

## VIIIth IEA Eastern Mediterranean Regional Scientific Meeting



### Globalization and Public Health in the EMR



November 25-27, 2010  
Crowne Plaza Hotel  
Beirut-Lebanon

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November 25th – 27th , 2010

## Globalization and Public Health in the EMR

### Pre-conference Workshop, Wednesday, November 24, 2010

<b>09:00 – 17:30</b>	<b>Workshop (I): Modeling Incomplete Observations</b> <b>Dr. Michel Chavance</b> , Research Director, "Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM U1018), Centre de Recherche en Épidémiologie et Santé des Populations", Villejuif, France <b>Dr. Hélène Jacqmin-Gadda</b> , Research Director, " Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM U897)", Biostatistic Group, " Université Victor Segalen Bordeaux 2", Bordeaux, France <b>Dr. Ghada Beaino</b> , Research Assistant, French national institute of health and medical research, INSERM-U953, Epidemiological Research Unit on Perinatal Health and Women's and Children's Health, Paris, France.	University Saint Joseph (USJ), School of Medicine, Beirut
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### Pre-conference Workshops (continued) & Opening Ceremony, Thursday, November 25, 2010

<b>08:30 -- 18:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>	
<b>09:00 -- 12:30</b>	<b>Workshop (II): Introduction to Human Genome Epidemiology</b> <b>Dr. Muin Khoury</b> , Director, National Office of Public Health Genomics at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, Georgia, USA	Gefinor Rotana Hotel, Beirut
<b>14:00 -- 17:30</b>	<b>Workshop (III): Scientific Writing &amp; Publishing of Epidemiological Research</b> <b>Dr. Haroutune Armenian</b> , Professor in Residence, Epidemiology Department, University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) - School of Public Health, USA & ex-President, American University of Armenia	Gefinor Rotana Hotel, Beirut

Keynote Address: **From Discovery to Application: An Alternative Perspective in Epidemiology?**

**Dr. Haroutune Armenian**, Professor in Residence, Epidemiology Department, University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) - School of Public Health, USA & ex-President, American University of Armenia (45min)

**Dr. Mary E. Deeb**, Chairperson, Organizing Committee, President, Lebanese Epidemiological Association (LEA), Lebanese American University, School of Medicine, Beirut, & Jubail, Lebanon (5min)

**Dr. Ali Al-Zahrani**, IEA/EMR Councilor, Senior Clinical Epidemiologist, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (5min)

**Dr. Neil Pearce**, IEA President, Professor and Director, Centre for Public Health Research, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand (5min)

**His Excellency MP Saaddine Rafic Hariri**, Prime Minister of Lebanon (5min)

Keynote Address: **Emerging Infectious Diseases in a Globalized World: Public Health Planning and Response**

**Dr. Rima Khabbaz**, Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases, National Center for Preparedness, Detection, and Control of Infectious Diseases (NCPDCID), Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, Georgia, USA (30min)

Keynote Address: **Epidemiology in a Changing World**

**Dr. Neil Pearce**, IEA President, Professor and Director, Centre for Public Health Research, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand (30min)

