CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

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Conference Venue

Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Campus de la Ciutadella, Barcelona, Spain

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Preface:

Healthcare And Biological Sciences Research Association (HBSRA) is an international forum of researchers, academicians and practitioners for sharing knowledge and innovation in the field of healthcare and life-sciences. HBSRA aims to bring together worldwide researchers and professionals, encourage intellectual development and providing opportunities for networking and collaboration. This association meets with its objectives through academic networking, meetings, conferences, workshops, projects, research publications, academic awards and scholarships. HBSRA strives to enrich from its diverse group of advisory members. Scholars, Researchers, Professionals are invited to freely join HBSRA and become a part of a diverse academic community, working for benefit of academia and society through collaboration and vision.

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Our mission is to make continuous efforts in transforming the lives of people around the world through education, application of research & innovative ideas
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Prof. Roberto San José
Director, Environmental Software and Modelling Group
Computer Science School Technical University of Madrid (UPM)
Campus de Montegancedo – Boadilla del Monte-28660, Madrid (Spain)

Roberto San José is a professor of the Technical University of Madrid (UPM). Director of the Environmental Software and Modelling Group in the Computer Science School of the UPM. He has more than 300 scientific publications in relevant Journal Citation Index Journal. He completed his Ph.D. in 1982 related to the unstable surface turbulent boundary layer parameterization. He has been involved in air pollution modeling mainly using three-dimensional mesoscale models, such as WRF, MM5, and CMAQ. He has been a Full Professor since 2001.
Species composition and vermicomposting studies on sustainable mountain agriculture in Kumaun region of Indian Himalayas special reference to gut cellulolytic bacteria for promoting organic farming

Neha Rajwar  
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Abstract

In the recent past earthworm biotechnology has progressed slowly but considerably due to its low cost effectiveness and releasing the nutrients those are trapped within the leaf litter. Vermicomposting is an integrated technique of composting as it employ the composting material passes through the earthworm gut. The gut of earthworm is loaded with wide range of microorganisms, hormones, enzymes etc., these half digested materials decompose rapidly and are transformed into a much stabilized form known as vermicompost. It consists of humus and improves aeration of soil, humification, soil texture and water holding capacity of the soil. The tropical soils are mainly plant nutrient deficient whereas the majority of nutrients are entrapped in agricultural by products. Oak species is most common plant species found in the Kumaun region of Himalayas where the use of inorganic fertilizer practise is still minimal and oak leaf litter can be assessed as potential organic manure if incorporated in field as vermicompost. Present study includes the random faunastic survey of the earthworms from sub-mountain region in south to the mountainous region in the North of Himalayas along the altitudinal gradient. Two endemic species Octolasion cyaneum and Amynthas gracilis has been selected for the comparative vermicomposting potential of oak (Quercus leucotrichophora) with exotic species Eisenia fetida. The surface cast production has been calculated for 60 days. O. cyaneum showed the best result with gradually increasing the pace of surface cast production (g) from 5.61±3.97 in first week to 55.17±39.01 on 60th day of the study. The cellulolytic bacteria present inside the gut of this specie can be introduced in the field which can help in conversion of cellulose and releasing the C in its simpler form.

Key words: Earthworm, vermicompost, Kumaun Himalayas, cellulolytic bacteria, mountain agriculture

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A. Boulerial
Abstract

Red vine (Vitis vinifera L.) is a plant easily procurable in Algeria, rich in various polyphenols (flavonoid, anthocyanin ...) at various parts, yet it is still poorly exploited. These polyphenols have numerous properties including antioxidant property.

As a part of the valuation of the Algerian flora, the aim of this study was to formulate a cream containing an extract of red vine leaves and evaluate its antioxidant potential.

The extract was obtained by hydro-alcoholic extraction of Vitis vinifera L. leaves. Two creams “O/W” were prepared (base-formulation). The stability of these creams was studied at two different temperatures 25 ° C and 40 ° C for 60 days.

