

United Arab Emirates University

Scholarworks@UAEU

Institute of Public Health Newsletter (IPHNL)

College of Medicine and Health Sciences

2024

Institute of Public Health Newsletter, Jan-Jun 2024

Institute of Public Health (IPH)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uaeu.ac.ae/iphnl>



Part of the **Public Health Commons**

January - June 2024

IPH Newsletter



Health Needs Assessment for Schools: A Qualitative Study

Public Health Programs & Studies Section
Public Health Protection Department

تقييم برامج ودراسات الصحة العامة
محافظة الصحة العامة

Dr. Ali Muneer Al Rahma
PhD, MSPH, PMP

Public Health Specialist
Dubai Health Authority




TABLE OF CONTENT

Opening Message	1
Updates on the Mutaba'ah Study	3
IPH in Numbers	4
News, Recognitions, and Official Activities	5
IPH Adjuncts News	23
Interview	26
Graduate Studies: PhD in Public Health, MPH	30
IPH Webinars	39
IPH Clerkship	44
ASPHER News	50
IPH Research	52
Social News	55

IPH SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS



UAEU IPH



Uaeu_iph



IPH CMHS



UAEU-IPH



@UAEU_IPH

OPENING MESSAGE



Dear readers,
Welcome to this edition of the Institute of Public Health (IPH) newsletter.

This edition showcases the exceptional achievements of IPH in teaching, research, and community engagement from January to June 2024. From the digital transformation of part of our MPH program to international collaborations like the ERASMUS+ EU academic exchange program to the development of new projects like the Dubai Genome Program, our faculty and students left no stone unturned to ensure the continued excellence of our Institute.

It also highlights IPH's participation in renowned local, regional, and international conferences and symposia, with more than 40 research abstracts presented by our students and faculty. This edition also presents IPH's recent publications, webinar series, undergraduate clerkship program, awards, and social events. Also, don't forget to check out our very engaging interview!

The Graduate Studies section is an integral part of every edition and my favorite (I'm biased because I am an alumnus!). I applaud our passionate and dedicated postgraduate students for their tremendous efforts, successes, and awards won throughout the year. This is a testament to the high-quality education and training at IPH, and the untiring impactful efforts of its faculty and staff under the able leadership of our director, Prof. Michal Grivna. Congratulations to you all!

I would like to call on all public health professionals across the country to lean towards advocacy, resource mobilization, and research translation & integration into public health practice. Let us involve relevant stakeholders, including policymakers, health professionals, community leaders, community members, health institutions, and other relevant institutions. Let us utilize the power of collaboration, mentorship, and benchmarking at national and international levels to propel further our collective efforts to address our evolving public health challenges.

On behalf of the IPH newsletter editorial board, I welcome you all to a new academic year at UAEU and would like to present you with this edition of our newsletter. Thank you for your contributions and unwavering support. Enjoy reading!

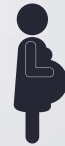
Dr. Maryam Mohammed Bashir
Editorial Board Member
Adjunct Assistant Professor
Institute of Public Health

Updates on the
Mutaba'ah Study
January - June 2024



14800

Participants



18

Published articles



31

Conference presentations



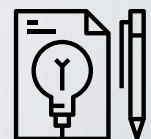
3

Completed PhD



6

Ongoing PhD projects



Editor-in-Chief



Dr. Azhar Rahma
Instructor at IPH

Editor and Graphics Designer



Mr. Ismail ElKonaisi
Postgraduate Studies
Administrator at the IPH

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



Prof. Michal Grivna
Director of the IPH



Dr. Iffat Elbarazi
Assistant Professor at the IPH



Dr. Balázs Ádám
Associate Professor at the IPH



Dr. Zufishan Alam
Medical Research Specialist
at the IPH



Dr. Maryam Bashir
Adjunct Faculty at the IPH



Ms. Rouwida El Khalil
PhD candidate at the IPH



Mr. Aminu Abdullahi
Medical Research Specialist
at the IPH

IPH IN NUMBERS

January - June 2024

6

MPH graduates



2

PhD graduates



5083

Followers on social media



9

Webinars



“Coffee Meeting” at the Emirates Center for Happiness Research

The Institute of Public Health (IPH), represented by Prof. Luai A. Ahmed, Dr. Rami H. Al-Rifai, Dr. Iffat Elbarazi, and Dr. Azhar Rahma, participated in a fruitful coffee meeting at The Emirates Center for Happiness Research at United Arab Emirates University on January 30, 2024. Dr. Ahmed Ali Alraeesi, Associate Provost for Research, was the keynote speaker and gave an insightful talk regarding actionable strategies. During the session, Dr. Iffat Elbarazi shared her positive experience in research collaboration with the Center, expressed gratitude for the warm reception and commended the center's commitment to advancing happiness research through actionable strategies.



This collaborative endeavor marks a significant step towards achieving shared objectives and contributing to the overarching goals outlined in the UAE Vision 2031. Both IPH and The Emirates Center for Happiness Research look forward to building on this positive interaction and making a lasting impact on the pursuit of happiness and wellbeing.



International Health Literacy Planning Meetings

In March 2024, Dr. Iffat Elbarazi attended the International Health Literacy Association “Health Literacy and Health Behavior” and the Global Health Child and Family Interest Group planning meetings to prepare for participation in the IHLA conference that will take place in Rotterdam. A workshop proposal was submitted to the conference scientific committee as a result that has been accepted for presentation on 18-20 September, 2024.

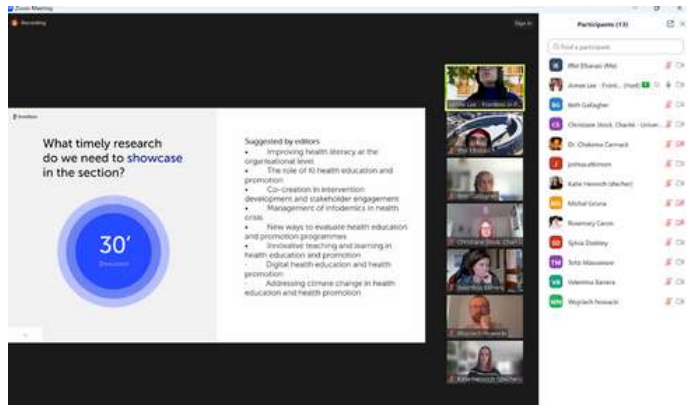


Institute for Healthcare Advancement

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi was appreciated by Mr. Michael Villaire, the chairman of the Institute of Healthcare Advancement (IHA) Annual Health Literacy conference for being a judge for the 23rd IHA conference that took place between 14-16 May 2024.



Frontiers in Public Health



Prof. Michal Grivna and Dr. Iffat Elbarazi attended a meeting of the Editorial Board of the Journal Frontiers in Public Health on March 18, 2024 as Associate Editors, to discuss future research topics and ideas as well as future steps.

Meeting with Mediclinic

In March 2024, Dr. Iffat Elbarazi met with Dr. Tariq Shedid, Medical Director at Mediclinic Hospital Al Ain to discuss future research and educational activities.

Obesity Clinical Guidelines Taskforce-MOHAP

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi attended the final meeting with the Obesity Clinical Guidelines Taskforce which reviewed and finalised the guidelines preparation. Dr. Nadirah Ghenimi, Prof. Carine Platat and Ms. Rita Sanuel from the CMHS were also present in the meeting that included experts from MOHAP, ADPHC, DHA and other entities.



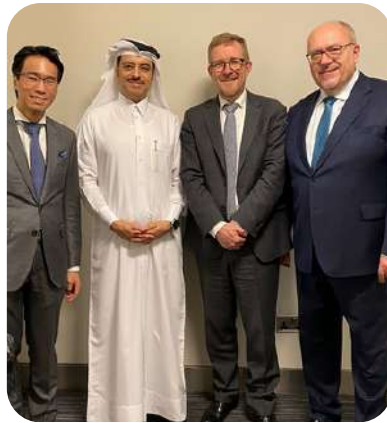
Dubai Genome Program Workshop



In a significant stride towards advancing genetic research and its applications, the Dubai Health Authority (DHA), hosted a workshop on January 8, 2024 in Dubai dedicated to the ongoing Dubai Genome Program. Dr. Azhar T. Rahma, Dr. Iffat Elbarazi, and Dr. Ali Al Rahma, from IPH participated in the workshop. The success of this collaborative workshop underscores the significance of contributions made by the IPH members, in driving the Dubai Genome Program forward.

Public Health Conference Held During Arab Health 2024 in Dubai

The Dubai Health Authority organized a Public Health Conference during Arab Health 2024 at the Dubai World Trade Centre, themed "Uniting for Enhanced Local and Global Public Health Data." Held on January 29-30, the event brought experts together to discuss population health challenges and drive progress towards a healthier nation. Key topics included healthier lifestyles, occupational and environmental health, and public health innovation. Dr. Ali Al Rahma, Adjunct Faculty at IPH, contributed as an organizer and presenter, while Prof. Michal Grivna participated in a plenary discussion on "Rising Stars in Public Health." The conference provided valuable discussions, updates, and networking opportunities with local and global experts.



Meeting with Dubai Municipality to Explore Opportunities for Research Collaboration

A successful meeting transpired on January 26, 2024, between key representatives from IPH (Prof. Michal Grivna, Dr. Balázs Ádám and Dr. Iffat Elbarazi) and Dubai Municipality. The purpose of this meeting was to explore and solidify opportunities for collaborative research initiatives. Dubai Municipality expressed enthusiasm about the potential outcomes of this collaboration, underscoring the importance of such partnerships in driving advancements for the community and beyond.



Dr. Ali Ardalan, WHO-EMRO Representative Visits IPH

Dr. Ali Ardalan, Regional Adviser and Unit Head of Health Systems Resilience at the WHO Regional Office for Eastern Mediterranean (WHO-EMRO), visited the IPH on Tuesday February 6, 2024. Dr. Ali is a distinguished figure in the field of health, having previously worked at the University of Tehran and Harvard University, USA. The visit fostered collaboration and knowledge exchange, strengthening ties between the IPH and the WHO-EMRO.



The Framework for a Successful Erasmus+ European Union Project

An online meeting took place on February 6, 2024 with the participation of Prof. Kvetoslava Rimárová from Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia, and Dr. Balázs Ádám from IPH, UAEU. They discussed the details of Dr. Ádám's travel to Košice in April in the framework of a successful Erasmus+ European Union project that supports the mobility of faculty between the two universities. This planned visit will provide opportunity for exploring each other's practice and experiences in public health teaching and research, specifically focusing on environmental and occupational health, as well as pave the road for future collaboration.

The 2nd Emirati Conference on Medical Education at the United Arab Emirates University

IPH actively participated in the 2nd Emirati Conference on Medical Education hosted at the United Arab Emirates University on 10-11 February 2024. The conference provided a platform for engaging discussions and sharing insights among prominent professionals and educators in the field. As IPH looks forward to integrating these insights into its programs, the organization reaffirms its commitment to playing a vital role in the ongoing transformation of healthcare education, aligning with the broader objectives of the UAE in building a resilient and progressive healthcare system.



Workshop on Clinical Research with Limited Budget by Prof. Fikri M. Abu-Zidan

Several members from the IPH attended a comprehensive workshop on Clinical Research with Limited Budget, led by Prof. Fikri M. Abu-Zidan. The workshop, held on Thursday, February 15, 2024, proved to be a dynamic platform for participants to delve into the intricacies of conducting impactful clinical research, even under resource constraints.



