

A. Abyad, MD, MPH, MBA, AGSF , AFCHSE-Tripoli, Lebanon

He is one of the founding members of MEAMA. Consultant geriatrician and family physician representing a new wave of physicians who combine medical expertise with public health and management skills, Dr. Abyad is currently the Chairman of the MEAMA and director of Abyad Medical Center. Dr Abyad was trained at the American University of Beirut (AUB), the University of Arizona Medical Center, in the USA, the United Nations University, the European Academy for Medicine of Ageing (EAMA) in Switzerland, and International University of Monaco.

All through his career, he has served as a consultant and advisor to various organizations including the World Health Organization, Hamad Medical Corporation in Qatar, and University of Amman in Jordan, in the field of Ageing, Family Medicine, Health manpower, education, and development of services. He was instrumental in the development of a number of academic organizations, training programs, curriculum, and clinical guidelines in Lebanon and the region. Dr Abyad has organised a large number of workshops, CME , CPD programs , and conferences regionally and internationally.

He founded in 2003, with the help of a number of dedicated professional from the region, and Europe, the Middle-East Academy of Medicine of Ageing (MEAMA). He founded, in 2005, The Middle-East Association on Ageing and Alzheimer's (MEAAA) where he is currently the president. He is a member of a large number of international committees and professional societies. He was elected as fellow to the American Society of Geriatrics, and Royal Society of Medicine, Associate Fellow of the Australian College of Health Service Executives. . Dr Abyad serves as a member of the board of the Voluntary Islamic hospital in Tripoli Lebanon. He founded in 2005 Middle-East Primary Care Research Network (MEPCRN) and in 2006 Middle-East Network on Ageing research (MENAR).

Dr Abyad has an extensive list of publications, book chapters, and large number of editorials. He is on the international editorial board of a number of international journals. Dr Abyad was also instrumental in establishing six journals, **The Middle East Journal of Family Medicine (MEJFM) was founded in 2003** <http://www.mejfm.com>, **Middle-East Journal of Age & Ageing founded in 2004** <http://www.me-jaa.com>, **The Middle East Journal of Nursing** <http://www.me-jn.com>, **the Middle East Journal of Business** <http://www.mejb.com>, **Middle East Journal of Internal Medicine** <http://www.me-jim.com>, and **Middle East Journal of Psychiatry & Alzheimer's** <http://www.me-jpa.com>. He is currently the Chief Editor of four of these journals and associate editor of two. During his career he has received a number of awards and honours. He was listed lately in the "Arab Population and Development Experts Database", PPMD, League of Arab States.

Dr Hashim Hasan Balubaid, M.B., ChB.SSC-Med., FACP-Saudi Arabia

Dr. Balubaid graduated from the Medical College at King Abdulaziz University - Jeddah in 1995 and completed his internship at King Abdulaziz University Hospital from 1995 to 1996. From 1996 to 2001, Dr. Balubaid joined the residency program in Internal Medicine at King Fahad National Guard Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. In 1998, Dr. Balubaid joined King

Khalid Academy for Military Training until 1999, and currently posts the position of a Captain. In 2002, Dr. Balubaid joined the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship program at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. At the same time, he was a member of the Hospice Palliative Care Medicine Fellowship program at Burnaby General Hospital in Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada which was completed in 2005. Later in 2005, Dr. Balubaid completed a 6-month Health Care Management Program at Simon Fraser University. Currently, Dr. Balubaid is holding the position of Assistant Professor at King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences and Head Division of Physical and Geriatric Medicine at King Abdulaziz Medical City for National Guard – Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. In addition, Dr. Balubaid is the Chairman of the Mortality and Morbidity Committee for the Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Balubaid is a member of the Scientific Committee of Saudi Alzheimer Association and also an active member in the Scientific Committee of National Home Health Care Foundation in Western Region, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Prof Marwan Ramadan-Qatar

He is one of the pioneer geriatricians in the Region. He helped in establishing the comprehensive geriatric program in Qatar. He contributed widely to all effort aiming at improving geriatric care in the Middle East. He is currently a senior consultant in the department of geriatrics at Al Rumeilah Hospital –Hamad Medical Corporation and clinical assistant at Weil Cornell School of Medicine in Qatar.