Creams were physicochemically stable. The study of antioxidant activity by the method of free radical scavenging using DPPH (2,2'-diphenyl-1-picyrylhydrazyl) and the comparison with the two antioxidants of reference (ascorbic acid and Butylhydroxytoluene) revealed a moderate antioxidant potential for the extracts as well as the creams but with a minor potential.

In vivo studies are recommended to confirm the antioxidant action of such creams as well as the study of its long-term stability.

Keywords: antioxidant potential, emulsion, stability, Vitis vinifera L.
élaborée afin de dresser le profil épidémiologique des sujets hypertendus dans la Province de Tiznit.
C’est une étude étiologique et prospective réalisée moyennant un questionnaire, auprès d’un échantillon de 124 personnes hypertendues visitant 4 établissements sanitaires provinciaux. Parmi les facteurs investigués: le statut sociodémographique, le mode de vie, l’activité physique, les mœurs nutritionnelles, ainsi que l’état et les antécédents de santé.
Les résultats générés ont montré que l’HTA touchait environ 80% des femmes questionnées, elle était fréquente au sein des couches démographiques et sociales les plus défavorisées (> 91% des sujets ayant un revenu de 0 à 1500 DH/mois), chez les sujets analphabètes (87%), stressés (89%), en plus des personnes âgées de plus de 60 ans (65%), sédentaires (63%), et les femmes ménopausées (90%). Quant aux antécédents et l’état de santé, moins d’ ½ des sujets avaient un poids corporel normal (18.5<IMC≤25 kg/m²), ¼ avaient une dyslipidémie, et plus de la ½ étaient diabétiques. De même, une corrélation significative entre la survenue de l’HTA et le mode nutritionnel, a été mise en évidence. Cette étude soulève la nécessité de renforcer les plans d’éducation, de prévention et de sensibilisation pour combattre cette affection et faire face à ses différentes complications.
Mots-clés : HTA, prévention, facteurs de risque, enquête transversale, Province de Tiznit.

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<th>Muhammad Zaid</th>
<th>Plasma Lipid Abnormalities in Pakistani Population: Trends, Associated Factors and Clinical Implications</th>
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| ERCICRLSH1809065 | Muhammad Zaid  
Department of Life Sciences, University of Management and Technology, Lahore, Pakistan |

Abstract

Introduction
Previous studies have reported increased prevalence of coronary heart disease (CHD) in Indians or South Asian settlers in North America. This increased burden of CHD among South Asians is mainly caused by dyslipidemia. To the best of our knowledge none of the previous works has studied the patterns and prevalence of dyslipidemia in the Pakistani population. Present work aims to study the plasma lipid trends and abnormalities in a population-based sample of urban and rural Pakistanis.

Methods
The study included 238 participants, out of which 108 were males, whereas 130 were females. Plasma lipid profiles of the participants were determined using standard protocols.

Results
We observed that 63% of our study population displayed irregularity in at least one major lipid-fraction including TC, LDL-C, HDL-C or TG. The most common form of isolated-dyslipidemia was low-HDL-C level (17.3%) that was followed by high-TG level (11.2%). Several overlaps between high-TC, -LDL-C, -TG and low-HDL-C were also noted. Gender, urbanization and occupational class were all observed to have an impact on lipid profiles. Briefly, male, urban and blue-collar participants displayed higher prevalence of dyslipidemia when compared to female, rural and white-collar participants respectively. In comparison to normal subjects the dyslipidemic subjects displayed significantly high values for different anthropometric variables including BMI, body fat percentage.
and waist circumference.

Conclusion
The present work provides a comprehensive estimation of the prevalence of dyslipidemia and CHD risk in the Pakistani population. This information will be helpful for better healthcare planning and resource allocation in Pakistan.