CMHS Research Day 2024

IPH made a remarkable impact at the CMHS Research Day held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024. The event served as a vibrant showcase of academic excellence, with IPH taking part in both poster presentations and oral sessions. The IPH team presented a multitude of posters, each highlighting innovative and groundbreaking research initiatives. Faculty members and students alike engaged with the academic community, sharing insights, exchanging ideas, and contributing to the collaborative spirit of the event. Dr. Azhar Rahma, served as the Chair, and Dr. Hiba Adam (PhD Candidate) as the co-chair of the oral presentations for the Session 3, dedicated to Health Sciences. The successful participation of IPH at CMHS Research Day underscores the Institute's commitment to fostering a culture of research excellence and knowledge dissemination. Moreover, Dr. Balázs Ádám and his undergraduate students from the public health clerkship received the award for best poster presentation on "The Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices of E-waste disposal & management among students at the College of Engineering & College of Medicine & Health Sciences, UAE University", a study completed in the framework of a SURE project.



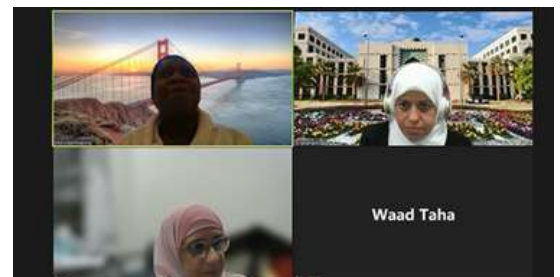
Informal Social Gathering

On February 20, 2024, IPH students and faculty members gathered for an enjoyable afternoon of networking and camaraderie as part of a combined event with CMHS Research Day activities. The informal social gathering provided a relaxed environment for students and faculty to connect outside the traditional classroom setting. Attendees seized the opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations, fostering relationships that could positively impact their academic and professional journeys. The event, enhanced by a delightful lunch, encouraged participants to approach the day with an open mind and a willingness to connect with peers and faculty members. The gathering set the stage for an enriching experience. The organizers, Prof. Michal Grivna, Dr. Rami H. Al-Rifai, and Dr. Javaid Nauman, expressed excitement about the success of the gathering, emphasizing the importance of building a sense of community within the academic environment. The event proved to be a valuable complement to the CMHS Research Day, creating a holistic experience, that combined social interaction with academic engagement.



IPH Collaborates with Center for Excellence to Digitally Transform MPH Course in Health Promotion

In a Zoom meeting held on February 21, 2024, Dr. Iffat Elbarazi and Dr. Azhar Rahma joined forces with the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) to discuss the digital transformation of the master's course on Health Promotion. The collaborative effort aims to integrate cutting-edge digital tools to enhance the educational experience and prepare our students for the evolving landscape of public health.



Blending the MPH Health Promotion Course Experience

The IPH in collaboration with Centre of Excellence in Teaching and Learning collaborated in blending one of the popular courses among MPH students "Health Promotion Theory and Practice". The blending went very smoothly as it was organized by Dr. Iffat Elbarazi (course coordinator) and Dr. Azhar Rahma (blending College representative) with the support of Mr. Mohammad Al Qatrawi (SR Digital Teach. and Learn Spec., CETL) and an instructional designer Ms. Eliza Osa-Kwapong and media expert Mr. Sajad Abdul Azeez from CETL. Students had the opportunity to access the course ahead of time. They watched recorded lectures, communicated with each other via blackboard discussion board and with tutors and managed to fulfil required assessment before joining the course face to face as usual. Students were very happy at the end of the course delivery with the new modality of learning and have provided very positive feedback on the experience. The results of this pilot study indicate that transitioning to blended education holds significant potential for the MPH and PhD programs at the IPH.

Dr. Aysha AlDhaheeri, the Head of the Health Promotion section at Abu Dhabi Public Health Centre, Prof. Glenn Laverack, a renowned health promotion academic, professional, and consultant, and Dr. Ali Al Rahma contributed to the teaching and practical exchange aspects of health promotion program planning, research, and delivery.

Additionally, Ms. Aysha Ayyaz (Instructor at Humanities and Social Science), equipped students with the skills to develop infographics and design educational messages. Students successfully developed and presented outstanding projects at the end of the course, marking the celebration of the course's success and the completion of the MPH journey for the 2023-2024 academic year.



Journal Club Courses 2023-2024

Students attending IPH Journal club II and Journal Club IV have celebrated the last session for this academic year. During this year, students exchanged knowledge, discussed peer reviewed papers and learned and discussed statistics, research methodologies and diverse public health topics. We would like to congratulate the 2022 batch who finalized the Journal Club course, and we look forward to another successful research discussions during in the upcoming Journal Club courses in 2024-2025 academic year.



IPH Participiation in the CMHS Career Fair

Dr. Amal Alzahmi participated in a Career Fair organized by the Male Medical Students Association on February 27, 2024, at the CMHS. This event served as an invaluable platform for aspiring future professionals, providing them with the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions about potential career paths and gain insights into their respective fields. The fair welcomed healthcare professionals and alumni from various disciplines, offering a diverse perspective on career trajectories. During the event, Dr. Amal provided guidance and shared experiences with medical students and residents. Her insights served to inspire and guide the next generation of professionals in navigating their unique career journeys within the healthcare sector. The exchange of knowledge and perspectives at the Career Fair contributed to fostering a supportive environment for professional development and career exploration among the medical students and residents.

UAE National Cancer Control Plan Workshop

The UAE National Cancer Control Plan workshop, organised by the Ministry of Health and Prevention – UAE (MOHAP), in collaboration with MSD, was held on February 29, 2024. Dr. Iffat Elbarazi and Dr. Zufishan Alam, representing IPH, engaged in the insightful opportunity. The event provided an informative overview on the success of current efforts and future steps for cancer prevention and control within the UAE, by national and international speakers. Key priority areas addressed included enhancing cervical screening and gender-neutral HPV vaccination uptake, as well as advancing lung cancer screening.



Visit of Dr. Nasloon Ali



Dr. Nasloon Ali, a PhD alumna of the IPH, and currently serving as a Lecturer in Health Sciences (Teaching and Research) at the University of Dundee, UK, paid a visit to the IPH. The visit's purpose was to explore opportunities for future research collaboration and student supervision. The meeting proved to be highly productive, and plans for upcoming collaboration initiatives are underway, promising an exciting partnership ahead.

Visit of Prof. Basema Saddik

Prof. Basema Saddik, the Director of the Centre of Excellence in Public Health at the University of Sharjah, made a visit to the IPH on March 6, 2024 to engage in discussions regarding ongoing projects. The visit proved to be highly successful, paving the way for further fruitful cooperation between the institutions.



2nd International UAE Rare Disease Society Congress, 2024

Dr. Azhar Rahma, contributed as a member of the organizing committee as well as a moderator, at the 2nd International UAE Rare Disease Society event, "LIVING WITH A RARE DISEASE: DIAGNOSIS, THERAPY, AND REAL PATIENT JOURNEY," held from February 29 to March 2, 2024 in Abu Dhabi. Dr. Rahma led insightful sessions, notably "My Therapist and I" and "Psychological Support for Patients and Families of Rare Diseases." These discussions delved into the challenges of rare diseases, emphasizing therapeutic collaborations and psychological well-being.



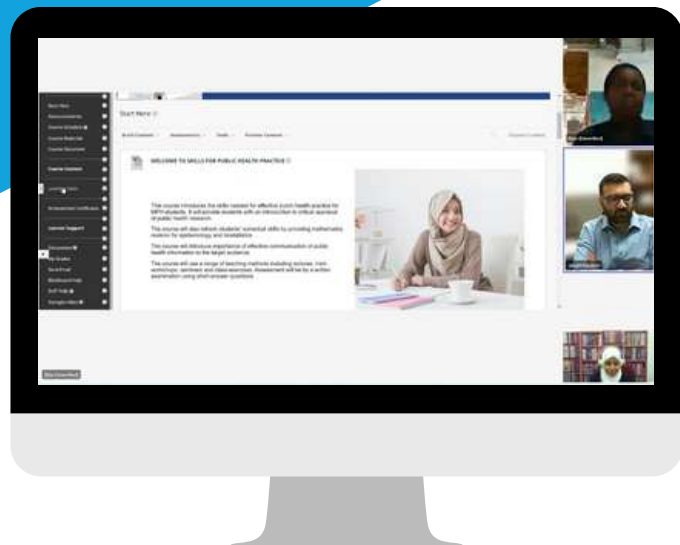
Prof. Luai Ahmed Being Elected as a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health of the Royal Colleges of Physicians, UK



A hearty congratulations to Prof. Luai Ahmed on his remarkable achievement for being elected as a Fellow of the Faculty of Public Health of the Royal Colleges of Physicians, UK! It is with immense pride that we extend our warmest congratulations to Prof. Ahmed for this well-deserved recognition. His dedication, expertise, and contributions to the field of public health are truly commendable, and this prestigious honor is a testament to his exemplary work. Prof. Ahmed's commitment to advancing public health initiatives and his unwavering efforts in improving the well-being of communities are truly inspiring. His expertise and leadership will undoubtedly continue to make a significant impact in the field of public health. Congratulations once again to Prof. Luai Ahmed on this outstanding accomplishment! Wishing you continued success and fulfillment in your endeavors.

IPH Commits to Digital Transformation for Enhanced Student Experience

The Institute of Public Health is advancing its digital transformation to enhance student experience and satisfaction. Following the successful digital transformation of the Health Promotion course, IPH is now focused on the MPH course "Skills for Public Health Practice." On April 4, 2024, Dr. Javid Nauman, Director of the MPH program, along with Dr. Azhar Rahma and instructional designer Miss Eliza Osa-Kwapong from CETL, outlined a strategic roadmap for this initiative. This effort reflects IPH's commitment to leveraging technology and innovative teaching methods to create engaging learning environments that prepare students for success in public health.



ERASMUS+ EU Project of Academic Exchange

The United Arab Emirates University, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, Institute of Public Health under the leadership of Prof. Michal Grivna and the Pavel Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Public Health and Hygiene under the leadership of Prof. Kvetoslava Rimárová have successfully applied to the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Program for staff mobility.

As the first mobility action, Dr. Balázs Ádám visited the Department of Public Health and Hygiene at the Pavel Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia between April 2nd and April 11th, 2024. He was hosted by Prof. Kvetoslava Rimárová, chair of the Department. Dr. Ádám delivered lectures on occupational health to undergraduate international students and discussed with them their experiences in public and occupational health training. He got acquainted with the curriculum of public health education, which is delivered at both universities.

Dr. Ádám also met with colleagues at the Department as well as at the Faculty of Medicine to discuss opportunities for collaboration. He visited the Centre of Simulator and Virtual Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, accompanied by the head of the Center, Dr. Jakub Jánošík. He explored the possibilities of interactive teaching for medical, dental and non-medical disciplines, and with the possibilities of modern solutions for the use of simulators in teaching, diagnostic and treatment process.



This visit opens doors for high-quality future cooperation between the two Universities, especially in the areas of staff and student exchange in undergraduate and postgraduate medical and public health training, as well as in research in various fields of public health, such as injury prevention, occupational and environmental health.



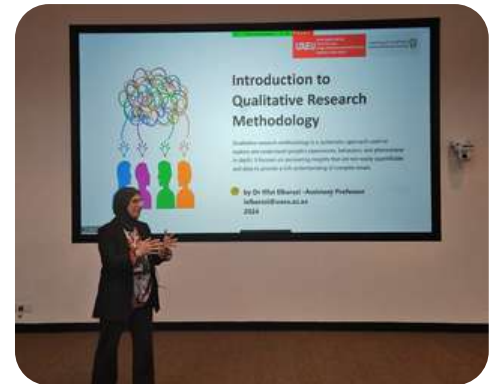
The Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) visit to IPH

On April 22, 2024, a delegation from EMPHNET paid a visit to IPH and held a meeting with the IPH staff. During the meeting extensive discussions and deliberations took place about areas for potential collaboration. The meeting was concluded by further investigating the possibility of collaboration. The Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET) based in Amman, Jordan, is a collaborative platform dedicated to promoting public health in the Eastern Mediterranean Region. The network focuses on supporting countries in the region to promote public health policies, strategic planning, sustainable financing, resource mobilization, public health programs, and other related services. The specific areas of work include, among others, capacity building, applied epidemiology, one health, research and policy, disease control and prevention, knowledge exchange, and networking.



