



AUBMC Multiple Sclerosis Center

Meet the Staff

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AMERICAN UNIVERSITY of BEIRUT MEDICAL CENTER
الترکز الطبی و التمامة الامریکیة و بیروت

Our lives are dedicated to yours

To schedule an appointment, please call us on:
+961-1-350000 ext: 7440 - 7441
or email us at mscenter@aub.edu.lb.
The AUBMC Multiple Sclerosis Center
is located in the basement floor
of the Aboukhater Building (Bldg. 23).
The main entrance is on John Kennedy Street.

PHYSICIANS



SAMIA KHOURY, MD

PROFESSOR, DIRECTOR, ABU-HAIDAR
NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTE AND
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS CENTER

Dr. Samia Khoury is the Jack, Sadie, and David Breakstone Professor of Neurology at Harvard Medical School and co-director of the Partners Multiple Sclerosis Center at Brigham and Women's Hospital. She is the director of the Abu-Haidar Neuroscience Institute at AUBMC and the director of the AUBMC Multiple Sclerosis Center.

Winner of the Kuwait Prize in Immunology in 2007, Dr. Khoury has focused her laboratory research on investigating the immune mechanisms in the animal model of multiple sclerosis and the interactions between the immune system and neural stem cells. Dr. Khoury developed and directs the Clinical Immunology Laboratory at the Center for Neurologic Diseases that specializes in biomarker development for multiple sclerosis.

Dr. Khoury is committed to translational research and is the principal investigator of the ACCLAIM multicenter clinical trial funded by the Immune Tolerance Network. She served as member of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society study section and the CNBT study section at the National Institute of Health. She was elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation and the American Neurological Association in 2002, and has been serving as the chair of the membership committee of the Clinical Immunology Society since 2009. A fellow of the American Academy of Neurology, Dr. Khoury has authored numerous papers, reviews, and book chapters about multiple sclerosis. She is on the editorial board of Multiple Sclerosis and section editor for Clinical Immunology.

Dr. Yamout's main focus of research is in the field of multiple sclerosis. He is currently director of clinical research at the AUBMC Multiple Sclerosis Center and member of the Regional Advisory Board for Multiple Sclerosis in the Middle East and the Intercontinental Advisory Board for multiple sclerosis, and fellow of the American Academy of Neurology. One of the leading experts on multiple sclerosis in the Middle East and Arab region, Dr. Yamout has recent research on the epidemiology of the disease in the region, quality of life of patients in the Middle East, novel therapies such as stem cell transplantation and venous stenosis, and the impact of wars on the course of multiple sclerosis. In addition, he is currently the principal investigator on several ongoing international multiple sclerosis research trials. Dr. Yamout has authored many research and review papers and is currently chief editor of the MS newsletter MS Today, and serves on the editorial board of Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders.



BASSEM YAMOUT, MD

PROFESSOR, DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL
RESEARCH AT THE MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS CENTER

Dr. Bassem Yamout is currently Professor of Neurology at the American University of Beirut Medical Center. He graduated from medical school at AUB in 1984, received his training in neurology at the University of Cincinnati-Ohio followed by a fellowship at the Montreal Neurological Institute-McGill University, and joined the faculty of the American University of Beirut in 1988.



NUHAD ABU ZEID, MD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Dr. Nuhad Abu Zeid is currently an Assistant Professor of Neurology at the American University of Beirut Medical Center. She finished her medical degree (2002) and undergraduate studies (1998) with Distinction at the American University of Beirut.

Dr. Abu Zeid did her neurology residency including a year of chief residency (2003-2007) at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. She subsequently pursued a two-year fellowship (2007-2009) in Multiple Sclerosis at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, before joining the neurology faculty as an assistant professor at Wake Forest University in 2009.

Dr. Abu Zeid is a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society as well as the American Academy of Neurology. Dr. Abu Zeid is active in clinical research and is currently the principal investigator on several ongoing multiple sclerosis research trials. She recently received a quality of life grant from the American Multiple Sclerosis Foundation to establish a multidisciplinary multiple sclerosis clinic at Wake Forest University Medical Center. Her overall vision is to provide state-of-the-art multiple sclerosis treatment and empower multiple sclerosis patients in a multidisciplinary model focusing on both the physical and psychological aspects of the disease.