Keywords: Plasma Lipids, Dyslipidemia, Coronary heart disease

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<th>Hamid Sonia ERCICRLSH1809069</th>
<th>Biotechnological valorisation of olive pomace for the production of the fungal biomass of a local strain Lecanicillium lecanii by Fermentation on solid medium (FMS). Application test on Culex pipiens (arbovirosis vector)</th>
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<td>Benzina F.</td>
<td>Université M'hamed Bougara de Boumerdes Laboratory of Valorization and Conservation of Biological Resources &quot;VALCORE&quot;, University M'hammed Bougara, Boumerdes 3500, Algeria</td>
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Abstract
The olive pomace, solid residue of industry extraction of the olive oil. It is reject in nature constitutes an importance source of environmental pollution. In our study let us have used a natural culture medium containing olive residue resulting of bouira (m’chedala) area ,so to carry out a fermentation on solid medium and production in biomass of the fungus lecanicillium lecanii and of to determine their physico-chemical and microbiological composition wich are carried out at the laboratory. The results show that the physico-chemical composition of olive pomace is interesting 92% 3%, and 1,125%, 16% respectively for dry matter, ash, and soluble sugars is low in crude cellulose with an acid pH 5, 75 and microbiological analysis shows a significant burden microorganisms. The growth of these bacteria on various carbon sources shows that the
pomace can be converted by fermentation on solid medium to produce a biomass lecanicillium lecanii that gave encouraging results: biomass production of 1,20 107 spore/ml that is accompanied by changes in pH and rate of degradation of cellulosic compounds and soluble sugars. Culex pipiens (Diptera: Culicidae) is a vector of important human diseases, such as West Nile virus, Rift Valley Fever virus, Malaria and Bancroftian filariasis which affect more than 700 million people annually. This insect has a wide distribution throughout tropical and subtropical areas and in Algeria C. pipiens is the most common species of mosquitoes in urban and rural areas. The use of natural enemies of the mosquito appears to be an alternative approach to the systematic failure of insecticides. Then, entomopathogenic microorganisms play an important role on these methods of biological control programs.

The application of the entomopathogenous lecanicillium lecanii against mosquitoes vector C. pipiens showed a good mortality results.

Keywords: olive-pomace, lecanicillium lecanii, FMS biological control. Mosquito vector C. pipiens showed .Toxicity

Abstract
Siderophores are compounds secreted under low iron stress, that act as a specific ferric iron chelate agents and due to their potentialities in the biological control of phytophathogenic fungi. The various Pseudomonas species that colonize the rhizosphere, developed active strategy for making iron, this strategy is based on siderophores often called pyoverdine, which show a high affinity for Fe3 + and which make them particularly interesting for use as biological control agents. We studied the ability of 14 bacterial strains of fluorescent Pseudomonas group isolated from rhizosphere soil of the olive tree to produce siderophores and competence of these compounds in the absorption of iron added in the culture media tested such as succinate (SM), King B and the PD as FeCl3 at different concentration. The results confirm that the 14 strains tested have the ability to produce siderophores on succinate (MS) medium with no added iron, with variable output intensities from one strain to another. The influence of other factors such as the culture medium, the iron concentration, pH, and the type of sugar added to the culture medium on the production of this metabolite was also tested. We noticed the lack of iron in the medium at neutral pH (7) in the presence of
Fructose as a carbon source ensures the best production rate. Several methods have been used for the detection of siderophores such as chemical testing, bioassays (antifungal capacity), SDS-PAGE electrophoresis. These applied identification methods have concluded that most of the siderophores synthesized by our strains are hydroxamate kind. While infrared (IR) was used for detection of functional group responsible of the fluorescence pigments (chromophores) which in our case very rich in OH group, NH, benzoic cycles carboxylic acid COOH confirming the synthesis of hydroxamate type siderophores and more precisely the class of pyoverdines.

Key words: Pseudomonas, sediriphores, pyoverdines, hydroxamate, biological control.

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<td>Ebenezer Acheampong</td>
<td>Procalcitonin As A Diagnostic And Prognostic Index Of Severe Opportunistic Infections (Ois) And For Optimal Timing And Initiation Of Anti-Retroviral Therapy (Art) In People With Hiv In Ghana.</td>
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<td>Institution: Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital - Kumasi, Ghana</td>
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Abstract
The procalcitonin levels of PLWHA who will go on to develop septic conditions is different from similar patients who will not proceed to sepsis and can therefore be used first as a surrogate marker to diagnose sepsis and also to predict future occurrence of septic complications among this group of patients and to indicate the best time to give immunity-boosting medication in similar settings.