Workshop on Qualitative Research Methods

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi delivered a 2-hour workshop on qualitative research methods to the faculty and students of the College of Medicine and Health Sciences on May 29, 2024. The workshop was organized by the Department of Medical Education at CMHS as part of its faculty professional development activities. [To watch it, click here](#)



Happiness Center Hosts Documentary Event with Dr. Iffat Elbarazi and Dr. Azhar Rahma as Judges

In a collaborative effort between the UAEU Happiness Center and the Media & Creative Industries College at UAE University, a thought-provoking documentary event was held on April 24, 2024, at the Cinema Room 110 in the F3 Building, Male Campus, UAEU. The event showcased the creative prowess of students who delved into pressing societal issues through the lens of filmmaking. From mental health to bullying and homesickness, the documentaries offered compelling insights into various topics affecting individuals and communities. Dr. Iffat Elbarazi and Dr. Azhar Rahma from IPH were invited to serve as judges. Their presence highlighted the interdisciplinary collaboration between academia and media, emphasizing the importance of addressing social issues through innovative platforms. The event not only provided a platform for artistic expression but also sparked meaningful conversations and reflections on important societal challenges. Through their creative endeavors, the students demonstrated a commitment to raising awareness and fostering dialogue on issues that matter.



International Collaboration in Global Health between IPH and City, University of London



On April 22, 2024, a collaborative meeting unfolded between the IPH and the City, University of London, UK. Dr. Iffat Elbarazi, Dr. Azhar Rahma and Dr. Zufishan Alam, represented IPH in this meeting. At the heart of the discussion was the exchange of expertise and insights with Dr. Dian Kusuma, MPH, ScD, a distinguished Lecturer in Global Health. Dr. Kusuma, serving as a Guest Editor for the Nutrients Special Issue on Health Systems & Malnutrition, brought invaluable perspectives to the table.

The meeting served as a platform for sharing innovative ideas, exploring collaborative opportunities, and advancing research endeavors in the realm of global health. Such cross-border collaborations are integral to addressing the complex challenges facing public health worldwide.

World Immunization Week Symposium

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi was invited to present on Vaccine Hesitancy (VH) research to Sheikh Khalifa Medical City Ajman during the World Immunization Week Symposium that took place on April 25, 2024 in Ajman. Dr. Iffat Meeting highlighted the IPH research done on VH in the UAE and in the Arab world pre-, during and after COVID-19.



Abu Dhabi University (ADU) Public Health Program Advisory Board



Dr. Iffat Elbarazi was invited to be a member on the Abu Dhabi Public Health Program Advisory Board. The first meeting which included participants from different entities and from ADU took place on April 19, 2024 virtually.

First Black and Brown in Bioethics conference 2024 “Engaging Diversity in Bioethics Theory and Practice”

Dr. Azhar Rahma and Dr. Amal Alzahmi, participated in the First Black and Brown in Bioethics Conference at the University of Bristol, UK, on April 9, 2024.

Dr. Azhar Rahma, along with Dr. Iffat Elbarazi and Mr. Amuni Abdullahi, presented a poster titled "The Attitude and Behaviours of the Different Spheres of the Community of the United Arab Emirates toward the Clinical Utility and Bioethics of Secondary Genetic Findings: a Cross-Sectional Study." Their research sheds light on bioethical considerations within the UAE community.

Their involvement underscores the UAE's commitment to advancing bioethical discussions globally.

BLACK AND BROWN IN BIOETHICS

The Attitude and Behaviours of the Different Spheres of the Community of the United Arab Emirates toward the Clinical Utility and Bioethics of Secondary Genetic Findings: a Cross-Sectional Study

Azhar T. Rahma¹, Aminu S. Abdullahi¹, Giulia Graziano² & Iffat Elbarazi¹

¹ Institute of Public Health, College of Medicine and Health Science (CMHS), United Arab Emirates University, UAE
² Sapienza Università di Roma, Rome, Italy

<p>Introduction/Objectives</p> <p>Emerging sequencing technologies, offering several advantages. Whole-exome sequencing (WES) and whole-genome sequencing (WGS) provide a valuable opportunity to learn about rare developmental disorders ("primary findings"). Despite its utility and benefits, WES and WGS may also reveal "secondary" (or "incidental," "advisory") findings (SDF), which means genetic information not concerning the patient's current situation, including pathogenic variants.</p> <p>Ethical factors focus on maximizing benefits and minimizing harm. Disclosing SDF may indeed raise potential risks to privacy and confidentiality, as well as discrimination and psychological harm (fear, anxiety, confusion). Respect for autonomy and choice should be upheld through the process of informed decision-making. However, while some authors recognize the right not to know, others highlight patients' need to know in specific life-changing cases.</p> <p>Aims & Objectives: We aim to explore the attitude of different spheres of the multi-ethnic community in the United Arab Emirates toward secondary findings in terms of their clinical utility and addressing the distinctive empirical aspect of bioethics.</p>	<p>Methodology</p> <p>We conducted a cross-sectional study between July and December 2022. The validated questionnaire was administered in English. The questionnaire consists of six sections addressing topics such as demographics, reactions to hypothetical genetic test results, disclosure of findings to family members, willingness to seek genetic testing, and attitudes toward consentability. Chi-square and Fisher's exact tests were used to investigate associations between categorical variables.</p> <p>Furthermore, to ensure transparency and free practices, we adhered to the Checklist for Reporting Results of Internet E-Surveys (CHERRIES). We calculated the sample size using the WHO sample size calculator (sample-size-calculator.org/), and our estimated sample size was 364. The variables for the sample size calculations are: 95% confidence level, margin of error (MOE) is 0.05, baseline levels of the indicators are 5.3 and design effect is 1. This study had been approved by the Institutional Research Ethics Committee of United Arab Emirates University (IARES/ERC_2021_F_367).</p>
<p>Results</p> <p>We had 343 participants of which the majority were female (87%). About four-fifths (82%) were willing to know the secondary findings, whether the condition had treatment or not. The most likely action to take among the participants was to know the secondary findings, so they can make the choice (81%). The resolution of our participants of knowing the secondary findings was tied to their intent to make the choice and adjustment for themselves or their caregivers. This attitude may be explained by the strong and extended family culture and their commitment to the preservation of the "in" our culture, the majority of the participants would tell their siblings and children about the secondary genetic test results which is in line with previous study assessing attitude of the multi-ethnic population of the United Arab Emirates on genomic medicine and genetic testing.</p>	
<p>Recommendations/Conclusions</p> <p>In establishing bioethical standards for handling secondary findings inside the Arab area, it is vital to uphold the concepts of justice, beneficence, non-maleficence, autonomy, and the utilitarian principle. Justice necessitates grouping patients that recognize cultural diversity, ensuring equitable access to the advantages of genetic testing, and guarding against discrimination related to genetic facts. Beneficence calls for providing personal well-being by using precision genomic medicine and healthcare applications, empowering individuals with knowledge, and facilitating access to genetic counselling. Non-maleficence compels policymakers to protect in opposition to potential harms associated with privacy and confidentiality dangers, strengthening records safety policies to protect individuals' genetic records. Finally, upholding autonomy necessitates individuals' rights to make knowledgeable choices about secondary findings, while the utilitarian theory underscores the significance of guidelines that determine typical norms, being and societal advantages. These concepts together will guidelines that satisfy the moral dimensions of secondary findings, making sure they are exact, culturally healthy and aimed beneficial to the Arab people's healthcare system.</p>	
<p>Conflict of interest</p> <p>The authors have no potential conflict of interest to disclose.</p>	

The WHO Report on Rabat Declaration on Migrants and Refugees Health

Thanks to Prof. Syed Shah's active contribution, the IPH/CMHS/UAEU is mentioned in the Research Priorities in Migrants and Refugees Health, the WHO Report on Rabat Declaration on Migrants and Refugees Health Report on the Third Global Consultation on the Health of Refugees and Migrants.

Jahiz Forum

With the conclusion of the first phase of the "Jahiz" program, Dr. Azhar Rahma was honored by The Federal Authority for Government Human Resources (FAHR) for winning the individual category for continuous learning and acquiring future skills at the "Jahiz Forum," which took place on May 23, 2024 in Dubai. Prof. Juma Al Kaabi, Acting Dean of CMHS attended the award ceremony.



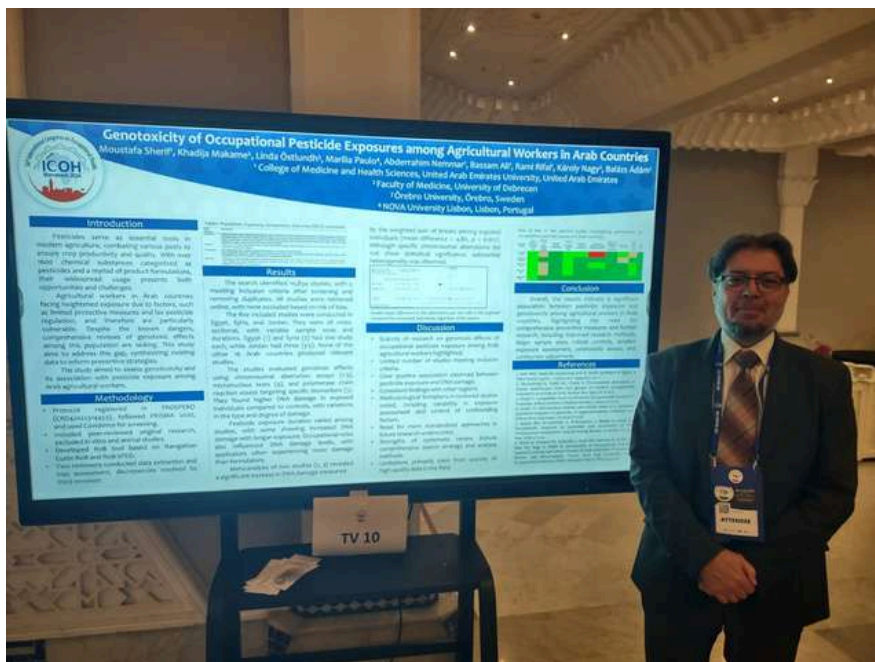
Global Community Health Annual Workshop, UNESCO

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi was invited to present on the UNESCO Chair Global Health & Education Global Community Health Annual 3-day workshop that took place on Tuesday 4 June – Thursday 6 June 2024. This year's main theme is 'How can community health contribute to fighting poverty?'. The workshop explored the root causes of poverty, and how poverty impacts community health. Over 150 participants attended Dr. Iffat's Presentation which was scheduled on Thursday 6 June 2024 and titled Advocacy and Engagement for Poverty Reduction in Healthcare: Empowering Communities for Better Health Outcomes.

Participation in the ICOH 2024 conference

The 34th International Congress on Occupational Health, the biggest and most respected triennial conference in occupational health, was held between 28 April and 3 May 2024 - in Marrakesh, Morocco. The conference hosted attendees from all over the world, discussing various topics of occupational health in oral and poster presentations. Dr. Balázs Ádám held an oral presentation on occupational exposures to carcinogens among migrant workers in the United Arab Emirates, which attracted considerable attention, being the first study of its kind and consequently providing gap-filling information on this topic in the Middle East. His PhD student, Moustafa Sherif, prepared a poster presentation for the conference that discussed the genotoxicity of occupational pesticide exposures among agricultural workers in Arab countries, the first systematic review about this major occupational health issue in the region. The poster presentation received the ICOH best poster award, which is a considerable professional acknowledgment of this work. In addition to the successful presentations, the conference provided unique opportunity for networking with the most renowned occupational health professional worldwide.