Discussion

10:00 – 10:30	Coffee Break		
10:30 – 12:00	<b>Symposium (I): Mental Health Epidemiology in the EMR</b>	<b>Symposium (II): UNFPA Symposium on Reproductive Health</b>	<b>Session (A): Epidemiology of Selected Communicable Diseases in the EMR</b>
	<b>WHO- World Mental Health Cross National Surveys</b> Dr. Elie Karam, Professor & Head, Dept. of Psychiatry & Clinical Psychology, St. George Hospital University Medical Center, Balamand University, Faculty of Medicine, Medical Institute for Neuropsychological Disorders (MIND), Institute for Development, Research, Advocacy & Applied Care (IDRAAC), Beirut, Lebanon (15min)	Invited Speaker: <b>The Millennium Development Goals for Maternal and Child Health: Progress and Challenges</b> <b>Dr. Cesar G. Victora</b> , IEA President-Elect, Professor of Epidemiology, Universidade de Federal de Pelotas, Caixa, Brazil (20min)	Invited Speaker: <b>Polio Eradication in the EMR: Achievement and Challenges</b> <b>Dr. Mohamed Helmy Wahdan</b> , Senior Polio Consultant, WHO/EMRO, Cairo, Egypt (20min)
	<b>Iraq Mental Health Survey Report</b> <b>Dr. Mohamad Alkaisy</b> , Psychiatrist, Ibn Seena Teaching Hospital, Mosul Aljadida, Iraq (15min)	<b>Discharge Against Medical Advice in the Pediatric Emergency Center (Al Saad) in the State of Qatar (10min)</b> <b>Dr. Rafah Sayyed</b> , Pediatrics Department, Pediatric Emergency Center, Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar	<b>Dengue Fever Review, Jeddah, 1994–2009</b> <b>Dr. Naeema A. Akbar</b> , Preventive medicine, Ministry of Health, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia (10min)
	<b>The Planning of the Saudi National Mental Health Survey</b> <b>Dr. Yasmin Altwaijri</b> , Head, Epidemiology Research Unit, Epidemiology and Statistical Computing, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (15min)	<b>Maternal Serum Leptin Levels and the Course of Pregnancy (10min)</b> <b>Dr. Fikrat El-Sahn</b> , Family Health Department, High Institute of Public Health, Alexandria University, Egypt	<b>Epidemiology of Imported Malaria in Qatar: A 10-years Review (10min)</b> <b>Dr. Mohamed Al-Kuwari</b> , National Health Program, Primary Health Care, Doha, Qatar
	<b>Social Desirability Effects on Reporting Mental Health Outcomes</b> <b>Ms. Zeina Mneimneh</b> , Survey Director, University of Michigan/Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, United States (15min)	<b>Maternal Mortality Ratio in Lebanon in 2008: A Hospital-Based Reproductive Age Mortality Survey (10min)</b> <b>Mr. Elie L. Houbeika</b> , Faculty of Medicine, Saint Joseph University, Beirut, Lebanon	<b>Biochemical Parameters in Malaria – A Preliminary Diagnostic Public Health Tool</b> <b>Dr. Mubeen Mateen</b> , Laboratory Medicine and Pathology Department, Al Khor Hospital and Medical Research Center, Hamad Medical Corporation, Doha, Qatar (10min)
	<b>Panel Discussion on Collaborative Research in The Arab World (15min)</b>	<b>Trend of Maternal Mortality Rate and its Associated Factors in Iran (A Community-Based Survey) (10min)</b> <b>Dr. Behnam Honarvar</b> , Health Policy Research Center, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran	<b>Prevalence of Markers of CMV, HIV, HBV AND HCV among Hemodialysis Patients in Casablanca (10min)</b> <b>Dr. El Moumou Lahcen</b> , Laboratory of Immunology, Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, Casablanca, Morocco

Discussion (15min)	A Study of Socioeconomic Determinants Associated with Improved Maternal, Neonatal and Perinatal Survival in the State of Qatar <i>Dr. Sajjad Rahman, Weill Cornell Medical College, Doha, Qatar (10min)</i>	Challenges of Community Based Educational Reviews for Reduction of Stigma in People with HIV/AIDS (10min) <i>Dr. Janaki Vidanapathirana, National STD/AIDS Control Programme, Comombo, Sri Lanka</i>
	Discussion	Discussion

12:00 – 13:00 Poster Presentation

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch Break & Poster Viewing

14:30 – 16:00 **Plenary Session (II)**

Keynote Address: **Why should we set up Pregnancy Cohorts? More than 15 years of Experience with the National Birth Cohort in Denmark**  
*Dr. Jorn Olsen, Past IEA President, Professor, Institute of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology, Aarhus, Denmark (30min)*

Keynote Address: **Double Burden of Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases: An EMR Perspective**  
*Dr. Jaouad Mahjour, Director, Communicable Diseases- World Health Organization, Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, Cairo, Egypt (30min)*

Discussion

16:00 – 17:30	<b>Session (B):</b> Epidemiology of Cardiovascular Diseases and Risk Factors	<b>Session (C):</b> Current Surveillance Status in the EMR	<b>Session (D):</b> Epidemiology of Selected Non-Communicable Diseases in the EMR
Invited Speakers	Epidemiology of CVD and Risk factors <i>Dr. Tawfik A M Khoja, Professor, Family Physician Consultant and Director General, Executive Board of Health Ministers' Council for Cooperation Council States (20min)</i>	Hajj Preparations during a Declared Pandemic H1N1 Influenza <i>Dr. Ziad Memish, Assistant Deputy Minister for Preventive Medicine, Ministry of Health, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (20min)</i>	Hypovitaminosis D in the EMR <i>Dr. Ghada El-Hajj Fuleihan, Professor of Medicine, Director of the Calcium Metabolism and Osteoporosis Program, American University of Beirut Medical Center, Beirut, Lebanon (20min)</i>