The past two decades have seen a tremendous effort and drive in the prevention, treatment and management of HIV infection world-wide. This has significantly improved the quality of life and life expectancy among people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) particularly among the most vulnerable living in the developing world. Notwithstanding these remarkable progress in the fight against HIV, mortality continues to be very high among patients who present very late and are in the advanced stage of immunodeficiency with multiple and severe opportunistic infections.

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<td>Dr. Tooba Lateef</td>
<td>Antihyperlipidemic and antioxidative effects of alkaloid free extract of Withania coagulans in high-fat induced hyperlipidemic rabbits</td>
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<td>Institution: University of Karachi, Karachi-75270, Pakistan</td>
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Abstract
Objective: Alkaloid free extract (AFEt) of Withania coagulans was studied for its antihyperlipidemic and antioxidant effects in high-fat induced (HFI) hyperlipidemic rabbits. Hyperlipidemia is the main contributor in the foundation of atherosclerosis and other heart problems, the major cause of mortality all over the world including Pakistan.

Methodology: The experimental rabbits were divided into four control groups including control (distilled water; 1 ml/kg), HFI control (HFI; 1 ml/kg + distilled water; 1 ml/kg), HFI negative control (HFI; 1 ml/kg + distilled water; 1 ml/kg), HFI positive control (HFI; 1 ml/kg + insulin; 1 ml/kg).
0.05% DMSO (1 ml/kg) and HFI positive control (HFI; 1 ml/kg + simvastatin; 20 mg/kg), and three test groups (AFEt @ 200, 400 and 600 mg/kg) consecutively for 14 days. On completion of trial, rabbits were sacrificed to collect blood, serum and liver were separated to estimate TC, TG and HDL-c by using Randox kits, LDL-c and VLDL-c by formulae and percent inhibition of CAT, SOD, GSH and LPO by manual methods.

Result: AFEt showed significant (p<0.05) decrease in TC, TG, LDL-c and VLDL-c levels and increase in HDL-c level when compared with HFI control groups. In addition, AFEt showed decrease in percent inhibition of CAT, SOD, GSH while increase in LPO showing antioxidative effect.

Conclusion: The results demonstrate that AFEt of W. coagulans has great potential in the treatment of hyperlipidemia by observing its antihyperlipidemic and antioxidative effects on HFI hyperlipidemic rabbits.

Keywords: Alkaloid, atherosclerosis, Withania coagulans, antioxidant, hyperlipidemia.

Hemato-biochemical profile in patients co-infected with HIV and malaria and antiretroviral therapy effect in Eastern Cameroon

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Department of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Health Science, University of Buea, Cameroon

Abstract

For more than two decades, HIV infections and malaria represent serious public health problems in Cameroon. Since malaria was included in the list of AIDS-related opportunistic infections and considering the impact of malaria on the vital statistic of persons living with HIV/AIDS, it was important to explore the hemato-biochemical characterization profile of patients co-infected with HIV and malaria and the effect of antiretroviral therapy on these parameters at the regional hospital of Bertoua. It was a cross-sectoral and descriptive study carried out from June to September 2015 on 202 identified patients. The patients were at least 21 years old. The samples were tested using automated counting device (for CD4, NFS, and the transaminases) and a visual confirmation by examining a blood smear stained with Giemsa under a microscope. In total, 64 patients were co-infected with HIV/malaria representing a prevalence of 31.68%. Of these 64 patients, 56.25% had a very high parasitemia (>10000 parasites/µl) and a number of CD4-cells <200 cells/µl. 53.12% of co-infected patients had...
anemia with a statistically significant difference (P<0.002) between the groups co-infected or not while there was no significant difference in the rate of transaminases in the two groups. In a comprehensive manner, 45.04% of the patients had a rate of CD4<200/mm³, 8.41% with a rate located between 200-500 and 51.98% a rate of CD4>500/mm³ and antiretroviral therapy does not in any way influence the hematobiochemical profile characterization of the patients. Almost all of the clinical signs identified (such as asthenia, nausea, dizziness, vomiting, lack of appetite, abdominal pain, joint pain, headache, and diarrhea) showed a statistically significant difference (p< 0.01) between patients co-infected or not. As a whole, the HIV infection could be associated with increased mortality in stable malaria transmission areas such as Cameroon.