Just before the conference, the 13th Meeting of the Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres for Occupational Health took place between 25-26 April 2024 in Marrakesh. Dr. Balázs Ádám was officially invited to participate in this very important event of the World Health Organization, where the current situation of occupational health at the WHO, as well as the most important tasks and challenges of this field were discussed. The need to strengthen efforts to protect the workforce from the harmful effects of climate change as well as of climate change adaptation and mitigation was highlighted. In this regard, Dr. Balázs Ádám suggested formulating a statement on climate change and workplace health for the upcoming 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29), which he was tasked to coordinate.





IPH Joins Planetary Health Alliance

The Planetary Health Alliance (PHA) is a global alliance dedicated to the planetary health approach aiming for a healthy planet Earth by addressing the challenges posed primarily by climate change. The alliance comprises of over 400 organizations from over 60 countries and is based at the world-famous Johns Hopkins University, USA, which makes it one of the leading professional networks of planetary health and climate change worldwide.

After initial talks between Dr. Balázs Ádám and representatives of PHA, the Institute of Public Health had submitted its application and successfully became a member of this professional international organization. Becoming a member will add to the international and national reputation and provides opportunities for fruitful future educational and scientific collaborations for IPH and for the whole UAE University in the highly important areas of sustainability, environmental health and climate change. IPH would be the first institutional member of PHA in the UAE, representing the whole region in this field of exceptional importance of our times.

The 8th Annual Al Ain Research Day

At the 8th Annual Al Ain Research Day in Al Ain, UAE, 2024, Prof. Tahra AlMahmoud, Prof. Michal Grivna, Dr. Ghuwaiya Al-Nuaimi, and Mr. Ismail ElKonaisi won first place for their poster titled "Eye Injury and Safety Levels in Welding and Carpenter Workshops."



European Climate Change Responder Online Course

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi, Dr. Balázs Ádám, Dr. Azhar Talal and Dr. Amal Alzahmi from the IPH attended the ten-week long European Climate Change Responder Course, that was offered online in collaboration of the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) and the Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education (GCCHE) at Columbia University.



ASPHER Dean's and Director Retreat

The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) has organized its 2024 Deans' and Directors' Retreat in Porto, Portugal. The Institute of Public Health is an associate member of ASPHER, so it is favorable to represent IPH at the most important yearly event of the organization. Prof. Michal Grivna, Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussein, Dr. Javaid Nauman, Dr. Marilia Paulo and Dr. Balázs Ádám participated in the retreat. An important topic of the event was the completion of the ASPHER-WHO Core Curriculum Programme (CCP) that determined the core competencies for public health professionals. The IPH colleagues contributed to the preparations of this guidance document and supported its finalization with their comments. Dr. Javaid Nauman and Dr. Balázs Ádám also held presentations on two aspects of public health education; on a survey among alumni of IPH's MSC in Public Health program, as well as on the feedback of medical students to the public health clerkship delivered in the 5th year of the medical training at the UAE University. In addition, the retreat offered active engagement in networking with the ASPHER members, especially through meetings of task forces, such as the Climate and Health Task Force, where ASPHER activities for the upcoming 29th Conferences of the Parties (COP29) were planned.



Service Award

We are thrilled to announce that Prof. Mohamed Abid has been honored with the prestigious Service Award by the Faculty of Public Health in the United Kingdom. This award is a testament to his exceptional dedication, tireless efforts, and significant contributions to the field of public health.

This award recognizes not only Prof. Abid's outstanding achievements but also his dedication to service and his unwavering commitment to public health.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Prof. Abid and look forward to his continued contributions to the field.



Global Community Health Annual Workshop, UNESCO

Dr. Iffat Elbarazi was invited to present on the UNESCO Chair Global Health & Education Global Community Health Annual 3-day workshop that took place on Tuesday 4 June – Thursday 6 June 2024. This year's main theme is 'How can community health contribute to fighting poverty?'. The workshop explored the root causes of poverty, and how poverty impacts community health. Over 150 participants attended Dr. Iffat's presentation which was scheduled on Thursday 6 June 2024 and titled Advocacy and Engagement for Poverty Reduction in Healthcare: Empowering Communities for Better Health Outcomes.



Dr. Glenn Laverack Leads Regional Health Advancement Efforts in the Eastern Mediterranean



In a significant stride towards fostering community health and well-being across the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR), Dr. Glenn Laverack, Adjunct Faculty at the Institute of Public Health (IPH), has recently concluded a technical collaboration with the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO). This collaboration aimed at developing a comprehensive regional roadmap and evaluation framework, laying the groundwork for advancing community health initiatives throughout the EMR.

Dr. Laverack's expertise in community health was further exemplified in his latest publication, alongside co-author Sergio Fernando Jaime, titled "Rapid Approach in Community Context: evaluating preventive measures for Hantavirus in the Andean Patagonian Region from the perspective of community participation." This article, featured in the esteemed journal "Archivos de Medicina Familiar y General", sheds light on innovative methods to assess preventive measures for Hantavirus, emphasizing the pivotal role of community engagement.

Adding to his accolades, Dr. Laverack has been appointed as an investigator on the Community Assessment, Intervention, and Empowerment Model (MAIEC) at the Escola Superior de Enfermagem do Porto in Portugal. This appointment underscores his commitment to advancing community-based interventions and empowerment strategies on a global scale.

Furthermore, Dr. Laverack's dedication to promoting global community health has earned him a prestigious appointment as a board member of the UNESCO Chair for Global Community Health Annual Workshop. Scheduled for 4-6 June 2024, this workshop presents a platform for international collaboration and knowledge exchange, furthering the cause of community health on a global scale.

Dr. Laverack's multifaceted contributions to the field of community health epitomize a steadfast commitment to empowering communities and fostering well-being worldwide. As he continues to spearhead initiatives that prioritize community participation and empowerment, his work stands as a beacon of hope for healthier, more resilient societies in the Eastern Mediterranean and beyond.

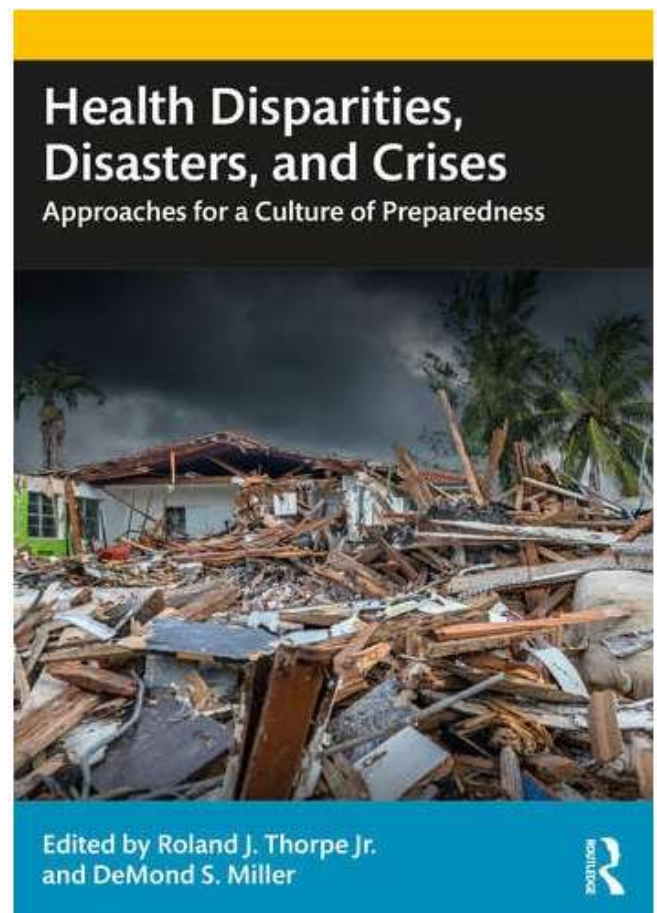
Congratulations to Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussein on His Appointment as Adjunct Professor at IPH



Congratulations Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussein, for being appointed as an Adjunct Professor in the Institute of Public Health, CMHS, UAEU. Adjunct faculty at the College are an important and valued component of our Mission. Meaningful participation by Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussein will surely impact the lives and careers of the students with whom you interact and the overall care of patients.

Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussein and Prof. Muhammad Abid Contribute to Groundbreaking Book on Health Disparities and Disaster Preparedness

Prof. Mohamud Sheek-Hussein and Prof. Muhammad Abid from IPH have made significant contributions to the first edition of "Health Disparities, Disasters, and Crises: Approaches for a Culture of Preparedness" in collaboration with authors from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and Rowan University, USA. Their chapter, "Preparedness for Pandemic Disasters to Come," offers vital insights for enhancing readiness in the face of health crises. As distinguished figures in public health, their contributions underscore the IPH's commitment to addressing global health challenges.



Ms. Souheila Ali Hassan Leading the Charge for Workplace Wellness and Longevity at SEHA



Congratulation to Ms. Souheila for being selected as the chair of the Corporate Workplace Wellness Subcommittee, and co-chair of the SEHA Workplace Wellness Committee, and co-lead the Longevity Program at SEHA. Congratulations on these remarkable achievements, and wishing you all the best in your continued efforts to promote wellness!

CMHS Excellence Award



Heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Ali Al Rahma on the Adjunct Faculty Award received on April 25, 2024, at the 14th CMHS Annual Award Ceremony.

This award is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and excellence consistently demonstrated by our Dr. Ali Alrahma.

The 8th Annual Al Ain Research Day, Al Ain UAE

Dr. Maryam Bashir made significant contributions at the 8th Annual Al Ain Research Day, presenting both, an oral and a poster presentation. Her poster, titled "Gestational Diabetes Mellitus Diagnosis in the United Arab Emirates: Gaps in Doctors' Practice," shed light on crucial areas for improvement in healthcare practices. Additionally, Dr. Bashir delivered an insightful oral presentation on "Postpartum Depression Screening in the UAE: Assessment of Doctors' Practices and Attitudes," emphasizing the importance of mental health screening in postnatal care.



Interview

Interview with Dr. Alfani Alketbi (IPH Alumna), PhD in public health



What motivated you to pursue a PhD in Public Health, and how has your journey at the Institute of Public Health shaped your academic and professional goals?

My motivation to pursue a PhD in public health stems from a profound shift in life circumstances. Rejection from my dental profession, challenges in previous workplaces due to health conditions, and personal setbacks reshaped my path. Despite these hardships, my passion for improving community well-being and addressing health disparities remained unwavering. My time at the Institute of Public Health has been transformative, refining my research skills, enhancing critical thinking, and deepening my understanding of health equity and community engagement. I am dedicated to leveraging these experiences to make a meaningful impact on public health and contribute to creating healthier communities.

Can you share a personal anecdote or experience that inspired your interest in public health research?

My sudden change in health condition, which led to a loss of skills necessary for my role as a dental clinician, felt like rejection at that stage of my life. However, this experience became a catalyst for a redirection towards public health. This shift allowed me to remain within the health field while exploring new avenues to contribute meaningfully. It reflects my resilience and adaptability in the face of challenges, ultimately leading me to pursue a career in public health research where I can make a positive impact.

As a PhD student, what are some of the most valuable lessons you've learned during your time at the Institute of Public Health?

It's common to hear that research is an individual journey and that one must navigate it independently. However, the reality often involves a supportive and collaborative effort. At IPH, I found a second family in my research team, whose unwavering support made this journey possible. Their expertise, guidance, support, and encouragement were instrumental in overcoming challenges and achieving milestones. Together, we transformed what seemed like an impossible mission into a collaborative and impactful endeavor. It is "we" not "I".

How do you balance your academic responsibilities with other aspects of your life, such as personal interests or community involvement?

Balancing academic responsibilities with personal interests and community involvement can be challenging, especially during a PhD journey. I faced difficulties, particularly with multiple breaks for physical rehabilitation abroad. However, I persevered and achieved a harmonious blend of academic rigor, personal fulfillment in the business field, and meaningful contributions to my community and field by being a founder, member, and treasurer for three years in EPHA. It required prioritization, effective time management, and seeking support when needed. Despite the challenges, finding enjoyment and fulfillment in the journey is crucial for long-term success and well-being.