<p><b>Cardiovascular Risk Factors among Emirati Adults: Role of Overweight and Obesity?</b>  <b>Dr. Syed Mahboobah Shah</b>, Community Department, Faculty of Medicine &amp; Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates University (10min)</p>	<p><b>Communicable Disease Surveillance and Potential for Information Exchange among Countries of the Mediterranean and Balkans Participating to the EpiSouth Network (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Valeria Alfonsi</b>, National Centre for Epidemiology, Surveillance and Health Promotion, Rome, Italy</p>	<p><b>Epidemiology of Osteoporosis in the Eastern Mediterranean: Current Evidence and Future Prospects (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Rafic Baddoura</b>, University Saint Joseph, Beirut, Lebanon</p>
<p><b>Cardiovascular Disease Risk Factor: WHO STEPwise National Survey in Lebanon, 2009 (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Abla Sibai</b>, Department of Epidemiology &amp; Population Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</p>	<p><b>Barriers to Communicable Diseases Notification in the Kingdom of Bahrain: A Survey of Knowledge and Attitude of Primary Health Care Physicians (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Dalal Al-Hashimi</b>, Ministry of Public Health, Bahrain</p>	<p><b>Vitamin D Deficiency in Healthy Male Population: Results of the Iranian Multi – Center Osteoporosis Study (IMOS)</b>  <b>Dr. Ramin Heshmat</b>, Endocrinology &amp; Metabolism Research Center, University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran (10min)</p>
<p><b>Prevalence of Metabolic Syndrome in Patients with Acute Coronary Syndrome in Six Middle-Eastern countries (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Jassim Al Suwaidi</b>, Department of Cardiology and Department of Research, Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar</p>	<p><b>Epidemiology of Pandemic (H1N1) 2009 Influenza in the Abu Dhabi Emirate, May-August 2009</b>  <b>Dr. Farida Al Hosani</b>, Communicable Diseases Section, Public Health and Policy Division, Health Authority, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (10min)</p>	<p><b>Survey of Noncommunicable Diseases and Related Risk Factors in Aljouf Area, 2007</b>  <b>Dr. Ali Al-Amri</b>, Primary Health Care Department, Health Affairs Directorate, Aljouf, Saudi Arabia (10min)</p>
<p><b>Differentials in Management and Related Outcomes of Myocardial Infarction at a University Hospital in Lebanon (10min)</b>  <b>Ms. Abeer Dakik</b>, American University of Beirut, Lebanon</p>	<p><b>Mitigating the Impact of Pandemic H1N1 during the 6th Francophonian Games in Lebanon</b>  <b>Ms. Nadine Haddad</b>, Epidemiological Surveillance Unit, Ministry of Public Health, Lebanon (10min)</p>	<p><b>Prevalence and Severity of Asthma, Rhinitis and Eczema in Children Exposed to High Level of Traffic Air Pollution</b>  <b>Dr. Mohammad Shamssain</b>, Department of Pharmacy, Health and Wellbeing, Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of Sunderland, Sunderland, United Kingdom (10min)</p>
<p><b>Beliefs, Diet and Misconceptions among Type 2 Saudi Diabetic Patients (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Ahmed Bahnassy</b>, Faculty of Medicine, King Fahd Medical City &amp; King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Saudi Arabia</p>	<p><b>Measles Outbreak in Qatar 2007 (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Khalid Ibrahim</b>, Pediatric Emergency Department, Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar</p>	<p><b>Discussion</b></p>
<p><b>Socioeconomic Status and Health Outcomes in Type II Diabetes, in Urmia District – Iran</b>  <b>Ms. Sima Oshnoyi</b>, Urmia University of Medical Sciences, Iran (10min)</p>	<p><b>School Absenteeism Monitoring System in Lebanon (10min)</b>  <b>Ms. Hala Abou Naja</b>, Epidemiological Surveillance Unit, Ministry of Public Health, Lebanon</p>	
<p><b>Discussion</b></p>	<p><b>Discussion</b></p>	

17:30 – 18:00

Coffee Break

18:00 – 19:00

**Session (E): Substance Abuse in the EMR**

**Session (F): Mental Health during Wartime**

**Prevalence and Patterns of Medical and Non-Medical Use Pain, Anxiety, Anti-Depressant and other Prescription Medications among AUB students. (10min)**  
*Dr. Lilian Ghandour, Department of Epidemiology and Population Health, American University of Beirut, Lebanon*

**Assessment of Psychiatric Morbidity and General Health in a Civilian Population Before and After a War in Lebanon (15min)**  
*Dr. Laila Farhood, Psychiatry Department, School of Nursing & Faculty of Medicine, American University of Beirut, Lebanon*

**A Study of Addictive In-Patients at Ibn-Rushd Psychiatric Teaching Hospital in Baghdad (10min)**  
*Ms. Rawnak Aqrabi, Institute for Drug and Alcohol Studies, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia, USA*

**Mental Health Symptoms Following Wars and Repression at Mosul City / Iraq (15min)**  
*Dr. Mohamad Alkaisy, Ibn Seena Teaching Hospital, Mosul Aljadida, Iraq*

**High risk Injection amongst Male Prisoners, before and during Captivity; A National Bio-behavioral Survey in Iran (10min)**  
*Dr. Ehsan Mostafavi, Regional Knowledge Hub for HIV/AIDS Surveillance, Kerman University of Medical Sciences & Pasteur Institute of Iran*

**Validation of the Arabic version of the GHQ-28 against the BDI for Assessing Depression in war-exposed Civilians (15min)**  
*Dr. Hani Dimassi, School of Pharmacy, Lebanese American University, Byblos-Lebanon*

**Waterpipe Smoking, Nicotine Dependence and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD): A Case Control Study in Lebanon**  
*Dr. Georges Khayat, Hôtel Dieu de France Hospital - Beirut & Saint Joseph University- Faculty of Medicine, Lebanon (10min)*

