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Institute of Public Health Newsletter- Volume 5, Issue 2

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May - August 2023

IPH

Newsletter



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OPENING MESSAGE



Dear esteemed readers,

It is with great pleasure that I address you today as a guest contributor to this distinguished quarterly Newsletter of the Institute of Public Health (IPH). As we navigate the complex landscape of healthcare challenges and opportunities, it is important that we come together to share knowledge, insights, and innovative solutions. It is through platforms like this Newsletter that we foster collaboration and contribute to the advancement of public health on a global scale.

Public health, as a multidisciplinary field, calls upon us to address the health needs of populations, prevent diseases, and promote well-being. It is a field driven by evidence-based practices and a dedication to equitable healthcare access for all. The stories and articles presented in this Newsletter reflect the diversity of topics and the depth of expertise within the field of public health. From epidemiology and health policy to environmental health and social determinants, each contribution provides valuable insights into the challenges we face and the strategies we employ to create healthier communities.

To the aspiring public health professionals and graduate students reading this newsletter, I encourage you to seize every opportunity to learn, explore, and challenge the status quo. The field of public health needs your fresh perspectives, your passion, and your dedication to make a positive impact. As you embark on your journeys, remember that knowledge is a powerful tool, and it is our responsibility to use it to bring into effect a meaningful change.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to the faculty, staff and students of IPH. Your commitment to excellence and your passion for advancing the field of public health are commendable. I was honored to walk the halls with you during my Fulbright experience.

In conclusion, let us continue to engage in critical discussions, embrace diversity of thought, and collaborate across disciplines to drive progress in public health. Together, we have the power to shape the future of healthcare and create a world where optimal health is a fundamental right for all.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Enjoy reading!

Prof. Allen C. Meadors, PhD MBA, MPA, LFACHE

Chancellor and Professor Emeritus

University of North Carolina-Pembroke

Associate Editor: Frontiers in Public Health

Editor: International Journal of Intelligent Communication, Computing and Networks



Dr. Azhar Rahma
Editor-in-Chief

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



Prof. Michal Grivna
Director of the IPH



Ms. Bayan Abu Hamada
Research Assistant at the IPH



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



Dr. Maryam Bashir
PhD Graduate at the IPH



Dr. Iffat Elbarazi
Assistant Professor at the IPH



Dr. Zufishan Alam
Medical Research Specialist
at the IPH



Mr. Aminu Abdullahi
Medical Research Specialist
at the IPH



Ms. Rouwida El Khalil
PhD candidate at the IPH

Editor and graphics designer



Mr. Ismail ElKonaishi
Postgraduate Studies
Administrator at the IPH

The United Arab Emirates University was ranked 1st in Public Health, Environmental, and Occupational Health in the UAE in 2023 in the Scimago Institutional Rankings.

Our University has ranked first in the UAE in Medicine as well.

Medicine - All sectors				
Category	World	Middle East	ARAB COUNTRIES	United Arab Emirates
Cardiology and Cardiovascular Medicine	1650 th	57 th	23 rd	2 nd
Critical Care and Intensive Care Medicine	610 th	19 th	7 th	2 nd
Dermatology	887 th	50 th	17 th	1 st
Infectious Diseases	2022 nd	135 th	78 th	4 th
Oncology	1774 th	49 th	26 th	3 rd
Pediatrics, Perinatology and Child Health	1482 nd	99 th	37 th	4 th
Psychiatry and Mental Health	1842 nd	92 nd	34 th	3 rd
Public Health, Environmental and Occupational Health	1024 th	43 rd	20 th	1 st
Surgery	935 th	29 th	6 th	1 st

Participation of the IPH at the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region

Prof Michal Grivna , Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussein, Dr. Rami H. Al-Rifai, Dr. Balázs Ádám and Dr. Javaid Nauman from our Institute of Public Health were invited to Dublin to attend the ASPHER Deans & Directors' Retreat.

During the retreat Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussain was awarded the ASPHER Research Excellence Award from the President of ASPHER Prof. Carlo Signorelli.



17th World Congress on Public Health

We are thrilled to have Prof. Michal Grivna, Prof. Luai A. Ahmed, Dr. Rami H. Al-Rifai, Dr. Iffat Elbarazi and our PhD students: Dr. Tahani, Dr. Shamma, Ms. Maitha, and Ms. Alfani Alketbi (Prof. Michal on her behalf) from IPH, present their work at the 17th World Congress on Public Health held in Rome. The conference took place from May 2-6 and was organized by The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region - ASPHER and World Federation of Public Health Associations. Several events took place during the conference including side meetings with the collaborators. Emirates Public Health Association (EPHA) was announced to be official members of the World Federation of Public Health. EPHA directors, vice directors and other members including Dr. Iffat Elbarazi from IPH, were present during the official announcement.



Institute of Public Health listed as a collaborating partner by WHO

From the 2nd to the 9th of May, IPH (represented by Dr. Mohammed Khogali) collaborated with the TDR/WHO in building operational research capacity to accelerate progress towards ending TB/MDR-TB, in hard-to-reach populations in the Kyrgyz Republic. Nine research articles were produced and are now ready to be submitted for publication in a special issue of the Tropical Medicine and Infectious Disease Journal. Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates University is listed as a collaborating partner, in supporting the production of the research in all the articles.

The Inauguration of the Public Health Genotoxicology Lab



We are delighted to announce the grand opening of the newly established Public Health Genotoxicology Lab, an innovative IPH facility dedicated to groundbreaking research in the field of genotoxicology, held on May 11, 2023. The lab's opening ceremony was an exceptional event that brought together esteemed researchers, faculty members, and dignitaries, symbolizing a new chapter in advancing public health. One of the key individuals who has played a pivotal role in the establishment and success of this lab is Dr. Balázs Ádám, the driving force behind this remarkable initiative. Dr. Adam's unwavering dedication and tireless efforts have been instrumental in bringing this vision to life. Dr. Adam's entrepreneurial spirit, combined with his passion for advancing scientific research, has been the driving force behind the creation of this state-of-the-art facility. His keen understanding of the importance of research in genotoxicology for addressing public health challenges has guided the lab's mission and vision.

One of the most remarkable aspects of this lab is the collaborative efforts between renowned experts in their respective fields. Prof. Abdelrahim Neemar, a distinguished figure in the field of Physiology, has joined forces with Prof. Bassam Ali, an accomplished researcher from the Genetic Department. Their expertise and shared vision have paved the way for a fruitful collaboration that promises to push the boundaries of research in genotoxicology.

Prof. Neemar's extensive knowledge of physiological mechanisms, coupled with Prof. Ali's expertise in genetics, have opened up exciting possibilities in understanding the impact of genotoxic agents on human health. Their joint research projects and initiatives within the Public Health Genotoxicology Lab are set to address key challenges, explore new methodologies, and contribute to a deeper understanding of the field.

We must express our deepest gratitude to the management team led by Prof. Juma AlKaabi (acting Dean), whose unwavering support and commitment have made this lab a reality. Prof. AlKaabi's vision for promoting interdisciplinary collaboration and advancing public health research has been instrumental in establishing this cutting-edge facility. We also extend our appreciation to Dr. Rami Beiram (Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies), whose dedication and efforts in coordinating the lab's establishment were invaluable.