What do you believe sets your research approach apart, and how does it reflect your individual perspective within the field of public health?

My research approach stands out for its holistic and community-centered perspective on public health. I integrate qualitative and quantitative methods to understand health issues deeply, focusing on social determinants and cultural contexts. I prioritize health equity, collaboration with communities and policymakers, and ethical research practices, reflecting my commitment to social justice and making a meaningful impact on public health.

Are there any particular mentors or role models at the Institute of Public Health who have significantly influenced your academic journey?

Prof. Michal at IPH is my role model, providing unwavering support and compassionate guidance throughout my academic journey. I remember our first meeting when he emphasized that my goal should not just be the title but centered around the children and their safety. He reiterated this sentiment at each subsequent meeting, reminding me of the high-value goal behind my research. This constant reinforcement motivated me to persevere and fight for this research despite facing logistical challenges. His belief in the importance of our work fueled my determination to make a meaningful impact in addressing children's safety issues. His understanding of my health challenges during my PhD was invaluable. Despite contemplating withdrawal multiple times, his compassion and encouragement inspired me to persevere and stay committed to my goals. Prof. Michal embodies the true meaning of nobility and humanity, and I am grateful for his mentorship and support throughout my academic journey.

In what ways do you hope to make a meaningful impact in the field of public health through your research and future endeavors?

In the field of public health, particularly regarding school bullying in the UAE, I aim to make a meaningful impact through research and future endeavors in several key ways:

1. Conduct comprehensive research to understand the prevalence, causes, and consequences of school bullying in the UAE. This includes examining cultural and social factors that contribute to bullying behavior.
2. Use evidence-based approaches to develop and implement effective interventions to prevent and address school bullying. This may involve designing programs that promote positive school climates, teach conflict resolution skills, and foster student empathy and inclusivity.

3. We are collaborating with policymakers and education authorities to advocate for policy changes prioritizing bullying prevention and intervention strategies in schools. This includes promoting anti-bullying policies, establishing reporting mechanisms, and ensuring adequate support for victims and perpetrators.
4. Empower stakeholders such as educators, parents, guardians, and students with the knowledge and resources to recognize, report, and respond to bullying incidents effectively. This may involve training programs, workshops, and awareness campaigns to build a supportive and safe school environment.
5. Recognizing the impact of bullying on mental health, I aim to promote mental health literacy, resilience, and well-being among students. This includes offering counseling services, peer support groups, and promoting positive coping strategies.
6. Sharing research findings through publications, conferences, and community outreach to raise awareness, inform policies, and encourage collaborative efforts in addressing school bullying in the UAE and beyond.

By focusing on these areas, I want to contribute to creating inclusive, respectful, and safe learning environments where every student can thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.

Can you describe a moment of personal growth or realization during your PhD studies, and how it has shaped your outlook on public health research?

During my PhD studies, I experienced a pivotal moment that reshaped my approach to public health research, particularly in the context of school bullying. Engaging with both students and policymakers was enlightening as it provided diverse perspectives on the issue. I realized the necessity of including students' experiences in my research, as they are at the heart of the bullying dynamics. Additionally, involving policymakers ensured that research findings could directly inform and influence policy decisions on bullying prevention and intervention strategies in schools.

To effectively capture these diverse perspectives, I adopted a mixed methods approach, combining qualitative insights from policymakers interviews with quantitative data from students surveys. This methodological approach allowed for a comprehensive understanding of the underlying factors contributing to bullying and the effectiveness of existing policies and interventions. This realization emphasized the importance of collaborative, community-centered research to promote health equity by addressing conformity-related issues and creating inclusive, safe student environments.

What advice would you give to other aspiring researchers, particularly those interested in pursuing a career in public health?

For aspiring researchers interested in public health careers, my advice is to focus on building strong research skills and staying informed about current trends in the field. Networking and collaboration are essential, as they provide mentorship and practical experience opportunities. Aim to address real-world public health issues and communicate your findings effectively. Stay persistent and resilient, and prioritize ethical research practices to make a meaningful impact on public health.

Looking ahead, what are your aspirations for the future, both within the realm of public health research and beyond?

As a school anti-bullying advocate and researcher, my aspirations for the future revolve around collaborating with stakeholders in the community to disseminate the findings and messages from my studies. I aim to bridge the gap between research and practical application by working closely with schools, parents, policymakers, and community organizations to implement evidence-based strategies that promote a culture of kindness, respect, and inclusion. By leveraging partnerships and engaging stakeholders in meaningful dialogue, I envision lasting positive changes in how bullying is addressed and prevented, ultimately fostering safer and healthier environments for children and adolescents.

Can you share tips for time management and productivity that you find useful?

I acknowledge that time management is an area I am actively working on improving. In the past, I have faced challenges with managing my time effectively, often leading to last-minute stress and juggling multiple tasks simultaneously. I understand the impact this has on my well-being and productivity, which is why I am committed to developing better time management skills. To address this, I have started implementing strategies such as prioritizing tasks based on urgency and importance. Breaking down larger tasks into smaller, manageable steps has also helped me stay focused and organized. Additionally, I am exploring time-blocking techniques to allocate dedicated time slots for specific tasks, reducing the tendency to procrastinate. I am also open to learning from others and seeking guidance on effective time management practices. I aim to enhance my productivity, reduce stress levels, and improve my overall health and performance by actively working on these skills.

Who is your role model and why?

Zaha Hadid, a groundbreaking architect, inspired many with her innovative designs and unwavering determination. She defied conventions, pushed boundaries, and broke barriers as a woman in architecture. Hadid's fluid, bold structures reflect her creativity and visionary thinking. Hadid's ability to blend art, technology, and functionality in her designs reflects her unique vision and artistic genius. Her legacy extends beyond buildings; she championed diversity and empowered future generations. Embracing her as a role model, I embody creativity, courage, and a drive to make a lasting impact, just as she did in design.

Finally, on a lighter note, could you tell us about some of your interests or hobbies outside of academia? What do you enjoy doing in your free time?

Swimming has become my newfound passion and hobby. Since joining the swimming club, I've experienced a remarkable transformation. I feel weightless and empowered in the water, almost like a mermaid gliding effortlessly through the waves. Swimming has taught me a valuable lesson—to move with the flow instead of resisting it. It's not just a physical activity but a liberating experience that strengthens my body and mind.

What is your favorite book or favorite quote?

My favorite quote is "Life Isn't About Waiting for The Storm to Pass; it's About Learning How to Dance in The Rain."

That's a beautiful quote by Vivian Greene! It's a great reminder to embrace life's challenges and find joy in every moment, no matter the circumstances.

4th Abu Dhabi Integrated Mental Health Conference, Abu Dhabi, UAE

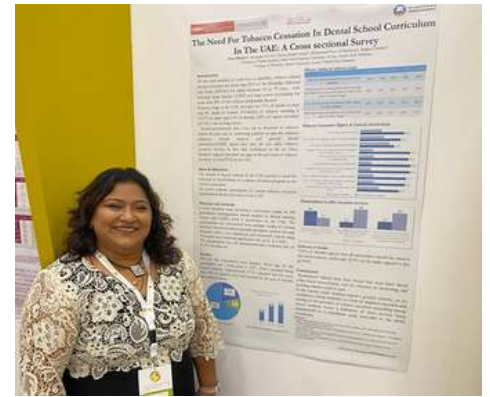
Ms. Rouwida ElKhalil and Dr. Iffat ElBarazi presented a poster titled 'Arabic Translation and Content Validation of the Mental Health Literacy Scale (MHLS) for Perinatal Emirati Patients.' at the 4th Abu Dhabi Integrated Mental Health Conference, conducted on 27-28 January 2024, in Abu Dhabi.



2nd Emirati Conference on Medical Education, Al Ain, UAE



The 2nd Emirati Conference on Medical Education, held on 10-11 February 2024, at UAEU's Crescent Building in Al Ain, showcased Ms. Simy Mathew's poster, "The need for tobacco cessation in dental school curriculum in the UAE: a cross-sectional survey." Additionally, Ms. Tahani Ahmed Al Qadiri delivered an oral presentation titled "Medical Education in the Private Sector: Challenges and Opportunities."



2nd Al Ain University (AAU) Health and Biomedical Postgraduate Symposium, Abu Dhabi, UAE



Ms. Marram Abbas secured 1st place in the oral presentation category with her topic "Pharmacist Perspectives on Encouraging Disposal of Unused Medications among the Public in the UAE" at the 2nd AAU Health and Biomedical Postgraduate Symposium, held on February 8, 2024, in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

CMHS Research Day, UAEU

IPH students and alumni showcased their research at the CMHS Research Day, held at UAEU, Al Ain on February 20, 2024. The following are the highlights from the event:

Ms. Maram Abbas presented her poster titled “Pharmacist views and barriers towards promoting disposal of unwanted or unused medications among the public in the UAE.”



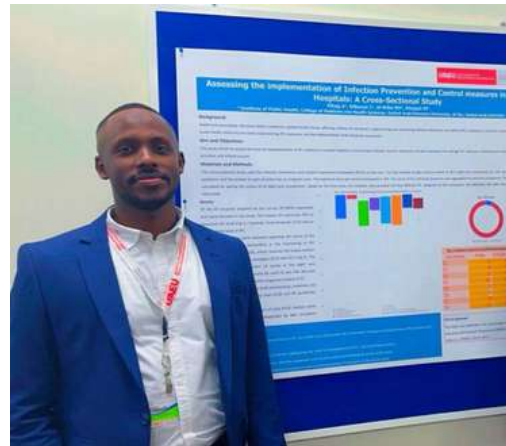
Ms. Simy Mathew, alongside students Ms. Amal Alshemeili, Ms. Hind Alhosani, and Ms. Mahra Alshamsi, shared insights from their poster on “The Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices of E-waste disposal & management among students at the College of Engineering & College of Medicine & Health Sciences, UAE University.”

Ms. Ghada Albluwi presented her poster on the “Epidemiology of primary speech and language delay among pediatric population in Arab countries; a scoping review.”



Ms. Maitha Albalushi presented her poster findings on “The association between sleep deprivation and depression among adults in the UAE; A cross-sectional study.”

Ms. Suad Ajab discussed her poster on the “Survey of the human gut fungi in health and disease.”

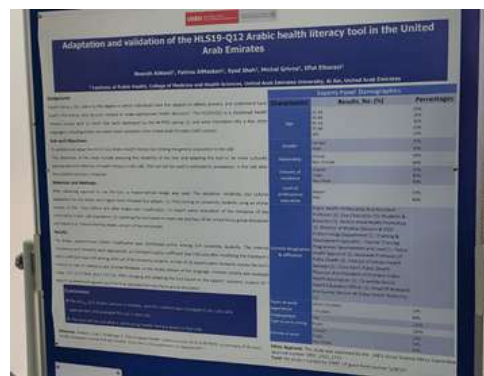


Mr. Ahmad AlHaj presented his poster “Assessing the implementation of infection prevention and control measures in Dubai Hospitals: A cross-sectional study.”

Ms. Nadia Ghaleb delivered an oral presentation on the “Prevalence of child maltreatment among adolescents in the UAE; Disparity by nationality and obesity status.”



Ms. Mariam Alshamsi presented her poster “Adverse childhood exposure and drug abuse in young adult in the UAE”.