Discussion

**Is Tobacco Chippers' Profile Different from Tobacco Dependent? Data from a National Study in Lebanon (10min)**  
*Dr. Mirna Waked, Saint George Hospital - Beirut & Balamand University - Faculty of Medicine, Lebanon*

Discussion

20:30

Gala Dinner

Saturday, November 27, 2010

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Beirut

08:00 – 17:00 Registration

08:30 – 10:00 Plenary Session (III)

Keynote Address: **Public Health Genomics: Using Genetic Information to Improve Health and Prevent Disease** (30min)

**Dr. Muin Khoury**, Director, National Office of Public Health Genomics at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Keynote Address: **Buprenorphine Versus Methadone: Translating Research Into Clinical Practice**

**Dr. Antoine Douaihy**, Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Medical Director, Addiction Medicine Services, Director of Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, Pittsburgh, USA (30min)

Discussion

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee Break & Poster Viewing

10:30 – 12:00	<b>Symposium (III): Harm Reduction: Effective Interventions in HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users</b>	<b>Symposium (IV): Child Labour in the EMR</b>	<b>Symposium (V): WHO/TFI Symposium: Gender and Tobacco</b>
	<b>Epidemiological Situation and Response to HIV Among Intravenous Drug Users in MENA</b> <b>Ms. Joumana Hermez</b> , Technical Officer, AIDS and Sexually transmitted Diseases, WHO/EMRO (10min)	<b>Child labour: A Case Study From Lebanon</b> <b>Dr. Iman Nuwayhid</b> , Dean & Professor, Environmental Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, Lebanon (15min)	<b>World No Tobacco Day 2010: Focus &amp; Surveillance Activities</b> <b>Dr. Heba Fouad</b> , Surveillance Officer, Tobacco-Free Initiative, WHO/EMRO, Cairo, Egypt (10min)

<p><b>WHO Guidelines on Effective Treatment of Opioid Dependence</b>  <b>Dr. Nicholas Clarks</b>, <i>Medical Officer, Mental Health and Substance Dependence Department, World Health Organization, Geneva (10min)</i></p>	<p><b>Child labour: A Poverty Perspective – The Case of Lebanon and Yemen</b>  <b>Dr. Fatma Odaymat</b>, <i>Regional Coordinator for the Eastern Mediterranean Region, International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) (15min)</i></p>	<p><b>Tobacco Marketing to Women: Tobacco Industry Practices</b>  <b>Dr. Rima Nakkash</b>, <i>Assistant Research Professor, Health Promotion &amp; Community Health Department, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut; Coordinator, AUB-Tobacco Control Research Group, Beirut, Lebanon (10min)</i></p>
<p><b>Iranian Experience in the Treatment of Opioid Drug Dependence: Methadone, Buprenorphine and Opium Tincture</b>  <b>Dr. Emran Razzaghi</b>, <i>Director, Iranian National Center for Addiction Studies (INCAS), Iran (10min)</i></p>	<p><b>Child labour : The Context of Jordan &amp; Syria</b>  <b>Ms. Hayat Osseiran</b>, <i>Child Labour Consultant (15min)</i></p>	<p>Social Norms and Attitudes Linked to Waterpipe Use in the EMR  <b>Dr. Rima Afifi</b>, <i>Professor &amp; Assistant Dean Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, Lebanon (10min)</i></p>
<p><b>The Middle East and North Africa Harm Reduction Association (MENAHRRA): Concept, Objectives, Approach and Targets</b>  <b>Mr. Elie Aaraj</b>, <i>Director, Middle East and North Africa Harm Reduction Association(MENAHRRA) (10 min)</i></p>	<p><b>Child labour: An ILO program/perspective</b>  <b>Ms. Siba Maraachli</b>, <i>National Project Officer, International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour, International Labour Organization (15min)</i></p>	<p><b>Waterpipe Smoking among Women: A Lower Prevalence but a Higher Risk of Nicotine Dependence</b>  <b>Dr. Pascale Salameh</b>, <i>Professor of Epidemiology, Lebanese University, Faculties of Pharmacy &amp; of Public Health, Beirut, Lebanon (10min)</i></p>
<p><b>Lebanese Guideline for Substitution Therapy with Buprenorphine (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Ramzi Haddad</b>, <i>Psychiatry, Mount Lebanon Hospital, Skoun-Lebanese Addiction Center,Beirut, Lebanon</i></p>	<p><b>The Child Labour Unit at the Ministry of Labour, Lebanon</b>  <b>Ms. Nazha Shallita</b>, <i>Head, Child Labour Unit, Lebanese Ministry of Labour (15min)</i></p>	<p><b>Pregnant Women and Smoking</b>  <b>Dr. Monique Chaaya</b>, <i>Associate Professor &amp; Chair, Epidemiology &amp; Population Health Department, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, Lebanon (10min)</i></p>
<p><b>Discussion (30 min)</b></p>	<p>Discussion (15min)</p>	<p><b>Tobacco Use among University Students: A Gender Perspective</b>  <b>Dr. Ahmed Mandil</b>, <i>Professor of Epidemiology, High Institute of Public health, Alexandria University, and College of Medicine, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia (10min)</i></p>
		<p><b>Discussion (30 min)</b></p>
<p><b>12:00 – 13:00 IEA/EMR General Assembly &amp; Business Meeting (for IEA &amp; LEA Members)</b></p>		