Dr Fawzi A. Amin MBBCh, FPC, MPH, PhD-Bahrain

He is one of the founding members of MEAMA. Consultant family physician, graduated from Cairo University (1977), specialized as a family physician certified by the American University of Beirut (1983), obtained his MPH from Johns Hopkins University (1987) and his PhD from Leeds University (1998).

He is an assistant Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the Arabian Gulf University which he joined in 1984. His areas of interest are clinical work related to Diabetes, elderly health and in the Academic & administration fields he has completed a number of projects in Quality Improvement, Medical Audit and Patient Safety. Appointed in several positions in Primary Health Care and at present he is the Assistant Undersecretary for Training and Planning (AOTP) at the Ministry of Health, Kingdom of Bahrain. Organize the First Bahrain Patient Safety Seminar on 2007 and the Second Conference on April 2009.

Pr. Sonia Ouali Hammami

A pioneer geriatrician in Tunisia that worked as Professor of Internal Medicine and Geriatric Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, National graduate School for science and technology of health and National Graduate Institute of Biotechnology, University of Monastir. Currently the Chairman of this Department. Her working experience includes working in academic and governmental organizations. She is a consultant for the government on the health care for the elderly program at the level of Tunis. At the same time she is a short term consultant with the United Nations Population Fund, and World Health Organization.

Currently she is a member of a number of committees including the Coordinating Committee of the Tunisian group (Ministry of health) to develop gerontological and geriatric education at the under graduate and postgraduate level. At the same time she is a member of the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, Tunisian Association of Gerontology, College of Internal Medicine, Tunisian Society of Internal Medicine, Tunisian Alzheimer disease Association. She founded the Geriatric Master, University of Monastir with the help of dedicated staff. Currently she is the vice chairperson of the National Association to Protect Elderly, the vice Chair-person of the Association of research in neuropsychiatric science, and the Chair-person of the meeting of geriatric Medicine organized since 2005 in Tunisia (Monastir)She has published works on aging issues, internal medicine and education. A total of more than 60 publications and 160 published abstract in national and international journals and books published. She had participated in large number of International meeting and has organized some of them in Tunisia.

Dr Hadeel Saleh Al Othman

A pioneer geriatrician in Kuwait. She was trained as internist and geriatrician in Kuwait and USA. She is in charge of the geriatric Unit and team leader of the Kuwaiti national program for the care of the elderly, at Alasema medical area. At the same time she is the coordinator and exam committee member for the Kuwaiti board of internal medicine, post-graduation program.

Prof. Giovanni Gambassi-Italy

Is a geriatrician and a cardiologist who currently holds an appointment as Associate Professor in the Department of Gerontology and Geriatric Sciences at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, Italy. He also serves as the acting chief of the acute-care geriatric ward in the same institution. After earning his medical degree, he spent five years at the National Institute on Ageing at the National Institutes of Health contributing seminal work on the molecular regulation of myocardial contractility. Dr. Gambassi has been a member of the Coordinating Committee of the Gruppo Italiano di Farmacovigilanza (GIFA) Study Group since 1988. He has been an advisor and an internal reviewer for all the manuscripts published by the Group and has also co-authored several papers. Dr. Gambassi was among those responsible for the Italian translation of the nursing home and home care RAI manuals and forms, and since 1996 has coordinated the application of these RAIs to many pilot studies in Italy. As a result, in 1999 Dr. Gambassi and colleagues instituted the Silvernet-HC Study Group. While appointed as Visiting Professor at Brown University in Providence, he helped establish the Systematic Assessment of Geriatric drug use via Epidemiology (SAGE) Study Group, of which he is now co-director. In 1998, he was named an interRAI Associate Fellow.