NURSES

Dr. Darwish received her undergraduate nursing degree from the American University of Beirut in 1997, then completed her masters as an acute care nurse practitioner and doctorate degree in bio-behavioral nursing with a neuroscience concentration at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor in 2007. Two years later, she finished her post-doctorate fellowship at the University of Illinois in Chicago. She was recently appointed managing director of the Neuroscience Institute and the Multiple Sclerosis Center at AUBMC. Dr. Darwish trained at the Partners Multiple Sclerosis Center at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston in 2010. Her area of clinical specialty is neuroscience nursing and her research focuses on cognitive functions, such as learning and memory, and factors leading to cognitive impairment. Proficient in both basic science and clinical research, she has ongoing clinical research projects investigating cognitive impairment. She was the recipient of the NIH training and individual research grants and has presented her work at national and international forums. Dr. Darwish is a member of the Nursing Honor Society - Sigma Theta Tau and other international and national professional organizations.



HALA DARWISH, PhD, RN

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, MANAGING
DIRECTOR, ABU-HAIDAR NEUROSCIENCE
INSTITUTE AND MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS CENTER

Dr. Hala Darwish is currently an Assistant Professor at the Hariri School of Nursing.



CYNTHIA ABOU NACCOUL, BSN, RN

Ms. Cynthia Abou Naccoul is currently a registered nurse at the AUBMC Multiple Sclerosis Center. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the Lebanese University in 2005.

Following graduation, Ms. Abou Naccoul worked in the Operating Room as an anesthesia nurse until 2007. In October 2007, she joined the AUBMC as a registered nurse working on surgical units. In 2010, she joined the AUBMC Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit team to deliver specialized nursing care to patients with critical neurological disorders. She is a member of the Lebanese Order of Nurses and the American Association of Neuroscience Nursing. She has successfully completed the Foundation of Neuroscience Nursing's Core Course offered by the American Association of Neuroscience Nursing.

Ms. Massouh was awarded the Henriette Sabra Women's Auxiliary Award for academic achievement, professional integrity, and contribution to professional and university life. As part of her clinical training, she has worked with various populations of patients across the health-illness continuum. Ms. Massouh's professional experience includes working with adult patients suffering from diverse neurological disorders including multiple sclerosis at a medical-surgical/oncology unit at AUBMC. She is a member of the Lebanese Order of Nurses and other professional organizations.



JOELLE MASSOUH, BSN, RN

Ms. Joelle Massouh is currently a registered nurse at the AUBMC Multiple Sclerosis Center. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the American University of Beirut in 2007 along with a minor in Psychology.

PHARMACISTS



MAYA ZEINEDDINE, Pharm.D

Dr. Maya Zeineddine is currently the Oncology Pharmacist of the AUBMC Multiple Sclerosis Center. She received her Bachelor of Pharmacy from the Lebanese American University, Byblos, Lebanon, in 2010.

Dr. Zeineddine passed the colloquium exam in August 2010 and joined the Lebanese Order of Pharmacists. She was then selected by the Lebanese American University for the Doctor of Pharmacy program and was appointed in 2011 to do her clinical and ambulatory care rotations at Henry Ford Hospital and Karmanos Cancer Center, Detroit, Michigan. In June 2011, she completed her Doctor of Pharmacy program with distinction. Winner of the "Best Clinician" and "Positive Attitude" awards in 2011, she has completed several internships at major hospital and community pharmacies in Lebanon and the US. She has ongoing and completed clinical research projects on the evaluation of the pattern of use of patient-controlled analgesia, stress ulcer prophylaxis and anticoagulation dosing and outcomes in acutely ill medical patients. She is a member of several national and international professional organizations.