Additionally, we would like to acknowledge the support and guidance of Prof. Michal Grivna, an esteemed figure in the field of public health. Prof. Grivna's expertise and mentorship have provided invaluable insights that have shaped the lab's research agenda and direction.

The opening ceremony was a momentous occasion, graced by the presence of esteemed guests, including faculty members, researchers, and members of the scientific community. The event was marked by inspiring speeches, showcasing the lab's state-of-the-art facilities and cutting-edge technologies that will facilitate groundbreaking research endeavors.

As the doors of the Public Health Genotoxicology Lab swing open, we are eager to witness the transformative impact it will have on public health research. By fostering collaborations, leveraging expertise, and employing advanced methodologies, this lab aims to tackle pressing challenges in genotoxicology and ultimately contribute to a healthier and safer future for all.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all those who have played a role in bringing this vision to life. Together, we are embarking on an exciting journey that will shape the future of genotoxicology and make significant contributions to the field of public health.



WHO Global Expert Research Team on Health and Migration

World Health Organization (WHO) has set up a Global team of experts representing the United Nations, WHO, UNICEF, and Academia to set up the Global Research Agenda on Health and Migration in 2023. Prof. Syed Shah, from the Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, had the honor to be selected as an expert on migrants' health research among one of 28 Universities from all WHO regions to represent academia in this selected global research. Prof. Shah will be one of the delegates, working to finalize the Agenda on June 12-13, 2023, in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco.

Visit of Fulbright Scholar - Prof. Allen Meadors

Prof. Allen C. Meadors, Ph.D. MBA, MPA, LFACHE, Fulbright Scholar, Chancellor and Professor Emeritus, The University of North Carolina-Pembroke, Associate Editor: Frontiers in Public Health and Editor: International Journal of Intelligent Communication, Computing and Networks, visited IPH for one month in May 2023. During the visit, he participated in many events and meetings.



A highly productive and collaborative meeting took place on May 15, 2023. Prof. Allen C. Meadors met with Prof. Juma Al Kaabi, Vice Dean and Acting Dean of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, and Dr. Rami Beiram, Assistant Dean for Research and Graduate Studies. The meeting also saw the participation of Prof. Michal Grivna, the Director of IPH, and Dr. Javaid Nauman, Associate Professor at IPH.

This gathering brought together brilliant minds from various fields, fostering an environment of knowledge sharing and collaboration. The exchange of ideas and experiences was invaluable, fueling new perspectives and strategies for advancing research, education, and public health initiatives.



IPH collaboration with ADPHC "Together Towards a Tobacco-Free Abu Dhabi"

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi, from IPH had a meeting with Dr. Mouza Ahmed Saeed Al Dhaheri and Dr. Ilfat Assaad Maarouf from Abu Dhabi Public Health Centre (ADPHC) on Friday May 26, 2023, to discuss collaboration on community health projects. The meeting focused on IPH supporting the campaign of ADPHC "Together Towards a Tobacco-Free Abu Dhabi" which coincided with the WHO Day of Quitting Smoking (May 31). The IPH agreed to circulate the ADPHC educational materials through the IPH social media and to collaborate with the ADPHC on the campaign.



Disease Elimination and Eradication Course: Invitation to Opening Session

IPH received an invitation from GLIDE to attend the opening session of the Disease Elimination and Eradication Course on June 8, 2023. The session took place at the NYU Abu Dhabi campus. The aim of the course is to enhance participants' understanding of the principles, challenges, and lessons learned in disease elimination and eradication efforts and to co-develop country-specific strategies to advance efforts towards disease elimination and eradication, with a focus on NTDs, polio, and malaria. This accredited course brought together Master of Public Health Students from NYU SGPH (New York) and Public Health professionals interested in strengthening skills and competencies for infectious diseases. Course facilitators and public health professionals included field experts working at national (primarily from African countries) and international levels.



Meeting with Early Childhood Authority (ECA) and Mutaba'ah

Prof. Luai Ahmed and Dr. Iffat Elbarazi visited the Early Childhood Authority headquarters in Abu Dhabi on the May 9, 2023. They were well received by the team at ECA. They were also joined by HE. Dr. Omniyat AlHajri, to discuss Mutaba'ah Study support and partnership with ECA and DOH.



Meeting with the Abu Dhabi Early Childhood Authority (ECA) in UAEU

Ms. Jessica Castelyn from the ECA visited UAEU and met with the grantees from the University in the Crescent Building on the 8th of May. The team met over coffee and discussed their projects and future collaborations and support. Dr. Iffat Elbarazi, Dr. Mohamed El-Sadig and Ms. Preetha Karuveetil from the IPH attended the meeting. Members from the education department and engineering faculty were also present.

EQ-5D-5L valuation study

The recruitment continues for the EQ-5D-5L evaluation study that is being conducted by the IPH team (Dr. Mohamed Elsadig and Dr. Iffat Elbarazi), in collaboration with Dr. Fatma Alsayyah, Dr. Mirna Metni and Dr. Samer Karroubi from the American University of Beirut. If anyone is interested to participate in the interviews, kindly contact Miss. Rima Kaddoura via rima.k@ccho-ma.com.

WE ARE HIRING!

RESEARCH ASSISTANT
to conduct interviews for:

EQ-5D-5L Valuation Study in United Arab Emirates

APPLY NOW
SEND YOUR CV TO
rima.k@ccho-ma.com

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

- Graduate student in pharmacy, public health, health economics, nursing, medicine, or any related field
- Have strong communication skills and a good work ethic
- Fluent in English; fluency in Arabic is an asset
- Be willing and able to approach members of the public to recruit them into the study
- Value and respond to feedback around data quality control procedures
- Commit to working 10 hours per week for a period of 6 months
- Be comfortable traveling within the Emirates - we will provide transportation
- Have your own laptop to use for the interviews

MORE INFO
CHECK OUR WEBSITE
<https://ccho-ma.com/>

Action Research Conference: Showcasing Research to Improve Education

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi was invited to present a short talk about the challenges faced in conducting studies related to school health in the UAE. The talk was given on the 27th of May at the University of Birmingham, Dubai during the Action Research Conference: Showcasing Research to Improve Education. It hosted teachers from different Dubai schools who presented their research projects that were mentored by the UOB teaching faculty and team. Dr Iffat also participated in a short discussion with different speakers about school-based research gaps and needs. Dr. Amal Alzahmi, Prof. Syed Shah and Miss Alfian AlKetbi attended the conference and participated in the discussions.



Burnout among health care professionals' workshop



The 9th SEHA Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Conference took place on the 13th and 14th of May in Abu Dhabi. Dr. Iffat Elbarazi, member of the scientific community, represented the IPH and conducted a workshop on burnout among health care professionals.

Ms. Noof Aljeneibi (Advisor for Quality of Life and Sustainable Development at the Family Development Department), Dr. Balázs Ádám (Associate Professor at IPH), Ms. Roweida El Khalil and Ms. Ibtissam Kirkaz (PhD candidates at IPH) and Ms. Bayan Abou Hamada (Research Assistant at IPH) participated in the workshop too.