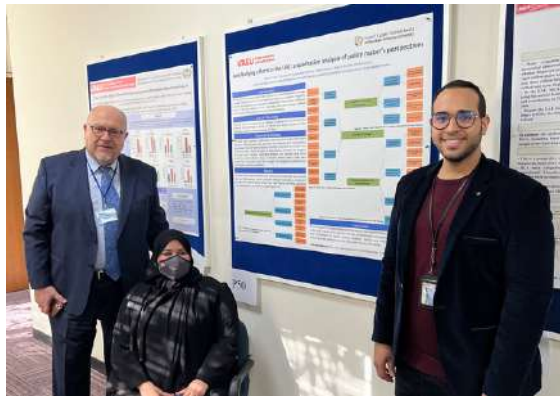


Ms. Noorah Aleelil participated with a poster” Adaptation and validation of the HLS19-Q12 Arabic Health Literacy Tool in the United Arab Emirates”.

Ms. Rouwida ElKhalil delivered an oral presentation on the “Arabic translation and content validation of the Mental Health Literacy Scale (MHLS) for perinatal Emirati patients in the United Arab Emirates: A heterogeneous expert panel method.”



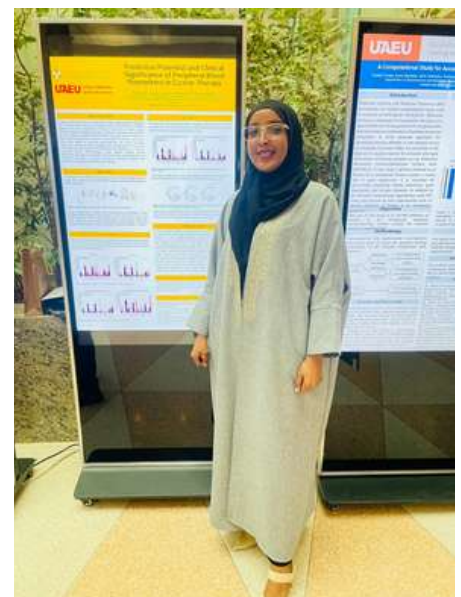
Dr. Hiba Adam chaired the third oral presentation sessions for Health Sciences alongside Dr. Azhar and presented her poster on the “Burden of perinatally detected major congenital anomalies in the UAE: The Mutaba’ah study.”



Dr. Alfani Alketbi presented her poster “Anti-bullying efforts in the UAE: a qualitative analysis of policy maker’s perspectives”.

9th UAE Graduate Student Research Conference, UAEU

The 9th UAE Graduate Student Research Conference, hosted on April 20, 2024, at UAEU, Al Ain, UAE, highlighted diverse research endeavors. Notable oral presentations included Ms. Ghada AlBluwi's study on “Epidemiology of Primary Speech and Language Delay Among Paediatric Population in Arab countries. A scoping review”, Dr. Hiba Adam's research on “Burden of Perinatally Detected Major Congenital Anomalies in the United Arab Emirates: The Mutaba'ah Study”, Ms. Rouwida ElKhalil's work on “Arabic Translation and Content Validation of the Mental Health Literacy Scale (MHLS) for Perinatal Emirati Patients in the United Arab Emirates”, and Ms. Souha Alabboud's “Review of Advanced Maternal Age and Associated Adverse Health Outcomes in GCC countries.” Poster presentations featured Ms. Suad Ajab's investigation into “Predictive Potential and Clinical Significance of Peripheral Blood Biomarkers in Cancer Therapy”, Ms. Marwa AlHaj Ahmad research on “Natural Language processing Technologies in Radiology Reports”, and Ms. Simy Mathew's exploration of “Knowledge, Attitude and Practices of Parents of Preschooler’s Oral Health in the UAE”. These contributions underscore the dedication and scholarly excellence of IPH's graduate student community.



The 8th Annual Al Ain Research Day

At the 8th Annual Al Ain Research Day in Al Ain, UAE, 2024, Dr. Tahra AlMahmoud, Prof. Michal Grivna, Dr. Ghuwaiya Al-Nuaimi, and Mr. Ismail ElKonaisi won first place for their poster titled "Eye injury and safety levels in welding and carpenter workshops." Other notable posters included Ms. Souha AlAbboud's "Review of advanced maternal age and associated adverse health outcomes in GCC countries", Ms. Ghada AlBluwi's "Epidemiology of primary speech and language delay among the pediatric population in Arab Countries: A scoping review".



MENA Congress for Rare Diseases

Dr. Hiba Adam presented her poster, "Burden of Perinatally Detected Major Cardiovascular Anomalies in the United Arab Emirates: The Mutaba'ah Study," at the MENA Congress for Rare Diseases from May 16-19, 2024

Institute for Healthcare Advancement 23rd Annual Health Literacy Conference, USA

Ms. Rouwida ElKhalil presented a prerecorded oral presentation titled 'Arabic Translation and Content Validation of the Mental Health Literacy Scale (MHLS) for Perinatal Emirati Patients.' at the IHA 23rd Annual Health Literacy Conference, a virtual event conducted on May 14-16, 2024.



Abstract by Ms. Mitha Albalushi Accepted at the World Congress of Epidemiology

Congratulations to Ms. Mitha Albalushi for having her abstract accepted at the World Congress of Epidemiology in Cape Town, South Africa, from 24th to 27th September 2024. Her presentation, titled "The Association between Serum Uric Acid and PHQ-8 in the UAE Healthy Future Pilot Study," explores a crucial link in epidemiology.

PhD Teaching Academy Graduation Ceremony by IPH Students

IPH PhD students, Ms. Shirien Yunus and Ms. Rouwida ElKhalil, celebrated their graduation from the Cohort 8 Teaching Academy in March 2024. Congratulations to the graduates!



IPH Students Attending Clinical Research with Limited Budget Workshop by Prof. Fikri M. Abu-Zidan



Dr. Hiba Adam and Ms. Rouwida ElKhalil participated in a workshop focused on Clinical Research with Limited Budget, spearheaded by Prof. Fikri M. Abu-Zidan. The workshop took place on Thursday, February 15, 2024.

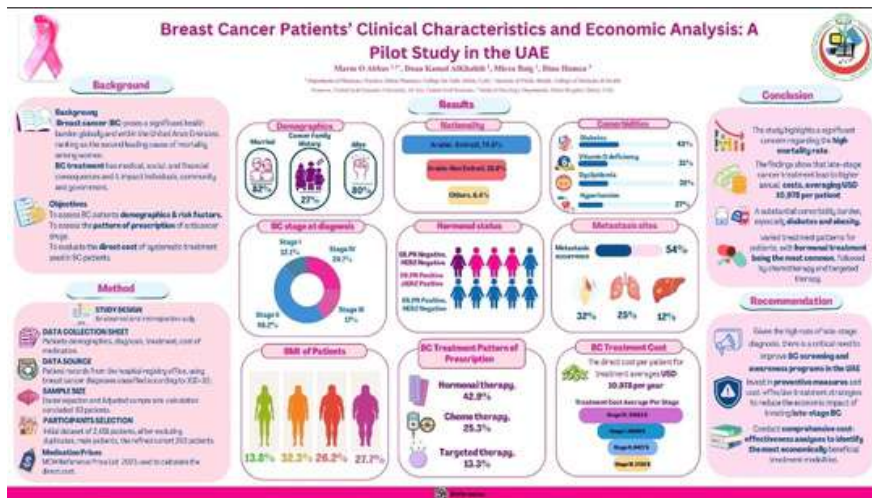
Three Abstracts by Ms. Mitha Albalushi Accepted at the RCPsych International Congress, Edinburgh, UK

Congratulations to Ms. Maitha AlBalushi and her supervisor, Prof. Fatma Al-Maskari, on the acceptance of three abstracts for Poster Display at the 2024 RCPsych International Congress, 17-20 June 2024. The abstract titles are as follows:

- Statistical Machine Learning Methods to Handle Missing PHQ-8 Score - Assuming Missing at Random.
- Novel depression risk score using data from the cohort of the United Arab Emirates Healthy Future Study (UAEHFS).
- Machine Learning Methods to Impute Missing PHQ-8 Score Values among the United Arab Emirates Healthy Future Study Participants.

Abstract by Ms. Maram Abbas Accepted at the 2024 American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Virtual Poster Symposium.

Congratulations to Ms. Maram Abbas on having her abstract, "Breast Cancer Patients' Clinical Characteristics and Economic Analysis: A Pilot Study in the UAE" accepted for poster presentation at the 2024 American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Virtual Poster Symposium.



Media Word by Dr. Tahani AlQadiri Announcing the Opening of the Burjeel Day Surgery Center in Al Ain



Dr. Tahani AlQadiri, Executive Director of Academic Affairs and Localization at Burjeel Holding, announced the opening of the Burjeel Day Surgery Center in Al Ain, with the inauguration graced by His Highness Sheikh Nahyan bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The launch took place on May 18, 2024.

The International Summit of Public Health and Preventive Medicine (ISPHPM24), Prague, Czech Republic

Ms. Maitha Albalushi showcased her poster titled "Sociodemographic Predictors of the Association Between Self-Reported Sleep Duration and Depression" at the International Summit of Public Health and Preventive Medicine (ISPHPM24) in Prague, Czech Republic, on May 28-29, 2024.

Receiving Awards at the 14th CMHS Annual Award Ceremony

Congratulations to the IPH family, including students, and Alumni, for their outstanding achievements at the 14th CMHS Annual Award Ceremony on April 25, 2024. Dr. Ali Al Rahma (Alumni), Dr. Preetha Menon Karuveetil, Ms. Mitha AlBalushi, Ms. Shaima AlJasmi, Ms. Rouwida ElKhalil, Ms. Jalala Hussain, Ms. Maryum Asghar, and Ms. Komal Naz Khalid received awards for their exceptional contributions. These awards are a testament to the dedication, hard work, and excellence demonstrated by the entire IPH community.



Best Poster Award

Mr. Moustafa Sherif was awarded the Best Poster Award at the 2024 International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) Congress, which led to his selection as the only member in the UAE for both ICOH and the Scientific Committee on Occupational Toxicology (SCOT). ICOH is the world's leading international body in occupational health, and SCOT focuses on advancing research in occupational toxicology. These memberships are significant as they recognize his contributions and position him among global experts dedicated to improving workplace health and safety.



PhD Dissertation Defense by Dr. Alfani AlKetbi

Congratulations to Dr. Alfani AlKetbi and her supervisor, Prof. Michal Grivna, on successfully defending her PhD dissertation, titled "Policymaker's Perspectives and Student Experiences of Bullying at Schools in the UAE: A Mixed-Method Approach" on April 23, 2024. The dissertation was accepted without the need for revisions.



PhD Dissertation Defense by Dr. Ibtisam Aref Karkaz

Congratulations to Dr. Ibtisam Aref Karkaz on successfully defending her PhD dissertation - "Sharp Injuries and Splash Exposures among Healthcare Workers in the United Arab Emirates," - May 14, 2024. Congratulations are also extended to her supervisor, Dr. Balázs Ádám.