Prof. Dr A. Vilches-Moraga MD, DGM, MSc, FRCP-UK

Dr Vilches-Moraga is a consultant in Elderly Medicine at Salford Royal Foundation Trust. After graduating from Woodbury high school in 1987 (New Jersey, US) and obtaining his medical degree (Universidad Complutense de Madrid, 1993), Dr. Vilches-Moraga held training posts within the Northwest deanery which lead to the award of a Certificate of Completion of Specialist Training in Geriatric Medicine and General Internal Medicine. In 2005 he was appointed Consultant Geriatrician and Physician at Complejo Hospitalario Universitario de Vigo (CHUVI) in Spain where he developed a broad range of expertise including acute geriatric medicine, heart failure, dementia, delirium and falls. He was awarded the Diploma of Membership of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom in 1999, a postgraduate Diploma in Geriatric Medicine by the Royal College of Physicians of London in 2001, and in 2007 he completed a Masters degree in Geriatric Medicine (University of Salford, Manchester, UK) with a dissertation entitled “A Disease Management Program for Elderly Heart Failure patients admitted to a Spanish Teaching Hospital”.

Dr. Vilches-Moraga’s principal research interests include geriatric in reaching Services, heart failure in the older person and falls/syncope prevention. He has received research grants and has published peer reviewed originals, reviews, book chapters, case reports, editorials, short communications and abstracts. He is a reviewer for various academic journals and evaluates scientific projects. His interest in medical training commenced during specialist training when he was appointed Royal College of Physicians associate tutor. He was postgraduate Tutor at CHUVI and currently teaches undergraduate medical students (Honorary Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences, University of Manchester).

Dr. Amir Ahmed-The Netherland

Dr. Amir Ahmed is a Dutch trained Consultant Geriatrician and Clinical Pharmacologist. He pursued his clinical training in both fields at the Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen in the Netherlands. Where he is currently working as an Associate Professor. Teaching and Research have featured prominently for him and he has authored several research papers in international journals including the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, Neurology, and Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics. Dr. Ahmed is a frequent national and international guest speaker at various training centers and conferences. In addition, he also manages his own consulting and training firm "GerCare Consulting" which he founded in 2016 in Arnhem, the Netherlands, with an aim of educating and training healthcare professionals working with geriatric patients.

Prof. Philippe Chassangne-France

Prof Phillippe is currently the head Geriatrics (Senior Consultant and Chief manager) in the Rouen University Hospital. He worked in Lausanne as a professor at Service de Gériatrie et Réadaptation Gériatrique in Switzerland. He was the head Geriatrics (Senior Consultant and Chief manager) in the Rouen University Hospital 60- bed acute geriatric ward (1990-2016). He did his training in Rouen University Hospital. He earned a master degree in Pharmacology & Statistics and Epidemiology. He gained a Ph.D in Gerontology in 1997. He is certified in Internal Medicine and Rheumatology. He did a number of postgraduate training in Geneva and USA and he was the president of the National French College of Geriatrics between 2010-2016. He has wide research interest in CGA and in functional digestive disorders in the Elderly. He has a good number of publications in the field of elderly

Prof. Pálmi V. Jónsson, MD, FACP-Iceland

He is one of the founding members of the MEAMA. Pálmi is Chief of Geriatrics at Landspítali University Hospital, Reykjavik, Iceland and a Professor of Geriatrics at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Iceland. A Board Certified Internist and a geriatrician from the US and a graduate of from the Harvard Fellowship in Geriatric Medicine, he has lived and worked in his native country, Iceland, from 1989. He is a Fellow of American College of Physicians. He sits on the Board of InterRAI as a secretary and is on the Board of Middle Eastern Academy on Aging. He is on the executive committee of the AGES study, a large epidemiological study on aging, a collaborative project between the Icelandic Heart Association and National Institute of Ageing and responsible for the brain part of that study. Pálmi has introduced InterRAI tools to Iceland and there is now work being done with the NH, HC, PAC and MH instruments. He has led Nordic Research on the use of the InterRAI AC instrument. He has also introduced a framework for decision making at end of life and nursing home pre-admission assessment.