Goodbye to the senior PhD students (final Journal Club)

The PhD program at IPH includes journal club (JC) courses that are usually attended by junior and senior PhD students. In Spring 2023, the JC team said goodbye to a group of 7 senior students who had worked diligently during the last two years to master skills in critical appraisal of journal articles and research studies. The JC experience is always appreciated by the students, evident from the positive feedback provided by the students. Of the comments received, it was mentioned that the course is one of the best courses ever.

UAE-UK Business Council

In the preparation for a white paper on cancer research, Dr. Iffat Elbarazi attended another subgroup meeting with the UAE-UK Business Council on the 20th of June via Zoom.

The IPH became a member of the International Union of Health Promotion and Health Education

The International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) is a global professional non-governmental organization dedicated to health promotion around the world. For more than 65 years, IUHPE has operated as an independent, global, professional network of people and institutions committed to improving health and wellbeing of individuals through education, community action and the development of healthy public policy. Health is a basic need and a human right. IUHPE supports actions that empower people to control their own health and that promote healthy societies.



Human Variant Databases (PhenoDB) Workshop

Dr. Balázs Ádám, Dr. Azhar, Ms. Maitha Al Balushi and Ms. Suad Ajab attended the Human Variant Databases (PhenoDB) Workshop conducted at the CMHS on June 13-15, 2023. The workshop was delivered by Prof. Nara Sobreira, Head of PhenoDB project at the Department of Genetic Medicine at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and hosted by Genetics and Genomics Department at CMHS, UAEU.



Participation in the National Workshop on Nurturing Care Framework on Early Childhood Development

Dr. Mohammed Khogali represented IPH at the National Workshop on Nurturing Care Framework on Early Childhood Development in UAE. It was organized by the MOHAP in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF, and held on June 20-22, 2023.



Session at the school of public health university of Saskatchewan, Canada

On August 23, 2023, Prof. Syed M. Shah conducted a lecture on Harnessing the Power of Public Health to Stop the rise of Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) in Adolescents & Migrants in United Arab Emirates. More than 40 international students attended the lecture



Welcome Dr. Ithar Farah to the IPH family



Dr. Ithar has joined as a research assistant in the study on fathers' role in children development that is funded by the Abu Dhabi Early Childhood Authority (ECA) and is conducted under the Mutaba'ah study. She is a medical doctor by profession. She had a keen interest in public health and research early on and worked briefly as a research assistant following graduation. She moved to New Zealand, enrolling in a PGDip in Public Health at the University of Auckland while pursuing various interests and studies, mainly community-based training and volunteering at a suicide prevention hotline and youth centre in Auckland.

Ithar moved back to Sudan to further her experience in the public health field. She worked in the Federal Ministry of Health in various roles, from the child health to global health. She also joined the University of Medical Sciences and Technology (UMST), Sudan, as a public health intern supporting the Public Health Program in collaborating in research and organising special events, projects and collaborations for the Public Health and Family Medicine programs. In the past five years, she has been a lecturer at UMST, teaching public health basics, global mental health and research methodology.

Ithar's main interest is mental health, focusing on research to improve care and access in low to middle-income settings, also has worked on a systematic review on dementia at UMST. Moreover, she is pursuing a Master of Science in Global Mental Health from the University of Glasgow. She is also currently pursuing a degree in Master of Disaster Risk Management and Development at Auckland University of Technology.

She believes her experiences will continue to give a deeper understanding of how different information and data can affect human behaviours and outcomes to ultimately help people overcome obstacles to achieve possible physical and mental health in a safe and supportive environment.

Welcome!

Welcome Ms. Lynn Aloum to the IPH family

Ms. Lynn Aloum, a dedicated research assistant, has embarked on a remarkable journey in the realm of healthcare research. With a BSc in Pharmacy and MSc in Pharmaceutical Science with Management Studies, Lynn has made significant contributions, including key roles in pivotal studies like "The Status of Type 1 Diabetes in Children in the Eastern Region of the UAE" and ongoing work on Status Epilepticus in children at Tawam Hospital. Two grants from "Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award for Medical Sciences" underscore her dedication. Lynn has also shared insights as a presenter at the "3rd Emirates Pediatric Endocrine Conference" in Feb 2022.



Lynn's passion for innovative healthcare is evident in her MSc thesis on an antibiotic resistance solution. Currently at the Public Health Institute, UAEU, she applies both quantitative and qualitative research skills in her project role, fostering a growing enthusiasm for public health. Beyond academia, Lynn showcased her commitment through volunteer work with the Syrian Red Crescent amid conflict in 2012 and 2013. She is also fond of reading, chess, and basketball. Lynn is eager to further delve into healthcare research, aiming to foster healthier communities.

Welcome Ms. Fayeza Fahim to the IPH family



Ms. Fayeza joined as a research assistant in the study on fathers' role in children development that is funded by the Abu Dhabi Early Childhood Authority (ECA). Her journey began with a bachelor's in dental surgery from MUHS in Nashik, India, followed by two years in general and community dentistry. Then she pursued an MSc in Public Health at the University of Glasgow, focusing on refugee and asylum-seeking women in Glasgow.

She is part of the Mutaba'ah cohort, investigating maternal and child health and brain health. She aspires to illuminate critical issues in mental and migrant health, and women's well-being through academic research, championing a more equitable and compassionate world. She is driven to meld expertise with empathy, fostering a legacy of positive global impact through a harmonious blend of healthcare and humanitarian efforts.

Congratulations to Dr. Ali Al Rahma on his Adjunct Faculty appointment at IPH



Dr. Ali Al Rahma obtained his Bachelor of Health Sciences from Monash University, Melbourne, Australia. His Master of Science in Public Health and PhD in Public Health and Occupational Health were obtained from Hamdan bin Mohammed Smart University and UAE University, UAE. Dr. Ali Al Rahma is a licensed public health professional in the Public Health Programs & Research Section, Public Health Protection Department, Dubai Health Authority (DHA). His main tasks include conducting different types of quantitative and qualitative analysis to support developing public health strategies/policies for the emirate of Dubai and coordinating training programs such as the Public Health Rotation Program for family medicine residents. He was recently assigned as an editorial board member and section editor in Dubai Medical Journal.

Dr. Ali also worked on several DHA projects that aimed to improve community health in Dubai, such as the Tobacco Free Dubai, Happiness Prescription, and Diabetes Prevention Framework. In addition, he also worked as a graduate teaching assistant during his PhD at the Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, UAE University. He taught and supervised medical students in public health clerkship and Master of Public Health (MPH) students in the Health Promotion and Disease Prevention course. His first-author publication was in the BMJ Open, where he published the protocol for a first-of-its-kind randomized controlled trial in Dubai, UAE. Dr. Ali is also a founding and board of directors' member for the Emirates Public Health Association 2019-2022. He was assigned to the secretary-general role in the association during this period. Finally, the Project Management Institute, United States, also certified him as a project management professional (PMP) in 2020.



Dr. Stephanie Thomas

Dr. Stephanie Thomas has recently been appointed to the role of Royal College of Pathologists (UK) country advisor to the MENA region. Within this role, she will act as a link between the RCPATH (UK) and the great work being carried out by colleagues in and around the region. The College is looking to set up and/or support collaborations and projects with teams in the region, therefore if anyone has any thoughts, ideas or projects that would benefit from the college input, please e-mail Dr. Stephanie: stephanie.thomas@mft.nhs.uk.