IPH WEBINARS

Public health scientific webinars

Emerging Zoonotic Diseases: case of Monkeypox in Europe

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



AI in healthcare: benefits and drawbacks

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



Megatrends in quality and accreditation in health care and higher education



Interdisciplinary Approach to Public Health, Policy and Advocacy

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

IPH WEBINARS

Health Promotion webinars



سرطان عنق الرحم : أسبابه، علاجه و طرق الوقاية

المتحدثه

يوم الثلاثاء، 16 يناير 2024
7:15 PM - 8:15 PM (UAE TIME)

د. عابدة العوضي
استشاري طب أورام - مستشفى توم
مورد أمراض في طب الأورام و الدم
رئيس اللجنة العلمية لحمية الأورام الإماراتية

تدير الحوار

د. عفت البرازي
استاذة مساعدة في تخصص النساء في معهد الصحة العامة

اسم كود (IPH) أو اسعبر (IPH) لاستضافة الويبنار

UAEU IPH | UAEU-IPH | @UAEU_IPH | UAEU-IPH | UAEU-IPH | Institute of Public Health CMHS | IPH@uaeu.ac.ae

Cervical Cancer Awareness

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



الاستخدام الآمن للمكملات العشبية

المتحدثه

يوم الثلاثاء 13 فبراير 2024
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (UAE TIME)

د. حنان عبدالغني دشتي
مدير قسم التسجيل والتأخير، إدارة الصحة والسلامة، بلدية دبي، الإمارات العربية المتحدة

تدير الحوار

الاستاذة نوره العليبي
مرتبحة دكتوراه في معهد الصحة العامة
كلية الطب والتعليم الصحية
جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

اسم كود (IPH) أو اسعبر (IPH) لاستضافة الويبنار

UAEU IPH | UAEU-IPH | @UAEU_IPH | UAEU-IPH | UAEU-IPH | Institute of Public Health CMHS | IPH@uaeu.ac.ae

Safe use of herbal supplements



الامراض الجينية النادرة

المتحدثه

يوم الثلاثاء 5 مارس 2024
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (UAE TIME)

د. فاطمة الجسمي
استاذة ورئيسة قسم الجينات والبروم في كلية الطب والعلوم
الصحية في جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة، خبيرة على
شهادة الطب الاطفال الكندية و زمالة في طب الجينات
البيوكيميائي وهي احد مؤسسي جمعية الامراض النادرة في
الإمارات

تدير الحوار

استاذة نفيسة توفيق
رئيسة جمعية الامراض الجينية النادرة

اسم كود (IPH) أو اسعبر (IPH) لاستضافة الويبنار

UAEU IPH | UAEU-IPH | @UAEU_IPH | UAEU-IPH | UAEU-IPH | Institute of Public Health CMHS | IPH@uaeu.ac.ae

Rare genetic disorders

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



IPH WEBINARS

Health Promotion webinars

Questions and Answers about Children's Oral and Dental Health

To watch the webinar recording, kindly click here



APPOLOHXA
UAEU
أسئلة واجوبة عن صحة فم واسنان الاطفال
المتحدثه
يوم الثلاثاء
30 أبريل 2024
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (UAE TIME)
د. أسماء نيايتة
طبيبه أسنان الأطفال
دكتوراه في الصحة العامة
تدبير الحوار
د. هبة مهدي
مرشحة دكتوراه في معهد الصحة العامة
كلية الطب والعلوم الصحية
جامعة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
UAEU IPH
@UAEU_IPH
UAEU IPH
Institute of Public Health CMHS
IPH@uae.ac.ae

التدخين التقليدي والتدخين الإلكتروني، بين المعتقدات والحقائق

هذا الحوار الوطني خالصة من التدخين

يوم الخميس
6 يونيو 2024
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM (UAE TIME)

المتحدثه



د. بدور أحمد الشعي
رئيس قسم الأمراض المزمنة في مركز أبوظبي
للصحة العامة



انضم عبر رابط Zoom أو اسح رمز الاستجابة السريعة صوتياً

Traditional Smoking and Electronic Smoking: Between Beliefs and Facts

To watch the webinar recording, kindly click here



UAEU
APPOLOHXA
التدخين التقليدي والتدخين الإلكتروني، بين المعتقدات والحقائق
المتحدثه
يوم الخميس
6 يونيو 2024
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM (UAE TIME)
د. بدور أحمد الشعي
رئيس قسم الأمراض المزمنة في مركز أبوظبي
للصحة العامة
تدبير الحوار
د. ازهار طلال
محاضرة في معهد الصحة العامة كلية الطب
والعلوم الصحية جامعة الإمارات العربية
المتحدة
UAEU IPH
@UAEU_IPH
UAEU IPH
Institute of Public Health CMHS
IPH@uae.ac.ae

Advancing disease assessment using wearable motion sensors: application to aging, movement disorders, and orthopedics

The IPH hosted a seminar on April 24, 2024, featuring Prof. Kamiar Aminian, Switzerland, and moderated by Dr. Mohamed Elsadig. The session, titled "Advancing Disease Assessment Using Wearable Motion Sensors: Application to Aging, Movement Disorders, and Orthopedics," provided valuable insights into cutting-edge research and applications of wearable technologies in healthcare. Prof. Aminian's extensive experience and contributions to the field enriched the discussion, making it a highly informative event for all attendees.



ADVANCING DISEASE ASSESSMENT USING WEARABLE MOTION SENSORS: APPLICATION TO AGING, MOVEMENT DISORDERS, AND ORTHOPEDICS

DATE: 24 APRIL 2024
 TIME: 12:00-13:00
 VENUE: YANAH THEATER - ROOM 2C010
 LOCATION: 2C010 located on 2nd floor 'C' block male side.
 ZOOM LINK OR ZOOM ID

897
 5886
 2535

SPEAKER NAME: PROF. KAMIAR AMINIAN

Kamiar Aminian is Professor with the Institute of Bioengineering and was the Director of the Laboratory of Movement Analysis and Measurement at EPFL. Over the past 30 years, his research has focused on methods for monitoring and analysing human movement under everyday conditions using wearable technologies. He has been particularly interested in the outcome evaluation of treatments for the musculoskeletal system, based on the gait analysis and activity monitoring, technology-based intervention programmes in relation to ageing and movement disorders, and the objective measurement of performance in sport for assistive coaching. He teaches in the fields of physiology and instrumentation, medical devices and biomechanics. He is the author or co-author of more than 600 scientific articles published in journals and presented at international conferences, and holds 14 patents relating to medical devices.

Webinar announcements:

17 September 2024	Biobank and Genome projects international benchmarking analysis and Lessons learnt from the benchmarking analysis
22 October 2024	Behavior of motor cycle riders
19 November 2024	Mental Health
10 December 2024	Educating the Health Professions Workforce to Care for Older Adults: Actions for Universities



Public Health Clerkship

Best Poster Presentation Award

Congratulation to Mahra Khalid Hussain Alshamsi, Hind Salem Saeed Alhosani, Amal Mohammed Rashed Alshemeili for winning the “Best Poster Presentation” award at the Research day, 2024 for their public health clerkship and SURE Plus project “The knowledge, attitude, and practices of e-waste disposal and management among students at the College of Engineering and College of Medicine and Health Sciences, UAE University”, under supervision of Dr. Balázs Ádám and Ms. Simy Mathew.



Congratulations!

Public Health Clerkship

Public Health Clerkship Groups Unveil Compelling Public Health Proposals

In a symphony of knowledge exchange and academic prowess, the Public Health Clerkship (group D, E & A) delivered an outstanding set of oral presentations on February 5, April 1, and June 3, 2024 showcasing the culmination of their dedicated efforts and research in the field of Public Health.

Below is list of topics presented:

- Incidence, Risk Factors, and Machine Learning Predictive Model of Cardiovascular Disease Recurrence in Abu Dhabi Emirati Population, UAE: a Retrospective Cohort Study
- The Prevalence of e-Health Literacy and Its Associated Factors Among University Students in the United Arab Emirates: Cross-Sectional Study
- The Relationship Between Pre-pregnancy Body Mass Index & Post-Partum Hemorrhage During Delivery in Women of Child-bearing Age in Abu Dhabi: A Case-Control Study
- The Prevalence of Risk Factors Contributing to Vitamin D Deficiency Among Medical Students in Al Ain
- Exploring the Prevalence of Depressive Symptoms and Suicidal Ideations Among Adolescents and Youth in the UAE: The Role of Social Media
- Investigating the Prevalence and Association of Stress with Sleep Quality Among Medical Students in the UAE
- Examining the Prevalence of Untreated Sexually Transmitted Diseases Among Women Undergoing Routine Pap Smear Tests at Tawam Hospital in Al Ain in 2023
- Exploring Attitudes Toward Lung Cancer Screening Among Smokers in the UAE
- Prevalence and Risk Factors of Neonatal Mortality in the UAE
- Thyroid Cancer
- Occupational Injuries Among Medical Students, Interns & Residents
- The Impact of Rainfall on the Incidence of Dengue Fever in the UAE

The presentations were met with enthusiasm and appreciation from faculty members and peers alike, reflecting the depth of research, dedication, and the promising future of public health initiatives in the UAE.

Congratulations to all the groups and their supervisors on the insightful presentations!



Public Health Clerkship



Public Health Clerkship



Public Health Clerkship



Public Health Clerkship



8th Annual Al Ain Research Day

Khalid Abdulrahman Almaamari and Mohammed Al Saadi, undergraduate medical students at UAEU, presented their research on “Attitudes of Healthcare Providers in Abu Dhabi toward Pharmacogenomics” at the 8th Annual Al Ain Research Day May 17 , 2024. The study explored healthcare professionals' perspectives on pharmacogenomics in clinical practice and was conducted in collaboration with Tawam Hospital and UAEU's Genetics Department.

Supervised by Dr. Azhar Rahma and Dr. Emad Musaidi, the presentation highlighted key findings that could impact future healthcare training and policy. The event underscored the significance of student research in advancing medical science in the UAE.



The Schools of Public Health and Social Participation in Health Systems Functioning - notes by ASPHER President Henrique Barros

Health challenges are ever-changing, and societies are evolving accordingly. Individuals increasingly ask for more intelligent, more comprehensive, and timelier decisions regarding the way health systems are structured, funding is decided, and human resources are trained.

Emerging issues related to the delivery of care as access to innovation may finally, on a daily basis, be more relevant than the concerns with emerging health threats. They are perceived as major turning points in the process of evaluation of health systems through the eyes of users. The perception of the functioning of health services and the extent of citizens' involvement in the whole process influences trust and consequently needs transformation. Every movement can be seen as a missed or gained opportunity for global improvement and a more person-centered, human-rights respectful way of dealing with citizen/patient–health professional encounters. To a certain extent, all this is mainly a question of health literacy. It has to do with the way health education and communication are handled in societies and how behavioral insights are perceived.

Thus, if we take this perspective, the central role of training health professionals, particularly the public health workforce, becomes clear. And we underline the public health professionals because they are pivotal in promoting health, designing and implementing preventive programs, and organizing the management of the different levels of care. And by doing it, public health has a most relevant role in defending the health care systems, as it leads to avoiding preventable situations while making the always limited resources available to face the more severe and demanding situations. Schools of Public Health, especially those organized as ASPHER members, play a fundamental role in responding to the need of well-trained and educated professionals. Training the workforce, valuing skills and competencies in health education and communication, influences directly and indirectly the health literacy capital of the communities and empowers individuals to make more rational choices. Particularly if children and youth are targeted so that sustainable life course gains are expected. ASPHER has been engaged in developing competency goals for public health professional training standards, in accrediting schools and programs through the work of APHEA, in building a professionalization roadmap, in close collaboration with WHO Europe, it is now defining an ambitious core curriculum program, and looks at the organization of life long education schemes. Decades of work, we believe, contributed to technically prepare a strong public health European community able to respond to increasingly complex challenges. But it is time to recognize that new skills and new approaches are needed so that co-creation can be seen as a desirable and the public is actively present in public health decisions and evaluations – as true subjects and not mere objects of top-down actions. ASPHER is committed to leading such a process involving professionals and citizens in the organized community effort that defines public health and valuing both the knowledge and commitment of people in a truly solidary, shared global world.

Henrique Barros ASPHER President-elect

VAX-ACTION: Tackling Effectively Vaccine Hesitancy in Europe

VAX-ACTION, which is co-funded by EU4Health, aims to support EU Member States and relevant stakeholders to implement a combination of tailored, evidence-based interventions aimed to reduce vaccine hesitancy. It addresses the need to understand what type of interventions are now available, which are effective, how to translate effective interventions to new contexts, and to explain the unsuccessful ones to create opportunities for learning and redesign. VAX-ACTION is coordinated by IHMT, NOVA University Lisbon, PORTUGAL, under the lead of Prof Tiago Correia and builds on previous EU projects in the area.