Key words: Co-infection, malaria; HIV/AIDS, transaminase, anemia

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<th>Halil Ibrahim Tuna ERCICRLSH1809052</th>
<th>Investigation Of The Effect Of Black Cumin Oil On Pain In Osteoarthritis Geriatric Individuals</th>
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<td>Eskisehir Osmangazi University Faculty Of Health Sciences Department Of Nursing, Eskisehir, Turkey</td>
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Abstract
Nurses' contributions are great in controlling and evaluating the pain. The nurses should be familiar with the patient for a long time, the patient must learn previous experiences of pain and methods of starting with pain and make use of them, guidance, planned treatment, empathic approach based on nursing care. Rheumatology nursing is an area of practice and contributes significantly to the management of patients with rheumatoid musculoskeletal disorders.

Purpose: This study was carried out to investigate the analgesic effect of black cumin oil on the analgesic effect for geriatric individuals with knee pain.

Method: 60 people with knee pain, 30 experiments and 30 control groups, were randomly selected to participate in the research. The control group patients continued their prescription routine. For experimental group, 20 ml black cumin oil was applied to their knees in the form of rubs 3 times a week for 1 month. Patients' pain measurements were made twice on day 1 and day 30.

Findings: As a result of the study, the mean VAS values of the patients in the experiment group were changed to 7.50 ± 0.97 on the 1st day and 6.30 ± 1.14 on the 30th day and there was a significant decrease in pain severity in this group (p<0.001). The mean VAS values of the control group were 7.33 ± 0.47 on the first day and 7.53 ± 0.81 on the 30th day and this change was not found to be significant (p=0.210).

Result: This study has shown that the pain relieving properties of black
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<td>Birsel Molu</td>
<td>Nursing Care Of Individual With Type 2 Diabetes Using Empowerment Model</td>
<td>Background: Patients who have a chronic disease want to gain strength to live a better life. Strengthening in the health field is achieved through the participation of individual to her own self-care and by having the control authority herself. The empowerment model in nursing can be used for patients with type 2 diabetes. Objectives: The aim of the study was to assess a person with type 2 diabetes against the problems she faces with the empowerment model. Methods: 59-year-old M.M. who received a physical therapy rehabilitation at a private hospital in Turkey was interviewed for the data. A training was given to the patient using empowerment model and virtual reality application. Patient’s data were collected in accordance with three adaptation aspects of Empowerment Model. Results: After evaluating the data of the patient in conceptual structure of the empowerment model, a six-week training program was applied based on the empowerment needed. Information about the patient’s disease, warnings, time for the drugs are set as an alarm on patient’s phone and the patient was directed to give importance to her disease. In addition, her and her family’s regular walking hours and diet menus were followed. In the last week, all weeks were assessed with the individual. Conclusion: As a result, it was observed that the use of the virtual environment, which is a visual and auditory area, in education helped the patient to change some of her negative behaviors. In addition, short films explaining the difficulties experienced by other individuals with this disease were shown to the patient. It was observed that compliance of the patient increased through the virtual co-operation. In the study, it is thought that the empowerment model in nursing has positive consequences on the case and may be beneficial for increasing the quality of life. Keywords: Diabetes, Nursing, Empowerment Model.</td>
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<td>Pinar Tuna</td>
<td>Determination Of The Level Of Information About Parenteral Initiatives Of Nursing Students</td>
<td>Objective: Considering the material and spiritual losses caused by the</td>
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injection, it is emphasized that the studies about the knowledge levels of the nursing students will be important in terms of preventing the mistakes that can be made in the future. For this reason, the purpose of this study is; determine the knowledge levels of nursing students about subcutaneous and intramuscular injections.