Prof. Ian Philip, CBE, MD, FRCP, FFPH (Hon)-UK

Professor Ian Philip, CBE, MD, FRCP, FFPA (Hon) is Deputy Medical Director for Older People at Heart of England NHS FT, and Honorary Professor in Older People's Care at Warwick University. He established the Sheffield Institute for Studies on Ageing which won, for the University of Sheffield, the Queen's Award for Higher Education in 2000, for research into improving the quality of life of older people. His Sheffield team won the UK Hospital Doctor of the Year Award (Older People's category) in 1998.

His research interests are in improving the lives of older people through better assessment and response to their health and care needs. He directs the International EASYCare Project for improving the lives of older people through better assessment and response to their health care needs. www.easycarehealth.org.uk;

Professor Philip was the National Clinical Director ("Tsar") for Older People in the Department of Health from 2000 to 2008, leading the development and implementation of the

National Service Framework for Older People. His current NHS work focusses on cutting the costs of frailty through early intervention in primary care and more effective response to a frailty crisis.

He has led the development and implementation of innovative teaching methods in undergraduate medicine, multi-professional learning and vocational training in health care.

Professor Philp has been an adviser to the World Health Organization and advised governments in many countries on the care of older people. He is a frequent media commentator on healthy ageing and the care of older people and was the co-presenter of the BBC1 series “How to Live Longer” and scientific lead for “The Young Ones”. He was awarded the CBE for services to health care and older people in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list in 2008.

Prof Maurits Vanderwoude-Belgium

Maurits Vandewoude MD, PhD, is Professor of Geriatrics and head of the Geriatrics Department at the University of Antwerp, Belgium. He is director of the Geriatrics department of the Antwerp Hospital Network (ZNA: Ziekenhuisnetwerk Antwerpen).

He is president of the Belgian Commission for homologation in Geriatrics. He is member of the Board of the Belgian Society for Gerontology and Geriatrics and former member of the Academic Board of the European Union Geriatric Medicine Society. He had training in clinical nutrition and was a founding member of the nutrition team at the University Hospital in Antwerp. His major research interests today are the study and prevention of sarcopenia and frailty, the effects of nutritional interventions in (psycho) geriatric patients and the early detection of functional disability. He was co-author of the consensus report of the European Working group on Sarcopenia in older people in Age & Ageing and of the Frailty consensus report: a call to action in JAMDA. He had the chair in the 8th Congress of the European Union Geriatric Medicine Society in Brussels in 2012. He is member of the ESPEN working Group for developing the guidelines for nutrition in dementia and chairs the EUGMS Working Group “Health Brain Ageing and Cognition”

Prof. Tawfik A M Khoja - Saudi Arabia

He is one of the founding members of MEAMA. He is the Director General, Executive Board, Health Ministers’ Council for the Cooperation Council States, Family and Community Medicine Consultant, in addition to other job responsibilities including overall development and implementation of PHC programs, conduction and coordination of field studies and research in PHC.

Trained in Saudi Arabia as a family physician and received fellowship status from the Royal College of General Practitioners (FRCGP) and the fellow of the Faculty of Public Health (FFPH). He received from Oklahoma University, USA in 2003 the Professor title in health systems and quality (Adjunct Professor) and the fellowship in medicine in 2007 (FRCP). He received several awards including Professorialship from Imperial College, London. WHO award in tobacco control, and the honorary medal for this award for 3 times, the last of which was in 2009. The Best Family Doctor for the year 2007 from Middle East Family Physician Journal. Outstanding Arab Personality in the field of health, for the year 2010. Distinction Award in the international organization (who is who) for professionals. An

appreciation certificate from the international Center in Cambridge, UK for distinguished people in the 20th century. The best 100 international persons among health professionals for the year 2007. International Arch of Europe Award in Quality, Golden Category, 2010.