13:00 – 14:30

Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:00

**Plenary Session (IV)**

Keynote Address: **Addressing the threats of Non-communicable Diseases**

**Dr. Tawfic A. M. Khoja**, Professor, Family Physician Consultant and Director General, Executive Board of Health Ministers' Council for Cooperation Council States (30min)

Keynote Address: **Methodological Problems in Measuring Health Impacts of Community Water Supply Programs: Experience from the Jhansi (India) Health Impact Study**

**Dr. Babu L. Verma**, IEA- INCLIN Liaison Officer, Professor of Biostatistics and In-Charge of the Division, Department of Social & Preventive Medicine, Maharani Laxmi Bai Medical College & Hospital, Jhansi, India (30min)

Discussion

16:00 – 17:30

**Session (G): Social Determinants of Health in the EMR**

**Session (H): Environmental & Occupational Epidemiology**

**Session (I): Regional Experiences in Cancer Epidemiology**

**State and Global Determinants of Mental Ill Health of Iraqi Refugees: The Case of Beirut Suburbs**  
**Dr. Jihad Makhoul**, Health Promotion and Community Health Department, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon (10min)

Invited Speaker:  
**Environmental Hazards in the EMR**  
**Dr. Mey Jurdi**, Professor & Chair, Environmental Health Department, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon (20min)

Invited Speaker:  
**Cancer Control in India : Challenges to reach a Billion**  
**Dr. Vinod Srivastava**, IEA / South East Asian Councilor, Professor of Social & Preventive Medicine, KGMC Institute of Clinical Epidemiology, King George's Medical University, Lucknow, India (20min)

**The Equity in Access to Healthcare Services in the Cooperative Health Insurance System, Jeddah, 2008-2009**  
**Dr. Majed Naif AL-Osaimi**, Department of Community & Preventive Medicine, National Guard Health Affair, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia (10min)

**Impact of Heavy Metals on Childhood Behaviors and Development: a UAE Study**  
**Mr. Said Ahmad**, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates University (10min)

Invited Speaker:  
**The GCC experience: From Cancer Registration to Cancer Control and Prevention**  
**Dr. Ali Al-Zahrani**, IEA / EMR Councilor, Senior Clinical Epidemiologist, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (20min)

<p><b>Risk Factors for Symptomatic Knee Osteoarthritis in Lebanon: A Population-Based Case Control Study Using Incident Cases</b>  <b>Dr. Nabil EL Ayoubi</b>, Department of Epidemiology and Population Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, American University of Beirut, Lebanon (10min)</p>	<p>Climate Related Morbidity Patterns among Patients Attending Primary Healthcare Centers in Bahrain (10min)  <b>Dr. Randah Hamadeh</b>, Department of Family and Community Medicine, College of Medicine and Medical Sciences, Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain</p>	<p><b>Primary Care Physicians' Knowledge and Practice Towards Prostate Cancer Counseling and Screening In Saudi Arabia</b>  <b>Dr. Mostafa Arafa</b>, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia (10min)</p>
<p><b>Social Determinants Affecting Egyptian Women Attitude toward Physical Domestic Violence (2008)</b>  <b>Dr. Eman Moustafa</b>, Faculty of Nursing, Ain Shams University, Egypt (10min)</p>	<p><b>Toxicity of Airborne Contaminants in an Urban Environment Using Human-derived Cells and in Vitro Methods (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Christian Khalil</b>, Chemical Safety and Applied Toxicology Laboratories, School of Risk and Safety Sciences, University of New South Wales, Sydney Australia</p>	<p>Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices Concerning the Cervical Smear (Pap Smear) among Lebanese Women (10min)  <b>Dr. Rana Sakr</b>, Faculty of Medicine, Saint-Joseph University, Beirut, Lebanon</p>
<p><b>Social and Health Disparities in Urban Areas; Findings from Urban-HEART Study (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Mohsen Asadi-Lari</b>, Department of Epidemiology, Iran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran</p>	<p><b>Pattern of Injuries among Children and Adolescents in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia: A Household Survey (10min)</b>  <b>Dr. Ashry Gad</b>, College of Medicine, King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia</p>	<p>Outcomes of Screening Mammographies in One Community-Based Initiative in Lebanon  <b>Mr. Joseph Sidaoui</b>, Public Health Department, Faculty of Medicine, University of Saint-Joseph, Beirut, Lebanon (10min)</p>
<p><b>Social Inclusion or Exclusion? Never-Married Singles in West Amman (10min)</b>  <b>Ms. Dana Sabbah</b>, American University in Cairo, Egypt</p>	<p>Discussion</p>	<p><b>Colo-rectal Cancer Screening Amongst First Degree Relatives of Cancer Cases in Jordan</b>  <b>Dr. Sahar Jriesat</b>, Jordan Cancer Registry, Jordan (10min)</p>
<p>Discussion</p>		<p><b>Survival Analysis of 1, 3 and 5-Year of Bladder Cancer in Patients Referring to the Shiraz University of Medical Sciences Hospital</b>  <b>Mr. Seyed Javad Shamsnia</b>, Islamic Azad University, Firoozabad, Iran (10min)</p> <p>Discussion</p>