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Ms. Nassar completed her Masters in Public Health at the American University of Beirut with the area of concentration: Health Management and Policy. In 2005, she received the Best Project Presentation Award for her Disaster Planning and Management master's project. She is certified by the American Academy of Emergency Medicine for Hospital Disaster Preparedness. Ms. Nassar worked as a registered nurse at the AUBMC Emergency Department for 5 years, after which she was appointed clinical educator and developed her skills in presenting educational sessions, and coordinating courses and workshops. Later, she was appointed nurse manager for the oncology/medical surgical unit.



VICKY M. NASSAR, MPH, BSN
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Ms. Nassar is currently the executive assistant at the Abu-Haidar Neuroscience Institute (AHNI) and Multiple Sclerosis Center. In 2000, Ms. Nassar received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the Université Saint Joseph, in addition to a Diplôme D'Etat Français.

RESEARCH TEAM



SAHAR FARHAT, MD
RESEARCH FELLOW

Dr. Sahar Farhat is currently the research fellow at the AUBMC Multiple Sclerosis Center. Dr. Farhat received her medical degree from the Lebanese University in 2010; her medical thesis was about “Lung Cancer in Women”.

In 2011, Dr. Farhat completed a preliminary year in internal medicine at the Lebanese University, and received the Lebanese Ministry of Health license to practice medicine. Later, she started her research career as a research fellow on a number of clinical trials, including international ones related to multiple sclerosis. Dr. Farhat is certified from the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative to provide ethical research, and is certified to perform the Krutzke Expanded Disability Status Scale for multiple sclerosis monitoring. Concurrently, she was trained by the Lebanese European Academy of Emergency Medicine on simulation in cardiac resuscitation. She is also a member of the Lebanese Order of Physicians and other professional organizations.

Mr. El Haj earned his Masters of Science in Microbiology and Biotechnology from the University of Westminster, London, UK, in 2006. Later, he embarked on a five-month comprehensive course in clinical research at the Kriger Institute in Canada. In 2007, Mr. El Haj began his career as regulatory affairs at the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) in England, UK, and spent three years as a medical researcher at the American University of Beirut Medical Center, Clinical Research Unit. Subsequently, he was responsible for the set-up and implementation of a nationwide kidney registry in Lebanon for hemodialysis patients. He has also written several research proposals in the field of nephrology.



ELIE EL HAJ, MS
RESEARCH COORDINATOR

Mr. Elie El Haj is currently the research coordinator at the AUBMC Multiple Sclerosis Center. He completed his Bachelor of Science in Biology at the American University of Beirut in 2005.



LINA ABDUL LATIF-MALAEB, MS
LABORATORY MANAGER

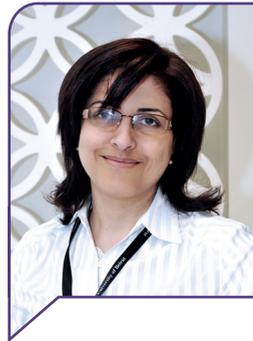
Mrs. Lina Abdul Latif-Malaeb is currently the research laboratory manager of the AUBMC Multiple Sclerosis Center. She completed her Bachelor and Masters of Science in Biology at Zulia University Maracaibo, Venezuela, in 1994.

In Mrs. Abdul Latif-Malaeb's master's thesis, she worked on the "Elaboration of Molecular Probes for the Detection and Differentiation of P Serotypes between the Group 'A' of Porcine Rotaviruses". Concurrently, she worked as a research assistant at the Venezuelan Institute of Scientific Investigations, Biology of Virus Lab. She later worked as a research assistant at the American University of Beirut, investigating molecular microbiology and genetics. She then worked as a research laboratory manager and maintained her role as a research assistant at the research laboratory of the Children's Cancer Center of Lebanon-Saint Jude. Mrs. Abdul Latif-Malaeb received the King Hussein Institute for Biotechnology and Cancer Award in 2009 during the Middle East and North Africa Cancer Research Conference, and has authored a number of research papers.

CLINIC ASSISTANT AND AUXILIARY

RANDA MOUSSA
CLINIC ASSISTANT

Ms. Randa Moussa joined AUBMC after several years of patient assistance in a private neurological clinic.



ALI JABER
ORDERLY

Mr. Ali Jaber is an orderly at AUBMC. He has previous experience assisting patients in medical surgical units and the operating room.