Dr. Glenn Laverack

Dr. Glenn Laverack was the keynote speaker at the Global Community Health Annual Workshop: Sustainable community health: practice-based solutions for today's challenges held on June 13-15, 2023. Moreover, he has published a book "Laverack, G and Jamie, S (2023) Claves para la promoción de la salud en Latinoamérica. ISBN: 978-9878528441. Argentina. Editorial Dunken. His recent publications include:

- [Use of digital technologies to support cancer screening in community health promotion interventions: scoping review \(researchgate.net\)](#)
- [Role and challenges to digital technologies in community health promotion programs in Italy during the COVID-19 pandemic: a multiple embedded case study protocol \(researchgate.net\)](#)



Dr. Erik Koornneef

Dr. Erik Koornneef was the keynote speaker at the "7th Annual Research Day" held on June 9, 2023. His talk addressed Pure Health Group (PHG) & SEHA research plan. Dr. Erik Koornneef is a global healthcare executive with 25 years of international management experience in growing healthcare economies. He is currently the Director of Research and Innovation with Pure Health, the largest, integrated healthcare platform in the United Arab Emirates.

Previously Erik has held multiple senior roles in the healthcare industry, including the Health and Information Quality Authority of Ireland, the Abu Dhabi Department of Health, the Abu Dhabi Health Information Exchange, the UAE Ministry of Presidential Affairs and Truven Health Analytics / IBM Watson Health. Erik holds a PhD in Health Policy and Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands. He also holds a M.Sc. in Health Services Management, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland and M.Sc. in Educational Sciences from the Radboud University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands. Erik has served as an expert advisor for a variety of international organisations such as the Council of Europe, European Partnership for Supervisory Organisations (EPSO) and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI).

Interview

Interview with Prof. Allen Meadors - Fulbright Scholar



Bayan: Can you please provide a brief introduction of yourself?

I am a former College Professor, Dean (two colleges), College President (four Universities; three in US and one in Italy), former Executive Director of the Higher Education Coordinating Council (HECC) in the UAE and a health and higher education consultant. I have also been a clinic and hospital administrator, an executive with Blue Cross and Blue Shield (the largest health insurer in North America) and the Assistant Director of Public Health for Kansas City, Missouri.

I taught in the area of Health and Public Health Administration and I am a Life Fellow in the American College of Health Executives.

Bayan: What is your experience in public health research?

Over the years, some of the funded research that I have participated in includes Quality Assurance; Mental Health; American Indian Health Risks; Physicians' attitude toward their work environment; the role of Hospital Associations; Health Manpower; Home Health and Hospital CEO turnover to name a few.

Bayan: What drew you to the UAE, and specifically to the public health department?

As a former Dean of a College of Public Health (University of Oklahoma) and public health related Colleges and public health departments, I enjoy the discipline of public health and related areas. Ten years ago, I had the opportunity to serve as the Executive Director of the UAE Higher Education Coordinating Council (our offices were located in Al Ain) and had an adjunct faculty appointment in the Institute of Public Health at that time and have continued to maintain an interest in the Institute's growth and development.

Bayan: What contributions do you envision making to our college/department in the future?

Working with IPH on some course development; the development of some Mini-Masters; fundraising brainstorming; accreditation review and several other items. Currently, I am here on Fulbright and hope to be as beneficial as possible.

Welcome to the new MPH students - Fall 2023

**Ms. Reem Salem Obaid Alnasri
Ms. Fatmeh Aziz Mahd Abu Rub
Ms. Muhrah Ahmed Saleh Gumaan
Ms. Della Bijo
Dr. Vysakh Sathyan
Ms. Mithaa Sultan Alhasani
Dr. Hayma Safwan khorzom**



Welcome

Welcome to the new PhD students - Fall 2023



Ms. Marwa Alhaj Ahmad



Ms. Afra Abdalla

The Fourth Forum for Women in Research "QUWA: Sustaining Women's Empowerment in Research & Innovation," Sharjah and Khorfakan, UAE, 2023



The 4th Forum for Women in Research, titled "QUWA: Sustaining Women's in Research & Innovation," occurred at the University of Sharjah on August 30, 2023.

The event featured research abstracts from Ms. Suad Ajab and Ms. Sumaya Zoughbor, who presented "Survey of Human Gut Fungi in Health and Disease," as well as Ms. Rouwida El Khalil, whose research focused on "Perinatal Mental Health Literacy in the United Arab Emirates: Scale Validation Study." The occasion involved the display of research abstract posters. Dr. Iffat Elbarazi, Dr. Amal Alzahmi, and Dr. Zufishan Alam attended the event. The forum provided a valuable platform for highlighting women's impactful contributions in research and innovation.



The 9th International Nursing and Midwifery Conference, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 2023

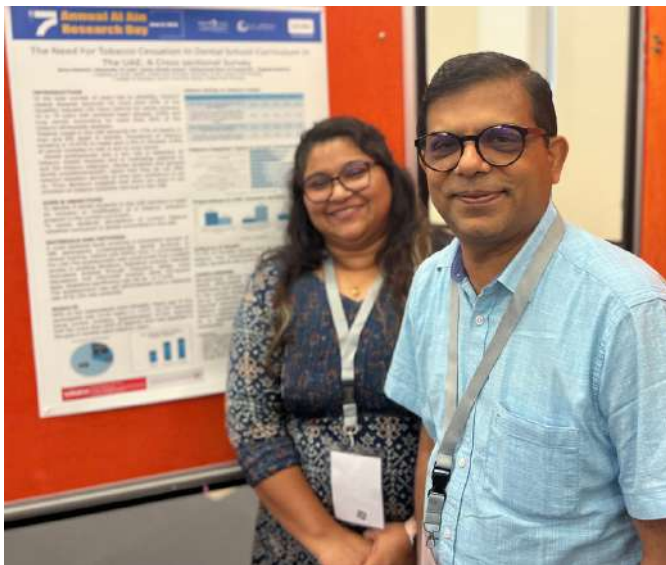


The conference was organized by SEHA on May 13 - 14, 2023, in Abu Dhabi. The conference assembled a network of professionals to discuss and debate the current healthcare topics, utilizing innovation, technology, and critical thinking. IPH PhD students Ms. Ibtissam Kirkaz and Ms. Rouwida El Khalil with IPH faculties, Dr. Iffat Elbarazi, Dr. Balázs Ádám, and Ms. Nouf Aljneibi conducted a 2-hour workshop titled "For a Better Nurses Wellbeing - How to Combat Burnout." It was a successful event with an impressive turnout.