17:30 – 18:00

Coffee Break and Poster Viewing

18:00 – 19:00

**Panel Discussion: Towards an EMR Epidemiology Federation**

**Dr. Ahmed Mandil**, IEA Secretary, Professor of Epidemiology, High Institute of Public health, Alexandria University, and College of Medicine, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia

**Dr. Ali Al-Zahrani**, IEA / EMR Councilor, Senior Clinical Epidemiologist, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**Dr. Rafic Baddoura**, Head, Rheumatology Department, " Hotel-Dieu de France" Hospital, Associate Professor of Public Health, University Saint Joseph, Beyrouth, Liban

19:00 – 20:00

**Closing (wrap up) with:**

**Dr. Mary Deeb**, LEA President: **Concluding Remarks & Lessons Learned**

**Dr. Ahmed Mandil**, IEA Secretary: **Role of IEA in Networking**



*Communicable Disease Surveillance  
and potential for information exchange  
among Countries of the Mediterranean and Balkans  
participating to the EpiSouth Network*

Dr. Nada Ghosn & Dr. Valeria Alfonsi  
on behalf of the EpiSouth Network

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## ***The Mediterranean***

The countries of the Mediterranean region have common sea borders in the remarkable ecosystem of the Mediterranean Sea.

As a result, they share common public health problems and threats and need to collaborate and exchange information to strengthen response capacity.



## ***EpiSouth Network***

is a group of public health institutions with a shared purpose to tackle the main public health issues and communicable diseases in the Mediterranean and Balkans area.



## *Project history*

- In occasion of the Year of the Mediterranean (2005), 6 European Public Health Institutes agreed to elaborate a framework of collaboration
- In October 2006 the EpiSouth Project started with 9 European countries with a Grant Agreement with DG-Sanco
- In March 2007 countries from S.Europe, Balkans, N. Africa and Middle East, together with WHO and EC met in Rome to elaborate a new partnership, thanks also to EC TAIEX support
- In June 2007 the Italian MOH made funds available for non-EU countries participation
- As per 2010, the EpiSouth Network is composed by: 27 Countries with 71 Focal Points (MOH/PH Institute) and 4 Collaborating Institutions (ECDC, EC-DGSanco, WHO and Italian MOH)



## ***Balkans and Mediterranean basin***

### ➤ WHO

- **Europe region: WHO-EURO (17/26):** Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, FYROM, Turkey
- **Eastern Mediterranean region: WHO-EMRO (7/26):** Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia
- **Africa region: WHO-AFRO (1/26):** Algeria