Method: This complementary study was conducted with nursing students studying at a health college located in a district. The study sample consisted of 131 students. Data were gathered with data collection form prepared in the direction of literature. Data collection form; socio demographic characteristics (Questions 1-3), questions about parenteral interventions (Questions 4-17), and questions about the presentation of subcutaneous and intramuscular areas.

Results: 71% of the students who participated in the survey were female, 29% were male. Of the students, 68.7% stated that intradermal injection was applied to the skin, 89.2% had to be aspirated before intramuscular injection, 71.5% had not to be aspirated with subcutaneous injection, and 78.8% had injected needle they should be thrown into the box. The total knowledge score of the students was evaluated on 29 points and the average score was found as 17.49. The correct detection scores of the intramuscular ejection area were evaluated on 6 points and the mean score was 4.49; the scores of correct detection of the subcutaneous injection site were evaluated on 10 points and the mean score was determined as 5.37. There was a positive correlation between the overall grade average and total scores of the students (p <0.05). Students have achieved a better knowledge of intramuscular injection and better knowledge of locating than subcutaneous injection.

Conclusion: It has been determined that the knowledge level of intramuscular, subcutaneous injection, and intradermal injections is moderate, and that the students have incomplete and incorrect information about injection and locating. Repeat theoretical and practical training on injection every year is recommended.

Key words: Nursing students, Intradermal injection, Intramuscular injection, Subcutaneous injection

Impact Of Nutrition On Schizophrenia Symptoms: A Systematic Review

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Ercan Altinöz
Assistant Professor, Faculty Of Medicine, Eskişehir Osmangazi University, Turkey

Abstract

Purpose: This study is a systematic review conducted with the purpose of evaluating the impact of nutrition on schizophrenia symptoms.

Method: The study has been carried out by examining the databases of; EBSCO Host, Pubmed, Web of Science, Ulakbim Medicine Database, Turkish Medline. In the selection of the keywords related to the study, consultancy was received from a dietician. For the English keywords Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) and for the Turkish keywords, the words provided in Turkey Science Terms (TST) have been used. The randomized controlled full-text articles that are conducted with participants who are schizophrenic patients and evaluate the impact of nutrition on schizophrenia symptoms have been included in the study.
**Results:** Four articles that match the inclusion criteria have been included in the evaluation. In terms of managing the schizophrenia symptoms, omega-3 fatty acid and vitamin, medications have been used instead of nutrients. Except a study finding, it has been found out that the medications are not effective on schizophrenia symptoms, negative symptoms, general symptoms, cognitive symptoms, depressive symptoms and on symptom intensity.

**Conclusion:** This systematic review has demonstrated that the studies conducted on this subject are limited and focus on medication support and medications are not effective on schizophrenia symptoms. It has been suggested to increase the number of RCS that evaluate the impact of medications on schizophrenia symptoms and to plan experimental studies that evaluate the symptom level through nutrition programs.

**Keywords:** Schizophrenia, nutrition, omega-3, vitamin

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**Mysoon Khalil Abu-El-Noor**
**ERCICRLSH1809093**

**Impact of a Staff-Developed Infection Prevention Program on Health Care Provider's Practice of Infection Control Standards: Implication for a New Infection Control Policy**

Mysoon Khalil Abu-El-Noor
Faculty of Nursing, Islamic University of Gaza, Gaza, Palestine

**Abstract**

**Background:** In Palestinian, 10% of deaths among children under the age of five are related to infections or infectious diseases. Practice of infection prevention and control reduces the number of hospital-acquired infections. The purposes of this study were to explore health care team perceptions of causes of hospital-acquired infections and to develop, implement and measure the impact of infection prevention program in the ICU of a specialty pediatric hospital in Gaza Strip.