The 7th annual Al Ain Research Day, Al Ain, UAE, 2023

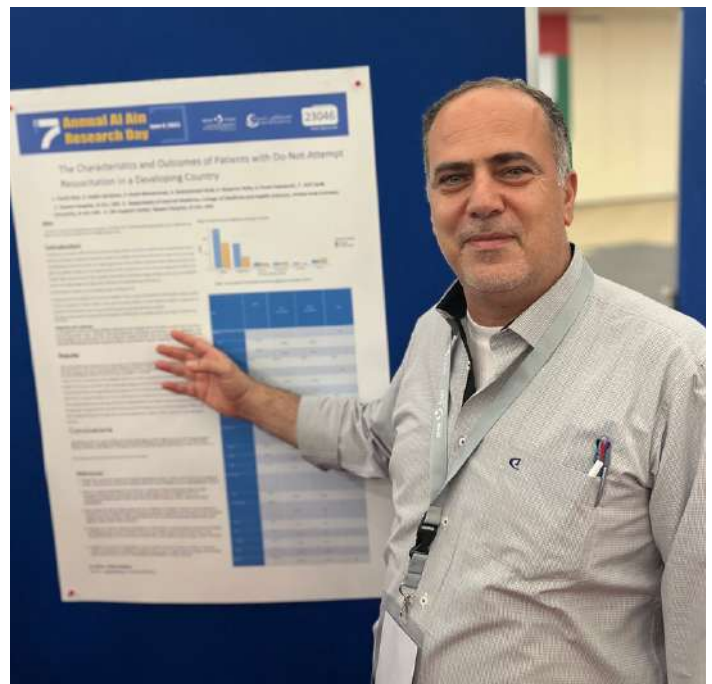
The 7th annual Al Ain Research Day, organized by Tawam Hospital under SEHA, was held on June 9, 2023, at the UAEU Crescent Building. The event featured insightful presentations from our students:

Ms. Alfian Al-Ketbi (main advisor - Prof. Michal Grivna) presented a poster on School bullying in Al Ain City: A cross-sectional study.



Ms. Simi Mathew (main advisor - Dr. Balázs Ádám) presented a poster on the importance of tobacco cessation in the dental school curriculum in the UAE.

Dr. Emad Dababneh (Main advisor - Dr. Javaid Nauman) presented a poster on the characteristics and outcomes of patients with 'do not attempt resuscitation' in a developing country and was awarded the best poster presentation.



Congratulations!

The 7th annual Al Ain Research Day, Al Ain, UAE, 2023. Cont.



Ms. Rouwida ElKhalil (main advisor - Dr. Iffat Elbarazi) on the Mental Health Literacy Scale validation studies through a scoping review.



Dr. Zakeya Al Rasbi, on behalf of Ms. Suad Ajab, on the associated risk of Blastocystis infection in cancer.



Ms. Hiba Adam (main advisor - Prof. Luai Ahmed) presented her scoping review on congenital anomalies' epidemiology and risk factors in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

The WPA Thematic Congress: Innovations in Treatment & Psychosocial Rehabilitation, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 2023

The World Psychiatric Association organized the state-of-the-art congress to provide an in-depth overview of psychiatric rehabilitation and mental health issues, focusing on integrated, team-based, patient-centered care. Ms. Fadwa Al Mugaddam, our PhD student, presented part of her project entitled "First Step for the Cross-Validation of the Arabic Emirate Version of the Subjective Scale to Investigate Cognition - Emirates (SSTIC-E)". The congress was held in Abu Dhabi on May 5 - 6, 2023.



The 17th World Congress on Public Health, Rome, Italy, 2023

The conference was held in Rome on May 2 - 6, 2023. It was organized by the World Federation of Public Health Associations (WFPHA) in collaboration with the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) and the Italian Society of Hygiene, Preventive Medicine, and Public Health (SIItI). More than 3,000 delegates from around the world participated, including our PhD students and Alumni at IPH:

- Ms. Mitha Al Balushi presented on "Association of Serum Uric Acid with Body Mass Index in the United Arab Emirates: UAE Healthy Future Pilot Study."
- Ms. Fadwa Al Mugaddam presented on "First Step for the Cross-Validation of the Arabic Emirate Version of the Subjective Scale to Investigate Cognition - Emirates (SSTIC-E)."
- Dr. Shamma Al Muhairi presented "Prevalence of Metabolic Syndrome using ATP III, IDF and Harmonized Criteria in Emirati Adults: UAE Healthy Future Cohort Study."
- Dr. Maryam Bashir presented "Gaps in Doctors' Practice: Gestational Diabetes Mellitus Diagnosis in the United Arab Emirates."

Some of our IPH Faculties also participated in this very informative and prestigious Public Health event.



International Summit on Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Belgium, 2023



Ms. Mitha Al Balushi (main advisor - Prof. Fatma Al Maskari), our PhD student, had a Poster presentation titled "Gender differences in depression among Adults: The United Arab Emirates Healthy Future Pilot Study" at the International Summit on Public Health and Preventive Medicine on May 8 - 10, 2023, at Brussels, Belgium.

10th Edition - World Congress on Nursing Education & Practice, Frankfurt, Germany, 2023

Ms. Mitha Al Balushi (main advisor - Prof. Fatma Al Maskari) presented virtually on "Association between Depression, Happiness, and Sleep Duration: Data from the UAE Healthy Future Pilot Study" during the 10th Edition - World Congress on Nursing Education & Practice in Frankfurt, Germany on July 17-18, 2023. The conference was designed to foster and conduct collaborative interdisciplinary research in state-of-the-art methodologies and technologies within nursing education.

UAEU PhD Teaching Academy Program Completion by Ms. Hiba Adam and Ms. Mitha Al Balushi

Our 3rd year Ph.D. students, Ms. Hiba Adam and Ms. Mitha Al Balushi, completed the Cohort 7 Teaching Academy Program in May 2023. Congratulations to them on this remarkable achievement!

Media Webinar by Dr. Alfian AlKetbi



On Monday, May 29, 2023, Dr. Alfian AlKetbi conducted a media webinar titled "The Art of Managing School Bullying" at RAK FM radio. The webinar involved media representatives Mr. Abdullah Khalfan Al Bulushi and Ms. Alia AlAbduli.

Buffet Lunch by Dr. Asma Hamdan Al Nababteh

IPH Alumnus, Dr. Asma Hamdan Al Nababteh, graciously extended a buffet lunch invitation to all IPH members on May 16, 2023, following her successful Ph.D. thesis defence.



Workshop attendance by Ms. Suad Ajab

Ms. Suad Ajab participated in two workshops from June 13 to 15, 2023. These workshops encompassed The Global Community Health Annual Workshop, conducted online under the theme "Sustainable community health: practice-based solutions for today's challenges," and the Human Variant Databases (PhenoDB) Workshop.

IPH WEBINARS

Public health scientific webinars

Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity

IPH hosted a webinar titled "Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity", held on May 16, 2023. Dr. Sonja Bjelobaba, Associated Professor and Researcher at the Centre for Research Ethics and Bioethics, Uppsala University, Sweden, was the keynote speaker, and Dr. Susan Waller from Medical Education at UAEU moderated the event. The webinar aimed to explore the role of artificial intelligence in academic integrity and its impact on higher education. During the session, Dr. Bjelobaba shared insights on how AI is changing the academic landscape and how we can maintain academic integrity in the digital era. Attendees had the opportunity to participate in a Q&A session at the end of the presentation.

To watch the webinar recording, kindly [click here](#)



Artificial Intelligence and Academic Integrity

TUESDAY, MAY 16TH 2023

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (UAE TIME)

Speaker

Dr. Sonja Bjelobaba
Associated Professor and Researcher at the Centre for Research Ethics and Bioethics, Uppsala University, Sweden

Moderator

Dr. Susan Waller
Assistant Professor in the Department of Medical Education, Chair of the Student Counselling and Mentoring Committee, College of Medicine & Health Sciences, UAEU

Join Via Zoom link or scan QR code

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Energizing communities to promote healthier and happier lives

Energizing communities to promote healthier and happier lives.

