

Global Congress on Integrated Healthcare

A joint Conference in Collaboration with United Research Forum, UK and Mutah University, Jordan

Under The Patronage of his Excellency Dr Yousef Goussous

May 15 - 16, 2022 | Hotel Crowne Plaza Dead Sea, Jordan



Breast Cancer Prevention and Control: Policy Planning and Evidence Based Approach in the MENA Region

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Abstract

Background: Breast cancer is the leading cancer in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA region). Efforts to control breast cancer through secondary breast utilizing regular systematic screening is limited.

Objective: This presentation discuss the burden of breast cancer in the MENA region, concepts of medical screening, current issues affecting breast cancer prognosis such as delay in presentation and diagnosis, familial breast cancer

Method: Review of the principles of preventive medicine, medical screening, burden of Breast cancer in term of incidence, stage and grade at diagnosis, present local and regional data on familial breast cancer and identification of novel mutations, barriers to mammography screening, delays in presentation, diagnosis and treatment.

Results: Regional results on incidence, breast cancer screening uptake, barriers to breast cancer screening, familial cancer

Conclusion: Providing recommendations for improving breast cancer control measures in the MENA region

Keywords: Breast cancer prevention, MENA region, screening

Biography

Dr Abu-Helalah completed his medical degree from Jordan in 2001. He moved in 2002 to the United Kingdom (UK) where completed a master degree in Public Health (MPH) from the University of Dundee in 2004 and a PhD in epidemiology and preventive medicine from Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry in 2009.

Dr Abu-Helalah has special expertise and interest in medical research methodology, national screening programs, healthcare reforms, disease control and prevention.

On 9 April 2014, Dr Abu-Helalah was honored by HRH Prince of Eastern Region, KSA, Prince Saud Bin Nayef, as the "Winner of the First place in the Prince of Easter Region Award for the Best Cancer Researcher in the Arab World" in the first round of this prize.

Dr Abu-Helalah has served as a member of different regional and international committees in disease control and prevention, and clinical guidelines development.

He has had more than 30 publications in peer-reviewed journals and directed many scientific and research meetings.