EARLY: Evaluating, Identifying & Reducing Determinants MHC in Youth

The EARLY project aims to reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases such as mental health conditions (MHC), especially depression, anxiety, stress disorders, and substance use disorders, and identify and reduce risky modifiable exposures for these conditions in youth. EARLY will pursue this goal by developing a comprehensive exposure matrix that can be adapted to emerging new risks. To understand youth, parents, and stakeholders' perceptions, we will conduct qualitative interviews by providing representative, multinational data on youth MHC and through developing, implementing, and evaluating a multicomponent intervention. This will serve as an innovative model for promoting mental health and preventing MHC. EARLY, which is co-funded through Horizon, is coordinated by the Technical University of Applied Sciences in Emden/Leer, GERMANY with Prof Jutta Lindert leading.

Enhancing European Public Health Preparedness, Pre-Hospital, and Disaster Medicine

ASPHER is engaging in a new partnership for public health disaster preparedness with the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM) and the European Council for Disaster Medicine (ECDM). To initiate the collaboration, a special conference event was organized in Brussels on 25 March 2024 at the European Parliament. Global population growth, human migration, urbanization, climate change, conflict, and novel disease emergence present unprecedented challenges to public health worldwide. Enhanced curriculum development can assist practitioners of public health – both direct and in supportive roles – to better address dynamic and wicked problems threatening the public's health and welfare. The lessons of recent pandemics, warfare returning to the European continent, and population dislocation demand a fresh look at public health education and training.

Link to conference overview: https://www.aspher.org/download/1493/conference_enhancing-european-disaster-preparedness.pdf



Publications (January - June 2024)

*publication with students as co-authors

**publication with international collaborators

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

1. Abdo NM, Aslam I, Irfan S, George JA, Alsuwaidi AR, Ahmed LA, Al-Rifai RH. **Seroepidemiology of *Treponema pallidum*, *Mycoplasma hominis*, and *Ureaplasma urealyticum* in fertility treatment-seeking patients in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.** J Infect Public Health. 2024 Jan;17(1):163-171.* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jiph.2023.11.019>
2. Ababneh BF, Ong SC, Elbarazi I, Aljamal HZ, Hussain R. **A qualitative study exploring community pharmacists' awareness, attitudes and perceptions about drive-thru community pharmacy service in Malaysia during COVID-19.** Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice. 2024;17(1):2303752.**<https://doi.org/10.1080/20523211.2024.2303752>
3. GBD 2019 Asia and All Cancers Collaborators (Ahmed LA, Elbarazi I). **Temporal patterns of cancer burden in Asia, 1990-2019: a systematic examination for the Global Burden of Disease 2019 study.** Lancet Reg Health Southeast Asia. 2024 Jan 2;21:100333.**
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lansea.2023.100333>
4. Elbarazi I, Alam Z, Ali N, Loney T, Al-Rifai RH, Al-Maskari F, Ahmed LA. **Health literacy among pregnant women in the United Arab Emirates: The Mutaba'ah study.** Womens Health (Lond). 2024 Jan-Dec;20:17455057231224179.<https://doi.org/10.1177/17455057231224179>
5. Ali MM, Fathelrahman E, El Awad AI, Eltahir YM, Osman R, El-Khatib Y, AlRifai RH, El Sadig M, Khalafalla AI, Reeves A. **Epidemiology and scenario simulations of the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Corona Virus (MERS-CoV) disease spread and control for dromedary camels in United Arab Emirates (UAE).** Animals. 2024 Jan; 14(3):362.** <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani14030362>
6. Nair D, Thekkur P, Mbithi I, Khogali M, Zachariah R, Dar Berger S, et al. **Timeliness metrics for screening and preventing TB in household contacts of pulmonary TB patients in Kenya.** IJTLD OPEN. 2024;1(1):41-9.**
<https://www.ingentaconnect.com/contentone/ijatld/ijtldo/2024/00000001/00000001/art00008>
7. Almulla AA, Ahmed LA, Hesselink A, Augustin H, Bärebring L. **The relative validity of a semiquantitative food frequency questionnaire among pregnant women in the United Arab Emirates: The Mutaba'ah study.** Nutr Health. 2024 Jan 31:2601060231224010. **
<https://doi.org/10.1177/02601060231224010>
8. AlTarrach D, Lanigan J, Feehan J, Al Dhaheri AS, Shah SM, Cheikh Ismail L, Singhal A. **Infant feeding practices and risk of preschool obesity in AlAin, UAE: A cross-sectional study.** PLOS Glob Public Health. 2024 Feb 8;4(2):e0002803. ** <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0002803>
9. Alhabeeb AY, Konbaz F, Aleissa S, Alhamed GS, Alhowaish TS, Alhamadh MS, Masuadi E, Abalkhail M, AlHelal F, Bourghli A. **Returning to work after traumatic spine fractures: current status in a military hospital.** Mil Med. 2024 Feb 9:usae012.** <https://doi.org/10.1093/milmed/usae012>
10. Abulkhair O, Omair A, Makanjuola D, Al Zaid M, Al Riyees L, Abdelhafiez N, Masuadi E, Alamri G, Althan F, Alkushi A, Partridge A. **Breast cancer in young women: is it different? a single-center retrospective cohort study.** Clin Med Insights Oncol. 2024 Feb 19;18:11795549241228235.**
<https://doi.org/10.1177/11795549241228235>

Publications (January - June 2024)

*publication with students as co-authors

**publication with international collaborators

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

22. Mohammad L, Al Naeem W, Ramsi M, Al Neyadi S, Abdullahi A, Rahma A, Dawoud TH. **Haemodynamic effects of intravenous acetaminophen in critically ill paediatric patients: a retrospective chart review.** *Eur J Hosp Pharm.* 2024 Apr 5;ejhpharm-2023-004048. <https://doi.org/10.1136/ejhpharm-2023-004048>

23. Sharma C, Suliman A, Al Hamed S, Yasin J, AlKaabi J, Aburawi EH. **Lipid profile, inflammatory biomarkers, endothelial dysfunction, and heart rate variability in adolescents with type 1 diabetes. A case-control study among UAE population.** *Heliyon.* 2024 Apr 16;10(9):e29623. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e29623>

24. Long T, Murphy A, Elbarazi I, Ismail-Allouche Z, Horen N, Masuadi E, Trevithick C, Arafat C. **Prevalence of adverse childhood experiences and their cumulative impact associated lifetime health outcomes in the Emirate of Abu-Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.** *Child Abuse Negl.* 2024 May;151:106734. [**https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2024.106734](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2024.106734)

25. GBD 2021 Diseases and Injuries Collaborators (Ahmed LA, Elbarazi I, Grivna M). **Global incidence, prevalence, years lived with disability (YLDs), disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs), and healthy life expectancy (HALE) for 371 diseases and injuries in 204 countries and territories and 811 subnational locations, 1990-2021: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021.** *Lancet.* 2024 Apr 15:S0140-6736(24)00757-8. [** https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736\(24\)00757-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736(24)00757-8)

26. Elbarazi I, Aziz F, Ahmed LA, Abdullahi AS, Al-Maskari F. **Cancer Health Literacy and Its Correlated Factors in the United Arab Emirates-A Cross Sectional Study.** *Cancer Control.* 2024 Jan-Dec;31:10732748241248032. [**https://doi.org/10.1177/10732748241248032](https://doi.org/10.1177/10732748241248032)

27. GBD 2021 Risk Factors Collaborators (Ahmed L, Elbarazi I, Grivna M, Nauman J, Shah, SM). **Global burden and strength of evidence for 88 risk factors in 204 countries and 811 subnational locations, 1990-2021: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021.** *Lancet.* 2024 May 18;403(10440):2162-2203. [** https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736\(24\)00933-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736(24)00933-4)

28. Hefny AF, Mansour NA, Hefny MA, Masuadi E, Al Bahri S, Elkamhawy AA, Saber KS. **Significance of scapular fracture existence in blunt chest trauma: a retrospective cohort study.** *Surgery Research and Practice.* 2024 May 20;2024. [** https://doi.org/10.1155/2024/3550087](https://doi.org/10.1155/2024/3550087)

29. Saleh ST, Osaili TM, Al-Jawaldeh A, Hasan HA, Hashim M, Mohamad MN, Qiyas SA, Al Sabbah H, Al Daour R, Al Rajaby R, Masuadi E, Stojanovska L, Papandreou D, Zampelas A, Al Dhaheri AS, Kassem H, Cheikh Ismail L. **Adolescents' use of online food delivery applications and perceptions of healthy food options and food safety: a cross-sectional study in the United Arab Emirates.** *Front Nutr.* 2024 Apr 2;11:1385554. [** https://doi.org/10.3389/fnut.2024.1385554](https://doi.org/10.3389/fnut.2024.1385554)

30. Alroqi F, Barhoumi T, Masuadi E, Nogoud M, Aljedaie M, Abu-Jaffal AS, Bokhamseen M, Saud M, Hakami M, Arabi YM, Nasr A. **Durability of COVID-19 humoral immunity post infection and different SARS-COV-2 vaccines.** *J Infect Public Health.* 2024 Apr;17(4):704-711. [** https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jiph.2024.02.016](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jiph.2024.02.016)

31. Sharma C, Suliman A, Al Hamed S, Yasin J, AlKaabi J, Aburawi EH. **Lipid profile, inflammatory biomarkers, endothelial dysfunction, and heart rate variability in adolescents with type 1 diabetes. A case-control study among UAE population.** *Heliyon.* 2024 May 15;10(9). [** https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e29623](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e29623)

SOCIAL NEWS

Desert Adventure

The IPH team embarked on a thrilling desert adventure in the picturesque Al Ain Bin Nbbag area that took place on Saturday, February 3, 2024, creating memories that will undoubtedly linger in our hearts.



Under the expansive Arabian sky, our team engaged in a unique team bonding experience, fostering camaraderie and strengthening the bonds that make IPH a close-knit community. The serene desert setting provided the perfect backdrop for a day filled with laughter, fun, and connection.

One of the highlights of the day was our delightful barbecue session, where team members showcased their culinary skills by cooking on wood fires. The scent of delicious food wafted through the air as colleagues collaborated in preparing a feast that satisfied both our taste buds and our sense of adventure.

As the sun dipped below the horizon, our team gathered under the stars, sharing stories and laughter around a warm bonfire. The tranquil desert night served as the canvas for an evening of connection and relaxation.



We want to extend our gratitude to everyone who participated, bringing their enthusiasm and positive energy to the event. These moments of shared joy are essential in creating a vibrant and supportive work environment.



A special thanks to the organizing team for orchestrating this fantastic desert escapade, ensuring that every detail contributed to an unforgettable experience.

Here's to the IPH family – where work meets play, and memories are made!

SOCIAL NEWS



Sending heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Marilia and her family on the joyous arrival of their precious baby boy! What a wonderful blessing to welcome into your lives. May his every giggle, coo, and tiny step fill your hearts with endless happiness and love.



Sending heartfelt congratulations to Mrs. Bayan Hasan and her family on the joyous arrival of their precious baby boy! What a wonderful blessing to welcome into your lives. May his every giggle, coo, and tiny step fill your hearts with endless happiness and love.

Congratulations!

A decorative graphic featuring the word "Congratulations!" in a gold, cursive font. To the right of the text is a cluster of colorful balloons (red, blue, green, yellow, pink) and confetti.

Announcement

Farewell Lunch in Honor of Ms. Geraldine Kershew

On Thursday, 30 May 2024 , the IPH came together to bid a heartfelt farewell to Ms. Geraldine Kershew. Ms. Kershew has been invaluable to the IPH department, contributing to the teaching and mentoring of many students. In recognition of her efforts and dedication, the department hosted a farewell lunch in her honor.

Her passion for education and unwavering commitment to supporting the department has left a lasting impact, and she will be greatly missed. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors and express our sincere gratitude for her time with us.



January - June
2024

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS



UAEU IPH



Uaeu_iph



IPH CMHS



UAEU-IPH



@UAEU_IPH