in human history. As countries recover and turn attention to investments in health systems to meet such challenges, now is an opportune time to bolster the public health workforce, including those personnel. On May 18, WHO Headquarters launched the roadmap for strengthening the public health and emergency workforce. This roadmap is the result of joint efforts across leading public health and emergency response experts, organizations and associations. The collaboration process highlighted the importance of engaging policymakers, politicians, practitioners and professional associations; the need to focus on developing competencies and skills as well as mapping and measuring the diverse occupations involved in delivery of the essential public health functions; identifying and understanding key stakeholders as well as defining roles from the outset; and contextualizing to regional, national and subnational settings.

Read the full ASPHER Statement now published in Public Health Reviews. (<https://www.ssph-journal.org/articles/10.3389/phrs.2022.1604875/full>)

CLICK HERE 

Lopes H, McCallum A, Martin-Moreno J M, Middleton J. Invest in Primary Health Care and Public Health for the Pandemic and Beyond: An ASPHER Statement. Public Health Reviews, Volume 43, May 30 2022. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3389/phrs.2022.1604875>

CLICK HERE 

Public Health Reviews Call for Papers

Public Health Reviews is multidisciplinary and dedicated to foster knowledge synthesis and translation in public health, in order to inform public health science, practice, policy and education, and improve public health. PHR publishes high quality Reviews of all formats, and Policy Briefs. In addition to accepting papers on all topics in Public Health, PHR has several open calls for papers:

- Neighborhood Influences on Population Health
- Life Course Epidemiology of Chronic Disease - From Surveillance to Interventions
- Transformative Public Health Education
- Covid-19: Guidance from Research for Policy and Practice
- Health In All Sustainable Development Goals

CLICK HERE 

Learn more at <https://www.ssph-journal.org/journals/public-health-reviews/call-for-papers>

Competencies for applied epidemiologists now available in all EU/EEA languages

ECDC has published a report which contains the results of the ASPHER-led project UCCAIDE which reviewed and updated the core competencies in applied infectious disease epidemiology for mid-career applied epidemiologists. **To facilitate the use of the competency set, the report has been translated and is now available in all EU/EEA languages.** (<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/core-competencies-applied-infectious-disease-epidemiology-europe>) To facilitate the use of the competency set, the ECDC has also developed a **self-assessment tool** (<https://eva.ecdc.europa.eu/course/view.php?id=635>), which aims at helping individual professionals analyse their competency level in each domain and identify relevant resources provided by ECDC and its stakeholders. Case studies that show the use of the competency set will also be made available in the near future.



15th European Public Health Conference 2022

Strengthening health systems: improving population health and being prepared for the unexpected - hub27, Berlin, Germany, 9-12 November 2022
<https://ephconference.eu/>



17th World Congress on Public Health 2023

In May 2023, over 3.000 public health professionals and researchers, policymakers, and students will convene in Rome, Italy, for the 17th World Congress on Public Health, a momentous event organized by the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) in association with the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine and Public Health (SIH) and ASPHER.

The theme of the Congress - **A World in Turmoil: Opportunities to Focus on the Public's Health** - reflects our commitment, as the global health community, to work together in and outside of our respective fields to promote health equity and to build a more sustainable and just future.

Important Dates

Registration open and early bird offer: May 9 2022 - December 9 2022

Call for Abstracts open: September 1 2022 - December 9 2022

Submissions are sought on topics aligned with the WCPH2023 International Congress Council.

Online submissions will open on the September 1 2022. Follow this link (<https://wcph.org/>) for more information and any new updates.

Download the WCPH2023 flyer here

(https://www.aspher.org/download/1172/wcph2023_flyer.pdf).

ASPHER Working Group on Economic Evaluation in Healthcare in Europe (EEHE Working Group)

EEHE Webinar Series:

Value-based healthcare

Wednesday September 14 2022 at 14.00-15.30 CEST

Health Technology Assessment

Wednesday December 14 2022 at 14.00-15.30 CEST

Evaluation of antenatal care

Wednesday March 15 2023 at 14.00-15.30 CEST

Contact: For participation and further information about the EEHE Webinar Series, please contact: Milena Pavlova, e-mail: m.pavlova@maastrichtuniversity.nl.

OMI seminar on Economic Evaluation in Healthcare

OMI seminar in partnership with UM and ASPHER is offered to professionals who want to understand the basics of economic evaluation and its application to health technology assessment and decision making.