He is General Supervisor and editor of Sehat Al-Khaleej magazine and reviewer of many scientific journals including Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal, Saudi Medical Journal, Annals of Saudi Medicine, in addition to participation in many many scientific conferences and seminars, regional, international, and local. He is a short term consultant to World Health Organization. He was the author and co-author of many books and manuals which were over (40), he published more than 70 research and scientific articles in various international scientific journals which contributed in depicting health policies and work protocols in family medicine, PHC and health services quality.

Dr. Mustapha Oudrhiri

Dr. Mustapha Oudrhiri is the first geriatrician in Morocco with an extensive experience in Geriatrics and Internal Medicine in the public health sector as well as the private sector. He is the president and founder of AGE Maroc (Moroccan Association of Gerontology).

Dr. Oudrhiri was trained and graduated in Internal Medecine from Medical School of Rabat, Morocco in 1997, Diabetology from Medical School of Montpellier, France in 2002 and in Geriatry from Medical School Paris V, France in 2004.

As a pioneer geritrician in Morocco, Dr. Oudrhiri has been lobbying since 2004 to promote and develop geriatry at the national level. Since 2013, Dr. Oudrhiri has been managing “Al Baraka” adult day care center in Casablanca for elderly including patients with Alzheimer disease. He also has been teaching geriatrics at the Medical School of Rabat and gerontopsychiatry at the Medical School of Casablanca, Morocco.

Dr. Oudrhiri is currently serving as Deputy General Secretary of Moroccan Association of Arterial Hypertension and is a member of other organizations including National Observatory for the Elderly, French Society of Geriatrics and Gerontology, and French Society of Wounds and Scarring.

Prof Hala Samir Sweed

Prof Hala Sweed is the current Head of the Geriatrics and Gerontology Department- Faculty of Medicine- Ain Shams University- EGYPT. She is also the Editor in Chief of the Egyptian Journal of Geriatrics and Gerontology, Founder of the Egyptian Society of Geriatrics and Gerontology and Founder of Ain Shams Ageing Research Center.

Currently she is launching the first Geriatric Hospital in EGYPT adopting all the geriatrics' levels of care. The hospital is planned to be a center of excellence to be a model for geriatric services in the whole area.

Mohamed M. Khaled, M.Phil., Ph.D.

Dr. Khaled is Ph.D. graduate of University Collage of London–UK. He is a key player at the faculty of public health, Lebanese university. In fact, he was the dean of the

faculty of public health as well as the school of dentistry for several years. Supervised several Master and Ph.D. Students in the field of neuroscience. In the last 11 years, He has been involved in a research highlighting the existence of Alzheimer disease among the Lebanese population, mainly in the North of Lebanon; presently and for the last few years, his work intended to study the role of the genetic polymorphism among the Alzheimer Patients.

He was the pioneer in evolving and conducting a public awareness program in the area of north Lebanon via piloting several epidemiological studies in the area, by involving a well-established team of volunteers (MSRC team). These studies endorsed several clinical diseases well spread in the area; such as sickle cell anemia, breast cancer, osteoporosis, diabetes mellitus, tuberculosis, blood pressure, nosocomial infections and several other health problems, activities that has clearly helped the community. However, in the last few years his attention focused on health care and wellbeing of elderlies in the community.

Dr. Lana Halaseh

Lana Halaseh, MD, JBFM, Assistant Professor, and Consultant family medicine. She is a graduate of the University of Jordan (UJ). She trained in Family Medicine at Jordan University Hospital with a GPA of 4.0/4.0. She had worked as a Teaching and Research Assistant before she trained in Geriatrics at Baycrest Geriatric Health Centre affiliated with the University Of Toronto (UofT). She also did "Hospital Medicine" Fellowship at the University Health Network and Mount Sinai Hospitals/ UofT, Toronto/ Canada.

Halaseh's practice encompasses a myriad of family medicine, geriatric care and hospital medicine. She is also the coordinator of pre-graduates' family medicine rotation for fifth year medical students at UJ. Halaseh is a member of different medical societies including; CGS, AGS, Jordan Society of Palliative Care, and Jordan Society of Family Medicine. She has also published research papers in different topics in family medicine and geriatric care.

