

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

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NAME: Al Nsour, Mohannad

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login):

POSITION TITLE: Executive Director

EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable.*)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Pirigrove Medical Institute, Odessa	MB	1997	Bachelor of Medicine (MB), Bachelor of Surgery (BSc.)
American University of Beirut, Beirut	MS	08/2005	Epidemiology and Biostatistics
International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), and Glasgow University, Glasgow	PHD	02/2014	Cancer Epidemiology
USAID	Other training	2000	Training of Trainers (TOT) Certificate
Jordan Ministry of Health, Amman	Other training	06/2001	Diploma in Community Medicine/Epidemiology
Jordan Field Epidemiology Training Program, Amman	Resident	01/2003	MSc Applied Epidemiology
Jordan Medical Council, Amman	Other training	08/2005	Jordanian Board in Community Medicine/Epidemiology

**A. Personal Statement**

I am a medical doctor and public health professional with training and expertise in communicable and non-communicable diseases. My educational background and various skills have continuously helped me in contributing to public health particularly, in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR). My degrees include a medical degree from Ukraine (1997), an MSc in Epidemiology from the American University of Beirut (AUB, 2005), and a PhD from the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and Glasgow University (2014) with a thesis on colorectal cancer survival in Jordan 2003-2007. Since 1999, I have assumed several positions as a researcher, advisor, and director in Jordan. I also served as a consultant on several assignments with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO) and AUB. As the Executive Director of EMPHNET since 2009, I have assumed the overall strategic and operational responsibility for EMPHNET's staff, programs, expansion and execution of its mission. As an internationally recognized expert in field epidemiology, research and public health systems I have had extensive experience in capacity building and delivering evidence-based recommendations nationally and regionally. My areas of expertise are infectious diseases, non-communicable disease and cancer epidemiology. In research, my experience has included planning, implementing, and conducting data analysis for national surveys, including data from Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)

in Jordan and Yemen, as well as the STEPwise National Surveys during three rounds of implementation (2002, 2004, 2007).

1. Al-Nsour M, Zindah M, Belbeisi A, Rolle IV, Walke H, Strine T, Perry GS, Jarrar B, Mokdad A. Frequent mental distress, chronic conditions, and adverse health behaviors in the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, Jordan, 2007. *Prev Chronic Dis.* 2013 Aug 22;10:E140. PubMed PMID: [23968583](#); PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC3754822](#).
2. Al-Nsour M, Zindah M, Belbeisi A, Hadaddin R, Brown DW, Walke H. Prevalence of selected chronic, noncommunicable disease risk factors in Jordan: results of the 2007 Jordan Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey. *Prev Chronic Dis.* 2012;9:E25. PubMed PMID: [22172192](#); PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC3277383](#).
3. Arkoob K, Al-Nsour M, Al-Nemry O, Al-Hajawi B. Epidemiology of breast cancer in women in Jordan: patient characteristics and survival analysis. *East Mediterr Health J.* 2010 Oct;16(10):1032-8. PubMed PMID: [21222418](#).
4. Brown DW, Mokdad AH, Walke H, As'ad M, Al-Nsour M, Zindah M, Arqoob K, Belbeisi A. Projected burden of chronic, noncommunicable diseases in Jordan. *Prev Chronic Dis.* 2009 Apr;6(2):A78. PubMed PMID: [19289021](#); PubMed Central PMCID: [PMC2687884](#).

## **B. Positions and Honors**

### **Positions and Employment**

1999 - 2001	Head of Surveillance Department, Balqa Health Directorate, Ministry of Health
2000 - 2001	Trainer and Consultant for Primary Health Care Initiatives, USAID
2003 - 2003	Short Term Consultant STOP Polio Program, CDC - WHO
2005 - 2005	Reproductive Health and Demographic and Health Surveys Consultant, Centre for Research on Population Health, American University of Beirut
2005 - 2006	Head of Surveillance Department, Balqa Health Directorate, Ministry of Health
2006 - 2009	Director, Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP), Amman
2007 - 2007	Part Time Instructor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Jordan University of Sciences and Technology
2007 - 2007	Population Health Research Consultant, American University of Beirut
2008 - 2009	Regional FETP Consultant, CDC
2009 -	Executive Director, Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network (EMPHNET), Amman

### **Other Experience and Professional Memberships**

- Member, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP)
- Head of Scientific Committee, Jordanian Medical Association
- Member, Jordan Public Health Committee
- Member, International Epidemiological Association (IEP)
- Member, Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Association
- Member, WHO Committee on Non-Communicable Diseases in Emergencies

### **Honors**

2003	Scholarship for Masters Public Health, American University of Beirut, Lebanon
2014	PhD Fellowship, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), and Glasgow University