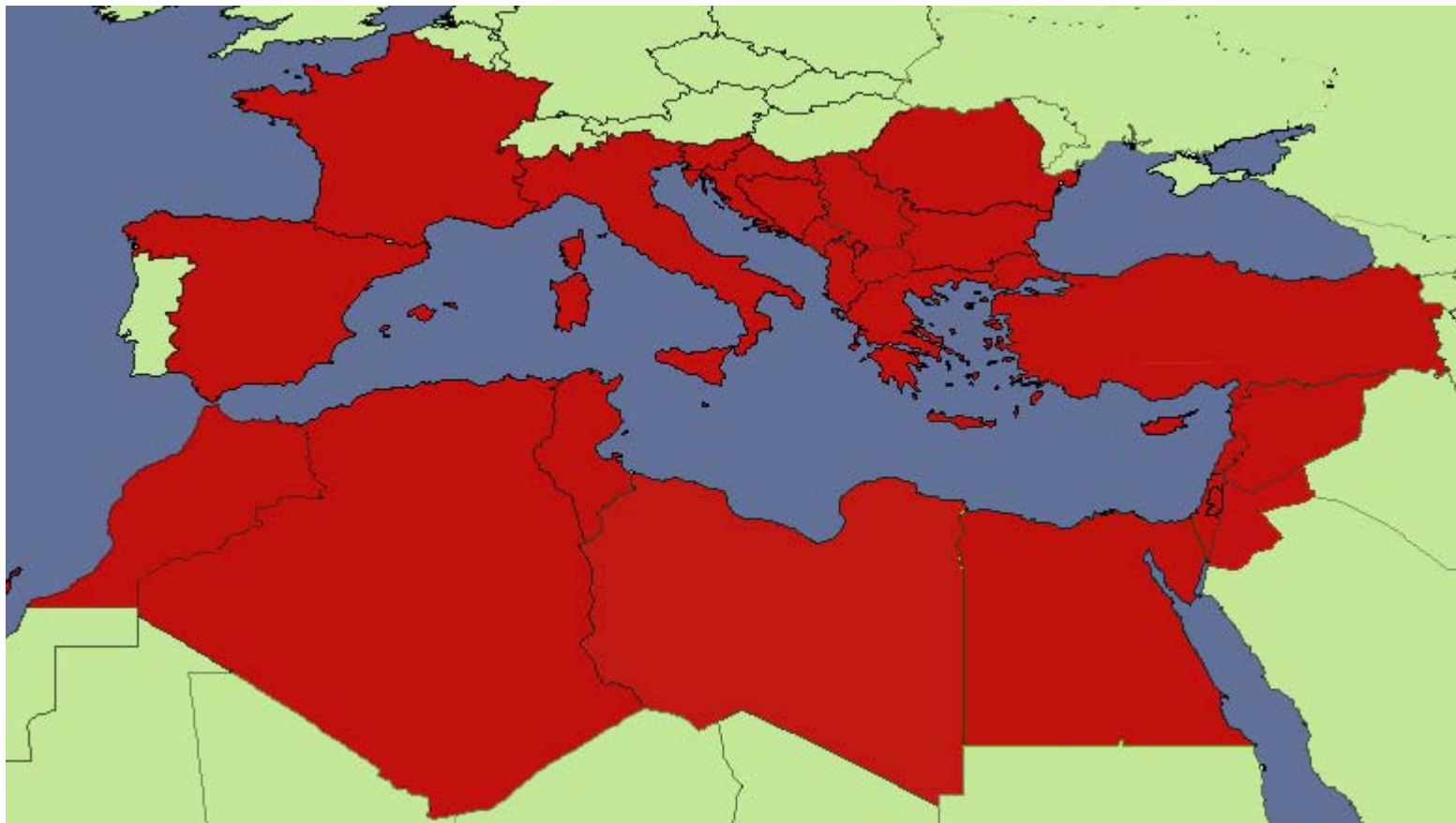
### ➤ European Commission:

- **ECDC(9/26):** Southern European Union Countries of Mediterranean: Bulgaria, Cyprus France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Romania, Slovenia, Spain
- **European Neighborhood Policy (18/26):** all EU plus Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia
- **Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (23/26):** all EU plus Albania, Algeria, Bosnia, Croatia, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey



# EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries



 2010, participating Countries

## *Areas of activities (WPs)*

🌐 The project is composed by 8 Work Packages (WPs), each led by a PH Institution

- WP1 Coordination
- WP2 Dissemination
- WP3 Evaluation
- WP4 Network of PH Institutions
- WP5 Training
- WP6 Cross-border epidemic Intelligence
- ➔ WP7 Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant population
- WP8 Epidemiology and preparedness to cross border emerging zoonotic infections

## *Learning objectives and Methods*

### *Vaccine preventable diseases and migrant populations*



- Pilot assessment of vaccine-preventable diseases and migrant populations in participating countries (with ad hoc structured questionnaire)
- On-line survey on countries migration status profile and vaccination access of mobile population