TUESDAY, 20 JUNE 2023

7:15 PM - 8:15 PM (UAE TIME)

Speaker

Dr. Glenn Laverack
Social Scientist, Adjunct Faculty at IPH, CMHS, UAEU

Moderator

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi
Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine & Health Sciences United Arab Emirates University, UAE

Join via Zoom link or scan QR code

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Dr. Glenn Laverack (Social scientist, Adjunct faculty in the Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine & Health Sciences United Arab Emirates University, UAE) was the speaker on June, 20, 2023. Dr. Glenn addressed the topic on Energizing communities to promote healthier and happier lives. Dr. Iffat was the moderator of the webinar. Many international and international experts attended the webinar and Dr. Aysha Al Dhaheeri (from the Health Promotion & Education section at HAAD Adjunct faculty at IPH), enriched the discussion with her comments and insights.

To watch the webinar recording, kindly [click here](#)





Vaccines acceptance: A socio-cultural and religious perspectives

Prof. Ahmed Alsuwaidi (Acting Dean, Chair Pediatric Department at the CMHS, UAEU) and Dr. Hamza Hammad (Chair of the Islamic Studies Department from the UAEU) presented an interactive webinar on vaccine and vaccine hesitancy. They discussed the importance of vaccine backed up by sociocultural and religious arguments. The webinar that took place on the 26th of March, 2023, and was moderated by Dr Iffat Elbarazi.

To watch the webinar recording, kindly [click here](#)

Organ donation

Dr. Saif Darwish was invited to deliver a webinar on Organ donation to the public in Arabic Language on the 24th of May, 2023. Dr Saif introduced the Hayat initiative and provided a great insight on organ donation from health, social and religious perspectives. Dr. Emad Masaudi moderated the excellent session, Positive feedback was received from the audience who requested more similar webinars as Dr. Hamza Hammad from Islamic Studies department in the UAEU provided a clear explanation on the Islamic perspective on organ donation.

To watch the webinar recording, kindly [click here](#)



No smoking for a healthy pregnancy



Dr. Hamada Alrumeithi from the ADPHC was invited to deliver a health promotion webinar in Arabic to the public on smoking effects on pregnancy in women and their fetuses. Tips on smoking cessation and on how to have a better pregnancy were discussed. Dr. Budoor Alshehhi from the ADPHC moderated the successful session that took place on the 15th of June, 2023 on the occasion of the tobacco free campaign organized by the ADPHC. The webinar highlighted new findings from the Mutaba'ah study on the exposure of women during pregnancy to tobacco products in the UAE.

To watch the webinar recording, kindly [click here](#)

The Global Network for Academic Public Health

The Global Network for Academic Public Health (GNAPH) partnered with ASPHER for the World Congress on Public Health in Rome, May 2-6, 2023. GNAPH co-organised five sessions during the Congress including the GNAPH Constitution signing which officially brings together The seven regional associations that make up GNAPH: ASPHER, Alianza Latinoamericana de Salud Global (ALASAG), Asia-Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health (APACPH), Association of Schools of Public Health in Africa (ASPHA), Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH), Council of Academic Public Health Institutions Australasia (CAPHIA), and South East Asia Public Health Education Institutions Network (SEAPHEIN).



Immediate ASPHER past-President and GNAPH President-elect John Middleton signed the constitution on behalf of ASPHER. The GNAPH official website is now [available here](#).



Henrique Barros elected next president of ASPHER



We congratulate Prof Henrique Barros from ISPUP, University of Porto, ASPHER's new President-elect. Henrique is well known to all at ASPHER, having previously served in the ASPHER Executive Board and also at APHEA Board of Accreditation. He is a member of the Portuguese Medical Academy and the Sciences Academy of Lisbon. He was given by the Ministry of Health the Gold Medal for distinguished services and by the city of Porto he was attributed the Gold Medal for Merit. Learn more about Henrique Barros from his bio [here](#).



Henrique writes that he plans to be faithful to the ASPHER decades work towards promoting the training and the education of the European Public Health workforce, defending the values of high-quality teaching, research and service to the communities across Europe. ASPHER vision and mission are an international example remaining relevant particularly in times of emerging crisis, with new challenges for the understanding and the organization of health and health services. Read his manifesto for ASPHER Presidency [here](#).



Henrique will serve as vice-President over the next year and take the reins as President at the Deans' & Directors' Retreat in Porto in June 2024.


ASPHER - EPHA Session: Advancing the Global Public Health Advocacy

On 03 May, In partnership, ASPHER and the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA) held a session on Advancing the Global Public Health Advocacy. It was standing room only to attend the session and the numbers of participants lining up to sign the Manifesto underscored the importance of coming together to advocate for stronger public health. Considering the gravity of the current moment, ASPHER and EPHA issued a call for action for systematic cooperation and collaboration of all who support Public Health's core values rooted in scientific evidence-based knowledge, inter-disciplinarity and inter-sectorality, respect and compassion for diversity, solidarity and inclusivity.

Five actions are preconditions for success in order to advance public health universally and advocate for the common good:

- I. Putting people and the planet front and center must be the first of all public health considerations and interventions.
- II. Quality, evidence-based science should be the foundation of public health interventions and training of public health professionals to make the greatest impact over the shortest time.
- III. Trust in science needs to be proactively restored, and bad faith actors and misinformation actively rebutted.
- IV. Active working partnerships must be nurtured such that all Public Health communities - from experts and policy makers, over training and education programs, to civil society and the public - collaborate as one, in an action-orientated and proactive manner, with specific and actionable commitments.
- V. Sufficient investment is critical to ensure that this collaboration is impactful, robust and sustainable. Specific constituencies that need proactive support include: national public health institutes; public health training and education programs; civil society organizations including those of marginalized or discriminated groups; local authority leaders and city mayors; legislators and parliamentarians; young public health activists; and public health professionals.

Download and sign the Manifesto Advancing the Global Public Health Advocacy 

Listen to a podcast about the Manifesto with ASPHER President Carlo Signorelli, EPHA President Alice Chapman-Hatchett, ASPHER Young 

Professor Anders Foldspang, Denmark - ASPHER Andrija Štampar Medallist, 2023




Professor Emeritus Anders Foldspang of Aarhus University's Department of Public Health has held pivotal roles in the Nordic region's public health sector, including presidency of ASPHER from 2006-2007. After earning his PhD and DMSc with a focus on vocational and social rehabilitation outcomes, he founded the Aarhus MPH course in 1994 and led numerous public health education initiatives.

Foldspang was instrumental in developing ASPHER's European List of Core Competences for Public Health Professionals, a foundational document endorsed by all European WHO member states, establishing education standards in the field. His research spanned various areas including population and clinical epidemiology. He has received prestigious awards for his contributions to public health and maintains a significant presence in the scholarly community with over 5,000 citations. Over his career, he has been honored with several awards, including being named a Knight of the Royal Danish Order of the Dannebrog.