## C. Contribution to Science

1. **Graduate Research:** My graduate research fellowship investigated self-reporting of non-fatal myocardial infarctions (MI) in Jordan. Continued research focused on prevalence and predictors of MI. Evidence showed that self-reported hypertension and hypercholesterolaemia were significantly related to MI in both males and females and diabetes was significant in females. MI was most prevalent in men (69.9%).
  - a. Nsour M, Mahfoud Z, Kanaan MN, Balbeissi A. Prevalence and predictors of nonfatal myocardial infarction in Jordan. *East Mediterr Health J.* 2008 Jul-Aug;14(4):818-30. PubMed PMID: [19166165](#).
  - b. Al Nsour, M. Self-reported myocardial infarction in Jordanian population (MA thesis, American University of Beirut, Lebanon). 2005. Retrieved from <http://hdl.handle.net/10938/635>
2. **Doctorate Research:** My doctorate research focused on colorectal cancer (CRC) survival in Jordan. This research was done through a fellowship with the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and Glasgow University in Scotland, UK. In line with the epidemiological transition in the prevalence of non-communicable diseases worldwide, the country of Jordan has seen a rise in cancer as a cause of morbidity and mortality. This thesis looked at CRC survival rates in Jordan and compared them to those worldwide. Among its many findings, the study revealed good CRC survival rates in comparison to other developed countries globally and in the region.
  - a. Al Nsour, M. Colorectal cancer survival in Jordan 2003- 2007 (PhD thesis, University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK). 2014. Retrieved from <http://theses.gla.ac.uk/5063/>
3. **Data Analysis of NCDs in Jordan:** While working at the Jordan Ministry of Health I contributed to planning, conducting, and managing and analyzing data for the STEPwise National Surveys which comprised over 3,612 Jordanian adults in the third cycle alone and were organized into the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. In 2013, I provided data analysis for a survey on NCD risk factors in Ajloun and Jarash Governorates and a series of Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) data regarding obesity in Jordanian woman. Additionally, I have contributed several tasks to a project titled “Quality of Life for Cancer Survivors in Jordan”. Lastly, I collaborated with the Higher Population Council of Jordan to produce an extensive report projecting NCD prevalence for the years 2007-2050. Amongst rising demand on healthcare costs along with demographic changes in the population, Jordan is finding difficulty allocating funding for NCDs. Large-scale surveillance surveys, like these provide solid data on the current and projected burden of NCDs and allow the country to better prepare itself for such challenges.
  - a. Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network,. (2012). Non-Communicable Diseases Risk Factors Survey in Ajloun and Jarash Governorates. EMPHNET. Retrieved from [http://emphnet.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/EMPHNET-Report-New3\\_10212012.pdf](http://emphnet.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/EMPHNET-Report-New3_10212012.pdf)
  - b. Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network,. Projecting the Prevalence of Major Non-Communicable Diseases/Risk Factors for the Jordanian Youth Population for the Years 2007-2050. Higher Population Council. 2013. Retrieved from <http://www.hpc.org.jo/hpc/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=0GpGhtatYJM%3D&tabid=325>

- c. Al Nsour M, Al Kayyali G, Naffa S. Overweight and obesity among Jordanian women and their social determinants. East Mediterr Health J. 2013 Dec;19(12):1014-9. PubMed PMID: [24684099](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24684099/).
  - d. Al Nsour M, Brown D, Tarawneh M, Haddadin R, Walke H. Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Among Women in Jordan: Findings from the Behavioural Risk Factor Surveillance System – 2007. The Open Breast Cancer Journal. 2012; 4:1-7.
4. **Evaluation and Consultation of NCD Surveillance Systems:** In addition to data analysis, I have worked on the development of numerous NCD surveillance surveys and programs. Rather than analyzing the data, I provided consultation and development of the systems in these cases. These experiences are seen in my FETP Residency from 2001-2003 where I participated in planning and implementing surveillance activities, a consultancy on evaluation of surveillance system with AUB in 2005. I have also been involved in a WHO committee for NCDs focusing on the development of a comprehensive training package for implementation of the Global Monitoring Framework (GMF) and an International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) committee for evaluation of the cancer registry in Jordan. As a result of my expertise, I was asked to speak on a panel at Columbia University in 2014 on the topic of “Changing Health Needs in the Middle East and Turkey” with a focus on NCDs.
- a. Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network,. WHO-EMRO and EMPHNET Collaborate in conducting an Experts’ Workshop on Advising Countries on NCD Surveillance and Developing a Network of Regional Experts. EMPHNET. 2014. Retrieved from <http://emphnet.net/?news=who-emro-and-emphnet-collaborate-in-conducting-an-experts-workshop-on-advising-countries-on-ncd-surveillance-and-developing-a-network-of-regional-experts>
5. **Health Promotion for the Mitigation of NCDs:** Through EMPHNET, I have been involved in several projects to promote health awareness in Jordan. Many of these have taken on a humanitarian role as I, and EMPHNET, desire to provide better public health to everyone within the population we serve. Launched in 2016, a partnership began between EMPHNET and UNICEF for an Integrated School Health Project (ISH). This program helps fill a gap in healthcare services provided by schools in the Syrian Refugee Camps in Jordan. In the same vein, I participated in a forum for Investing in Young Children Globally (iYCG) which addressed migration patterns of refugee children in the region, early childhood and peace, and inter-community dialogue. Inaugurated under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah, my presentation was able to show the impact that fleeing from conflict has on young children’s health, safety, education and nutrition.
- a. Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network,. EMPHNET Participates in 7th Forum for Investing in Young Children Globally (iYCG). EMPHNET. 2016. Retrieved from <http://emphnet.net/?news=emphnet-participates-in-7th-forum-for-investing-in-young-children-globally-iycg>
  - b. Eastern Mediterranean Public Health Network,. EMPHNET and UNICEF Promote Better School Health in Jordan’s Syrian Refugee Camps. EMPHNET. 2016. Retrieved from <http://emphnet.net/?news=emphnet-and-unicef-pave-the-way-for-better-school-health-in-jordans-syrian-refugee-camps>

**Complete List of Published Work in MyBibliography:**

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=Al%20Nsour%2C%20Mohannad&cmd=DetailsSearch>