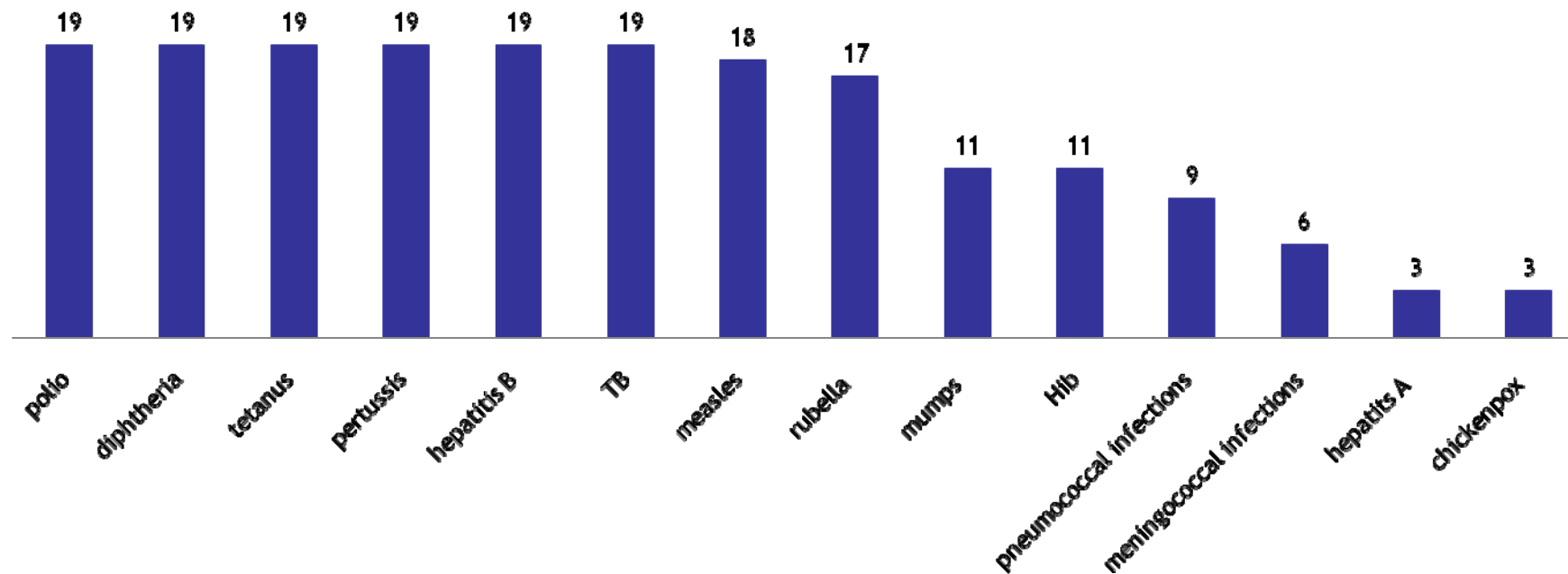


A descriptive analysis  
of the communicable diseases surveillance systems of the  
participating countries


## *Results*

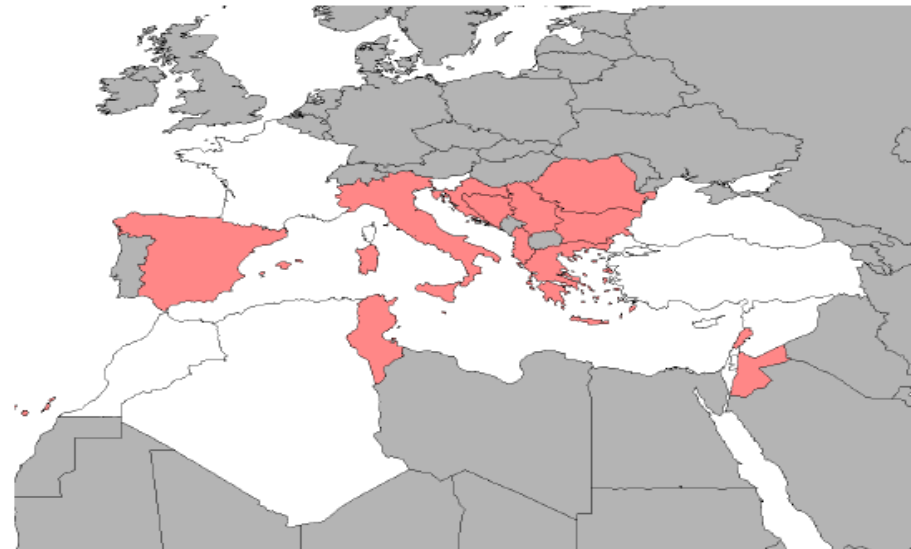
 19 Countries responded to the survey

### **Countries with a National Surveillance System, by disease**






## Results

 50% of countries reported outbreaks occurring among mobile populations in their territory



VPD outbreaks occurring among mobile populations in the Mediterranean

-  Countries reporting at least one outbreak since 2006
-  Countries not reporting outbreaks since 2006
-  Countries not included in the survey

## *Results*



Exchange of information on a citizen's immunization status, as governed by each Country's legislation, is allowed in 40% of responders

among them

one country only for public health reasons through confidential channels,

another one if restricted to a confidential area.

## *Main findings*

- ④ All the Countries include, in their national surveillance system, the diseases for which vaccination is compulsory (polio, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, hepatitis B, TB)
- ④ Not all countries have set up surveillance for measles and rubella (95% and 90% respectively)
- ④ Hepatitis A, invasive bacterial infections and chickenpox seem not to be a priority in many Countries



## ***The present study is subject to several limitations***

❏ The study does not explore the types of surveillance in place (if active, passive or sentinel), the components, goals and standards adopted and the different populations targeted

❏ It also may miss other aspects in function and organization that could affect surveillance, such as changes in the quality of human resources and adherence to treatment over time



## ***In conclusion ...***

Our study has shown **surprisingly homogeneous** communicable disease surveillance priorities in the EpiSouth region and that **exchange of information** to improve cross-border preparedness seems possible according the existing legislation



## ***In conclusion ...***

There is therefore space for collaborative mediterranean regional networks such as EpiSouth to conduct further studies in the field of communicable disease surveillance and response as this could provide:

- **a deeper understanding** of the effects of the health system structure on different surveillance systems,
- **compare types of surveillance** and
- **evaluate financial aspects** such as funding and the relationship between public and private providers, and additional structure indicators.



Thank you