The Open Medical Institute (OMI) provides online educational resources and learning tools. The OMI Handbook Online gives the OMI alumni free access to the content of the OMI seminars in Salzburg (Austria), which include didactic lectures, workshop materials, and case presentations. The following are the dates of the past and upcoming seminars:

November 26, 2020

Recording of the OMIinar can be accessed **here**

(<https://www.openmedicalinstitute.org/e-learning/>)

October 9-15, 2022

<https://www.openmedicalinstitute.org/seminars/>

April 2-8, 2023

<https://www.openmedicalinstitute.org/seminars/>

For further information about the EEHE Working Group and its activities, please read here.

(<https://aspher.org/economic-evaluation-in-healthcare-in-europe-eehe.html>)

ASPHER Joint Statement on Climate and Health - Final version

In the past few months, the thematic network for the EU Policy Platform on "Climate action

through public health education and training" has been working on a one-voice joint statement of European stakeholders. The joint statement has been the first successful attempt to involve the stakeholder community around this topic with the aim at creating synergy with existing policies.

Link to the Statement:

https://www.aspher.org/download/1135/che_euhpp_statement_aspher_final-version.pdf



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(*publication with graduate students as co-authors | **publication with international collaborators | ***publication with graduate students as co-authors and with international collaborators)

New research grants at the IPH

S/N	Grant type	Faculty recipient	Project title
1.	CMHS	Prof. M. Sheek Hussein	Seroprevalence of selected zoonotic diseases in livestock and abattoir workers at Bawadi slaughterhouse, Al Ain City, United Arab Emirate
2.	CMHS	Dr. Balazs Adam	Genotoxicity of occupational pesticide exposure in Arab countries: a systematic literature review
3.	UAEU Start -up	Dr. Balazs Adam	Comparative genotoxicological analysis of a commonly used pyrethroid insecticide and its product formulation
4.	SURE+	Dr. Iffat Elbarazi	Estimates of burnout and prevalence of depression and anxiety among healthcare workers in Abu Dhabi hospitals: A cross-sectional study
5.	SURE+	Dr. Balazs Adam	Knowledge, attitude, and practices of plastics use during the COVID-19 pandemic among UAEU students: A Cross Sectional Study
6.	SURE+	Dr. Azhar Talal	Attitude and needs of the community pharmacists in Abu-Dhabi Emirates about administering flu and COVID vaccine: A mixed study
7.	SURE+	Prof. Fatma Al -M askari	Gestational diabetes screening, diagnosis, and management: An update of current practice among medical doctors in UAE
8.	SURE+	Dr. Mohamed El Sadig	The prevalence of hypoglycemic episodes among diabetic patients during ramadan in the UAE: A coss-sectional study
9.	SURE+	Prof. Michal Grivna	UAE Quad bike survey: Evidence for intervention in the UAE

Internship at the IPH

Salama Mohammed Hasan Al Khoori



Highlighting the journey in IPH by Ms. Mouza Al Shamsi and Ms. Salama Al Khoori from the College of Business and Economics at the United Arab Emirates University. Both Mouza and Salama conducted their internship at IPH from February till the end of April 2022.

It was a pleasure to be an intern at the Institute of Public Health. I consider my internship here to be one of the best experiences of my life. I have gained a lot of knowledge about a new field to me, which is public health. I really liked the environment, and the faculty was very attentive and respectful. They're talented, ambitious, and deserve to be rewarded. Being Dr. Azhar's intern was a pleasure to me and I appreciate her help and support in my career preparation. During the internship, I got to practice the skills and knowledge I had learned throughout my time in college as well as much more than I learned from the faculty. Last but not the least, I would like to thank the faculty for being a part of making my time here at the Institute of Public Health such a great one!

Mouza Saif Khalfan Alshamsi



My internship at IPH was filled with meeting the most incredible individuals, from academics to staff, each of them went above and beyond to teach us something valuable, but Dr. Azhar was particularly dedicated to mentor and prepare us. During this journey, I was debating whether to continue my study in public health, which is becoming increasingly relevant in our society. Overall, if I could do it all over again, I wouldn't alter a thing since everything was flawless.



IPH in numbers

MAY - AUGUST 2022

9

Publications

2

Defenses

8

Grants

4

Webinars

2203

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SOCIAL NEWS

Prof. Luai Ahmed & Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussain, invited the IPH family for a dinner gathering to celebrate their academic promotions on June 9, 2022, at Ayla Grand Hotel.