**Methods:** A quasi experimental with pretest-posttest design was used. All nurses and physicians were included in this study. Five dimensions were measured and investigated pre and post-intervention. An infection control educational program was designed and implemented.

**Results:** After implementing the staff-developed program, the five dimensions were improved: using sharp box increased from 46.6% to 90%, doing gloves and scrubbng improved from 53.3% to 55%, frequency of hand washing increased from 47.2% to 79.3%, awareness of Palestinian protocol of infection prevention increased from 27.5 to 80% and positive swabs cultures decreased from 56% to 34.6%.

**Conclusion:** The study recommends rebuilding the infection control committee, motivating and encouraging work team to apply control infection measures through training and continuous education, providing the necessary medical supplies. These are besides continuous monitoring and follow up from the administration.

**Key words:** Infection control, infection control standards, hospital-acquired infection, Gaza, Palestine.

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**ERCICRLSH1809094**

**Maternal Mortality in the Gaza-Strip: A Look at Causes and Solutions**

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(2018) International Conference on Research in Life-Sciences & Healthcare (ICRLSH), 04–05 September, Barcelona
Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Campus de la Ciutadella, Barcelona, Spain
Abstract

Background
Maternal mortality is an important health indicator for the overall health of a population and of the functioning of the health system. This study assessed the causes and contributing factors to all maternal mortalities that occurred in the Gaza Strip, Palestine between July 2014 and June 2015.

Methods
This retrospective study used a mixed quantitative and qualitative design. Data were collected from available medical records, investigation reports and death certificates as well as field visits and interviews with staff and families.

Results
In total 18 maternal mortalities occurred between July 2014 and June 2015. The age range at time of death was 18 – 44 years with 44.4% occurring before the age of 35 years. 22.2% were primiparous, while 55.6% were grand multiparous women. The most common causes of deaths were sepsis, postpartum haemorrhage, and pulmonary embolism. The most striking deficiency was very poor medical documentation in 17 cases. A complete lack of contemporaneous, legible and complete note keeping was apparent. Further nine cases showed evidence of poor communication either between doctors and patients and their families or between healthcare teams. Other factors included socioeconomic factors, poor antenatal attendance; poor understanding of health conditions and the impact of the 2014 war as well as poor education. Low morale among medical staff was evident in several cases. Substandard care and lack of appropriate supervision was also found, when clinical warning signs were misinterpreted and no timely intervention occurred.

Conclusions
This study revealed deficiencies in maternity care, some were linked to the socioeconomic situation and recent war. Others show poor implementation of clinical guidelines, as well as lack of professional skills in communication and teamwork. Specific training and awareness sessions should be offered for clinicians to improve these aspects. However, the most striking deficiency was the extremely poor standard of medical note keeping, revealing a lack of awareness among clinicians regarding their importance. Medical documentation is the source of information for systematic clinical audit and significant event analysis. These represent essential tools of quality improvement and need to be widely implemented in order to further improve delivered care in Gaza.

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Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Campus de la Ciutadella, Barcelona, Spain
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- 2018 – 4th International Conference on Research in Life-Sciences & Healthcare (ICRLSH), 13-14 Oct, Kuala Lumpur
- 2018 – 5th International Conference on Research in Life-Sciences & Healthcare (ICRLSH), 17-18 Nov, Singapore
- 2018 – 6th International Conference on Research in Life-Sciences & Healthcare (ICRLSH), 24-25 Nov, Jakarta
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- 2018 – 8th International Conference on Research in Life-Sciences & Healthcare (ICRLSH), 22-23 Dec, Bangkok
- 2018 – 9th International Conference on Research in Life-Sciences & Healthcare (ICRLSH), 27-28 Dec, Dubai
- 2018 – 10th International Conference on Research in Life-Sciences & Healthcare (ICRLSH), 30-31 Dec, Bali
- 2019 International Conference on Research in Life-Sciences & Healthcare (ICRLSH), 27-28 Feb, Dubai