Global Nursing Leadership Competency Framework

ASPHER PPHW-TF lead, Prof. Kasia Czabanowska would like to share with the ASPHER community a newly developed Global Nursing Leadership Competency Framework. Although it has nursing in its name, it can be a great resource for Public Health leaders as well. It has been a meticulous and collaborative effort over the past 18 months, and we are delighted to share the link to the Global Nursing Leadership Competency Framework webpage. The webpage introduces the project and then takes the viewer to the page to download the Framework.

For more information [click here](#) 



Publications (May - August 2023)

*publication with students as co-authors

**publication with international collaborators

***publication with students as co-authors and with international collaborators

1- Habib I, Al-Rifai RH, Mohamed MI, Ghazawi A, Abdalla A, Lakshmi G, Agamy N, Khan M. **Contamination levels and phenotypic and genomic characterization of antimicrobial resistance in Escherichia coli isolated from fresh salad vegetables in the United Arab Emirates.** Trop Med Infect Dis. 2023 May 27;8(6):294. **<https://www.mdpi.com/2414-6366/8/6/294>

2- Farhad M, Masud MM, Beg A, Ahmad A, Ahmed L. **A review of medical diagnostic video analysis using deep learning techniques.** Applied Sciences. 2023 May 29;13(11):6582. <https://www.mdpi.com/2076-3417/13/11/6582>

3- Malekpour MR, Abbasi-Kangevari M, Ghamari SH, Khanali J, Heidari-Foroozan M, Moghaddam SS, Azangou-Khyavy M, Rezazadeh-Khadem S, Rezaei N, Shobeiri P, Esfahani Z, Rezaei N; GBD 2019 North Africa and the Middle East MRF Collaborators (Elbarazi I); Mokdad AH, Naghavi M, Larijani B, Farzadfar F. **The burden of metabolic risk factors in North Africa and the Middle East, 1990-2019: findings from the Global Burden of Disease Study.** EClinicalMedicine. 2023 Jun 2;60:102022.** [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/eclinm/article/PIIS2589-5370\(23\)00199-2/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/eclinm/article/PIIS2589-5370(23)00199-2/fulltext)

4- Schlünssen V, Mandrioli D, Pega F, Momen NC, Ádám B, Chen W, Cohen RA, Godderis L, Göen T, Hadkhale K, Kunpuek W, Lou J, Mandic-Rajcevic S, Masci F, Nemery B, Popa M, Rajatanavin N, Sgargi D, Siriruttanapruk S, Sun X, Suphanchaimat R, Thammawijaya P, Ujita Y, van der Mierden S, Vangelova K, Ye M, Zungu M, Scheepers PTJ. **The prevalences and levels of occupational exposure to dusts and/or fibres (silica, asbestos and coal): A systematic review and meta-analysis from the WHO/ILO Joint Estimates of the Work-related Burden of Disease and Injury.** Environ Int. 2023 Aug;178:107980.** <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412023002532?via%3Dihub>

5- Liu Y, Lin Y, Sun Y, Thekkur P, Cheng C, Li Y, Shi Y, Jiang J, Liao J, Nie C, Sun W, Liang C, Zhang X, Liu S, Ma Y, Berger SD, Satyanarayana S, Kumar AMV, Khogali M, Zachariah R, Golub JE, Li L, Harries AD. **Managing comorbidities, determinants and disability at start and end of TB treatment under routine program conditions in China.** Trop Med Infect Dis. 2023 Jun 26;8(7):341.** <https://www.mdpi.com/2414-6366/8/7/341>

6- Harries AD, Lin Y, Thekkur P, Nair D, Chakaya J, Dongo JP, Luzze H, Chimzizi R, Mubanga A, Timire C, Kavenga F, Satyanarayana S, Kumar AMV, Khogali M, Zachariah R. **Why TB programmes should assess for comorbidities, determinants and disability at the start and end of TB treatment.** Int J Tuberc Lung Dis. 2023 Jul 1;27(7):495-498.** <https://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/iuatld/ijtld/2023/00000027/00000007/art00002>

7- Nababteh A, Tzivinikos C, Al-Shamsi S, Govender RD, Al-Rifai RH. **Celiac disease in pediatric patients in the United Arab Emirates: a single-center descriptive study.** Frontiers in Pediatrics.;11:1197612.* <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fped.2023.1197612/full>

8- Fadl, N., Elbarazi, I., Saleeb, M. R. A., Youssef, N., Shaaban, R., & Ghazy, R. M. (2023). **Parental intention to vaccinate children against seasonal influenza in the Eastern Mediterranean region: A cross-sectional study using the health belief model.** Human vaccines & immunotherapeutics, 19(2), 2238513.** <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/21645515.2023.2238513>

9- Sherif M, Makame KR, Östlundh L, Paulo MS, Nemmar A, Ali BR, Al-Rifai RH, Nagy K, Ádám B. **Genotoxicity of occupational pesticide exposures among agricultural workers in arab countries: a systematic review and meta-analysis.** Toxics. 2023 Aug 1;11(8):663.* <https://www.mdpi.com/2305-6304/11/8/663>

Publications (May - August 2023)

*publication with students as co-authors

**publication with international collaborators

***publication with students as co-authors and with international collaborators

10- Modenese A, Chou BR, Ádám B, Loney T, Silva Paulo M, Tenkate T, Gobba F. **Occupational exposure to solar radiation and the eye: a call to implement health surveillance of outdoor workers.** Med Lav. 2023 Aug 2;114(4):e2023032.**

<https://www.mattioli1885journals.com/index.php/lamedicinadellavoro/article/view/14657>

11- Lucas D, Greta G, Bygvraa DA, Canals ML, Adam B, Lux H, Jensen OC. **Occupational allergic diseases among harvesting fishermen on the open sea: A systematic review.** Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol. 2023 Aug;131(2):253-265.** [https://www.annallergy.org/article/S1081-1206\(23\)00285-5/fulltext](https://www.annallergy.org/article/S1081-1206(23)00285-5/fulltext)

12- Abdulla NM, Blair I, Ádám B, Oulhaj A, Jairoun AA. **The link between knowledge and practices in relation to herbal supplement use: for a rapid transfer of knowledge in the field of phytovigilance and pharmacovigilance health care systems.** J Pharm Health Serv Res. 2023 Jun 1;14(2):151-8.* <https://academic.oup.com/jphsr/article/14/2/151/7143705>

13- Pradhan R, Ahmed LA, Al Kaabi N, El Subki WI, Al Zaabi A. **Impact of covid-19 vaccination on the trend of hospital admission and mortality in two tertiary care hospitals in the United Arab Emirates: a retrospective study.** Emirates Med J; 2023 Jul. <https://www.eurekaselect.com/article/130198>

14- Shrestha I, Shrestha S, Vijayageetha M, Koju P, Shrestha S, Zachariah R, Khogali MA. **Surgical antibiotic prophylaxis administration improved after introducing dedicated guidelines: a before-and-after study from Dhulikhel Hospital in Nepal (2019–2023).** Trop. Med. Infect. Dis. 2023 Aug; 420.** <https://www.mdpi.com/2414-6366/8/8/420>

15- Alam Z, Mohamed S, Nauman J, Al-Rifai RH, Ahmed LA, Elbarazi I. **Hesitancy toward vaccination against COVID-19: A scoping review of prevalence and associated factors in the Arab world.** Hum Vaccin Immunother. 2023 Aug 1;19(2):2245720.* <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/21645515.2023.2245720>

PUBLIC HEALTH CLERKSHIP

IPH Team and Tawam Hospital Explore Collaborative Opportunities for Public Health Clerkship Students

Dr. Balázs Ádám, Dr. Javaid Nauman, and Dr. Azhar Rahma conducted a meeting with the infection control team at Tawam hospital on June 13, 2023 to discuss collaboration for the benefit of our students enrolled in the Public Health Clerkship. After the meeting the IPH team went on a tour at Tawam Hospital and explored possible training activities for the students. The visit was hosted by our MPH student Miss Hajar Ali Aldhanhani, the infection prevention and control manager at Tawam Hospital.