Dr. Mohamud A. Verjee

Dr. Mohamud A. Verjee is an Associate Professor of Family Medicine in Clinical Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine - Qatar. As the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and the Director of the Primary Care (Family Medicine) Clerkship, he is also involved in academic research as well as being a practicing family physician.

He graduated with a BSc (Honors) in Biochemistry from the University of Dundee, Scotland, where he also completed his MBChB medical degree, and a Diploma in Obstetrics & Gynecology (DRCOG). He taught medical students at Oxford University, England in 1990

before moving to Canada in 1994. He practiced rural family and emergency medicine for two years before joining the University of Calgary becoming a Certificant (CCFP) of the College of Family Physicians of Canada, with board certification for family medicine. In 2014, he achieved Fellowship of the College (FCFP), and completed his MBA (Leadership & Sustainability) in 2015. He was one of the Chief Examiners in Alberta for the Medical Council of Canada.

At his teaching practice, he taught medical students, family medicine residents, and nurse practitioners. He was closely involved with training, mentorship, and reintegrating foreign medical graduates into the Canadian medical system at the University of Calgary. Appointed there as the Director, Family Medicine Clerkship, in 2003 -2007, his link with Calgary continues as an Adjunct Associate Professor of Family Medicine.

Dr. Verjee is an alum of the Harvard Macy Institute in Boston, Massachusetts, and has presented at TEDx. Holder of several Gold Star teaching awards at Calgary, and awarded Excellence in Teaching Awards at Weill Cornell Medicine - Qatar, he has received recognition for achievement and excellence from the College of Family Physicians of Canada. His clinical interests are diverse and include community obstetrics and gynecology, pediatric surveillance, vaccinations, cardiology, rheumatology, inflammatory bowel disorders, glaucoma, diabetes mellitus, thyroid disorders, procedures in family practice, Interprofessional education, communication skills, and narrative medicine.

Prof. Dr Mustafa Cankurtaran,MD.

He was born in Sivas-Turkey in 1973. He Graduated Hacettepe University Medical Faculty in 1997 and finished Internal Medicine between 1997-2001 at Hacettepe University Medical Faculty Department of Internal Medicine. He finished Geriatric Medicine between 2001-2004 at Hacettepe University Medical Faculty Department of Internal Medicine Division of Geriatric Medicine, Ankara, Turkey. He became an associated Prof of Geriatric Medicine at same university in 2007. He studied as an observer and research position at Ghent University Geriatric Medicine department at 2007. He became a full Prof of Geriatric Medicine in 2014. He is working as the head of the Division of Geriatric Medicine, Ankara, Turkey. He is the member of Turkey at UEMS-GMS, EUGMS and IAGG-Europe associations representing academic geriatrics society. He has 48 articles in sci and sciexpanded journals and more than 400 citations. He is married and has 2 daughters.

Dr. Salwa Abdulla Alsuwaidi

Dr. Salwa Alsuwaidi, a graduate of UAE University in 1997. Started working in Dubai Health Authority (DHA) since 1999 to specialize in Internal Medicine. Currently holds MRCP (UK) and PhD Arab Board of Internal Medicine as well as a Post Graduate Diploma of Gerontology & Geriatrics from the University of Malta. She was the first Emirati Geriatrician in DHA and had a great role in establishing the first geriatric unit in Rashid Hospital in Dubai in 2007. In addition, she was a pioneer in establishing the first Dubai rehabilitation centre for the elderly, taking care of all the responsibilities related to it. Being the Project Manager of this centre, she was involved in setting the project proposal, defining the admission criteria, ordering the medical equipments, and setting the HR needs. Dr. Salwa was a member of many committees at DHA and had chaired some of them. Has excellent experience caring for elderly either at the acute hospital settings as well as long stay facilities. An active member; attended many courses and conferences, and was a speaker in many of them, and represented DHA in many international conferences. Had joined the MEAMA as a

member after completing 4 sessions in 2012, and is currently working on a master degree in Geriatrics.