Visit to the Al-Ain Water site and laboratory



Dr. Balázs Ádám and Dr. Azhar Rahma visited Al-Ain Water site and laboratory on June 20 and 23, to explore sites for field training of students enrolled in the Public Health Clerkship. Dr. Ghuwaya Alnuaimi (IPH alumna) organized the visit. They met Mr. Shabeek, the Director of Quality Assurance and Food Safety who took the IPH team in a tour in the site and the laboratory.



Poster presentation on the 7th Annual Research Day



Ms. Hajar Mohammed Almansoori (former student at clerkship) presented her case report titled "Atypical Presentation of Behcet's Disease following SARS-CoV-2 Vaccination" at the "7th Annual Research Day" held on June 9, 2023. We are so proud of you!

PUBLIC HEALTH CLERKSHIP

Public Health Clerkship Student's testimony



Hamad Tareq Alhassani

“During my time in school, a teacher made a remark that has stuck with me: "Hopefully we could see you in the hospital as a doctor." In response, I said "Inshaa Allah" (God willing), but then the teacher jokingly interrupted me, saying, "Oh, so you want us all to be sick!" Although we laughed it off, that incident always made me reflect on a physician's job. Do we only take care of sick people? The clerkship made it clearer to me that as doctors our job is not just about curing illness; it's about finding the root of the problem and solving it. It all revolves around health promotion and prevention. Public health plays a crucial role in maintaining the health of society as a whole. We had some views about public health during our first two years in medical school, thinking it was boring or not interesting, but during COVID-19, we all appreciated the efforts and essential role of public health specialists. Our views have changed, and we are thankful for their efforts. Furthermore, we learned how to conduct research properly, a tool that will be crucial for my future career, as we know medicine doesn't advance without research. We actually put together a research proposal at the end of the rotation as part of the assessment. Not only did we experience how to do one, but we also had fun while doing it. We also had field trips to public health facilities, seeing what was actually being done and understanding their role, which was another great experience we had. Hopefully, in the future, we can contribute with them to build a healthier life for our community.”

May - August 2023

IPH IN NUMBERS

10

MPH graduates



5

PhD graduates



3343

Followers on social media



5.4k

YouTube Views



5

Webinars



SOCIAL NEWS

The IPH hosted a lunch on May 10, 2023, to welcome Dr. Amal Alzahmi to the IPH family



Congratulations on PhD graduation ceremony

Congratulation to Dr. Amal Alzahmi (Assistant Professor at IPH) for the PhD graduation ceremony from the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München University Germany.

May this PhD be just the beginning of a fulfilling and impactful journey. Wishing you all the best for the future endeavors that await you, we are so proud of you!

Congratulations!



SOCIAL NEWS

Farewell ceremony

The Institute of Public Health (IPH) recently bid a heartfelt farewell to two esteemed members, Prof. Mohamud Sheek Hussain and Mrs. Bayan Hasan, during a touching ceremony held on June 7 at the Ayla Hotel. The event was organized to express deep gratitude for their invaluable contributions and to celebrate their remarkable journey within the organization.

The farewell ceremony commenced with a warm speech by the IPH director, Prof. Michal Grivna, who spoke warmly of the departing members' dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to public health. Prof. Michal emphasized the impact Prof. Mohamud Sheek Hussain and Ms. Bayan Hasan had on the Institute's growth and success during their tenure.



Prof. Sheek-Hussein is a renowned physician and public health expert at the Institute of Public Health at UAE University in Al Ain. Earning degrees from prestigious institutions like the University of Parma and Columbia University, his 35-year career includes leadership roles like the Head of Disease Control at Al Ain Medical District and visiting professorships at Harvard and Loma Linda Universities. A dedicated researcher in infectious disease control, he played a pivotal role during the COVID-19 pandemic by contributing to the National COVID-19 Research Task Force, coordinating studies, and aiding the ASPHER COVID-19 Task Force by translating key materials into Arabic for regional dissemination.

Ms. Bayan Hasan, who has been a dedicated team member at IPH for 3 years, is bidding farewell to start a new chapter of her life following her marriage on July 14. Throughout her tenure at IPH while completing her Master's, Bayan significantly contributed to various crucial projects alongside Prof. Michal Grivna, Ms. Alfian Alketbi, Dr. Iffat Elbarazi, Mr. Ismail Elkonaisi, and others, honing her qualitative skills. As she departs to build a future with her husband, we congratulate her and wish her happiness and success in all her endeavors.



The IPH's farewell ceremony highlighted the substantial impact Prof. Mohamud Sheek Hussain and Ms. Bayan Hasan have had on the organization. Their dedication and leadership have left a lasting legacy that will inspire future public health professionals at IPH. As they move forward, they carry the gratitude and well wishes of the IPH community. The event was more than a goodbye; it celebrated their enduring contributions and assured that their positive influences will remain with IPH. We thank them sincerely and wish them success and happiness in their upcoming adventures.

SOCIAL NEWS

Congratulations on your wedding!

Congratulations!



Mr. Abubaker Hassan on his wedding conducted on July 7, 2023. Warmest wishes on your special day. Cheers to you both!

Congratulations to our PhD student, Mr. Ahmed Elhag on his wedding conducted on June 29, 2023. May the years ahead be filled with lasting joy!



Mrs. Bayan Hassan on her wedding conducted on July 14, 2023. Congratulations and best wishes for a happy life together!

Congratulations on your Public Health Diploma

Congratulations to Mr. Ismail Elkonaisi on his Diploma in Public Health from King's College London, UK with distinction. Well done, you make us so proud!



SOCIAL NEWS

Congratulations on your baby girl



Congratulation to our IPH alumnus Dr. Yasin Jemal Yasin on the arrival of his baby girl. Baby girls make the world a sweeter place. Congrats on your precious little sweetheart!

Hajj Mubarak to you!

Hajj Mubarak to Dr. Rami H. AlRifai, Dr. Amal Alzahmi, and Dr. Zufishan Alam . "May Allah accept it in His books and make all your wishes and dreams come true."



SOCIAL NEWS

Farewell to Prof. Allen C. Meadors

On May 29, 2023 IPH arranged a breakfast as a treat to Prof. Allen who stayed with IPH in May and shared his experience and insights. Prof. Allen is going to be missed and he is now a part of the IPH Family!



May - August 2023

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS



UAEU IPH



Uaeu_iph



IPH CMHS



UAEU-IPH



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