

Summary for Overseas Travel

WENDI 2018-2019

Name	Hiba Abuelgasim Fadlelmoula Abdelrahman
School	Graduate school of Medicine
Grade	D3
Supervisor's name	Prof.Toshiya Murai
Travel period	March 1st –March 22nd 2019
UN agencies / International organization visited	WHO_ Sudan Office
Theme of overseas travel	Traumatic Brain Injury Associated Neurocognitive Deficits and Prognostic Factors Mental and Neurological Health leadership and Advocacy in Sudan

Outline of the activities (4 pages including photos, figures, etc.)

Mental and Neurological Health leadership and Advocacy in Sudan

(March 1st –March 22nd 2019)

(1) Global leadership

Mental, neurological, and substance use (MNS) disorders are major contributors to morbidity and mortality worldwide. MNS is a global problem; almost three-quarters of the global burden of mental and neurological diseases are in countries with low and middle incomes. About four out of five people in low- and middle-income countries who need services for mental, neurological and substance use conditions do not receive them. Sudan is a low-income country that suffers the huge burden of MNS disorders. My global leadership role is to advocate research, training, and leadership in the field of neurology and mental health in Sudan and in Africa. I was able to do that by:

- Developing stakeholder groups with the ability to identify and pursue country-specific mental and neurological health service development needs and targets.
- Building a network of researchers and stakeholders on the field of neuroscience, neurology and mental health to build together a multidisciplinary neuroscience research and training center in Sudan.
- Advocating education and training for the neurological and mental disorders.
- Raising community awareness about neurological and mental disorders.

I worked in collaboration with WHO – Sudan office staff, mental and neurological health providers, medical students and researchers and the Sudan Neuroscience Projects

(2) Scientific significance

Sudan Neuroscience Projects (SNPs) is a multidisciplinary network group of more than 35 members from different fields (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacology, Zoology, Engineering, Computer science, Physics and others). As a member of SNPs together with other academic collaborators our scientific mission is to orient researches to the local Sudanese problems (Parkinson, stroke, infections related Epilepsy, post traumatic stress disorders in conflicts and war zones, and others) focusing on both basic and advance neuroscience researches. We are aiming towards developing the best interventions and approaches for local problems in Sudan and in Africa with regard to genetic differences, environmental differences and socioeconomic challenges.

(3) Originality/Universality

This work is very original. It is the very first initiative to build a multidisciplinary team to work closely and together with the WHO, universities and the

general public towards improving mental and neurological health in Sudan. Mental and neurological health issues are a global burden. Therefore, this initiative can be scaled up to advocate mental and neurological health in Africa and other low and middle-income countries and regions.

(4) Reasons and motivations for visiting UN agencies / International organizations

The WHO Mental Health Gap Action Program (mhGAP) aims to improve health services for mental and neurological diseases for countries especially with low- and middle-income such as Sudan. I believe my project share the same aim with the mhGAP for better mental and neurological health by advocating research and education and raising awareness at the community level. Therefore, I aimed towards seeking collaboration and logistic support from the WHO office in Sudan. I was also working towards developing stakeholder groups with the ability to identify and pursue country-specific mental and neurological health service development needs and targets. Therefore WHO Sudan team was one of the stakeholders in mental and neurological health in Sudan.

Sudan Neuroscience projects (SNPs) flyer

The flyer features a profile of a human head in silhouette, facing left. Inside the head is a glowing blue brain with a network of red and blue lines representing neural connections. The background is dark with abstract geometric shapes in blue, yellow, and red. The text is in a clean, sans-serif font. The title is in a larger, bold font. The date, time, and place are listed in a smaller font. The agenda is a bulleted list. The registration information and QR code are at the bottom.

**Sudan Neuroscience
Projects (SNPs) Workshop**

Date: March 17th, 18th 2019
Time: 10:00 – 18:00
Place: University of Khartoum- Faculty
of Dentistry

Workshop Agenda:

- SNPs vision, mission and goals
- SNPs ongoing and future research topics and
directions
- Mental and neurological health in Sudan

For Registration: Fill in the form in the link below or the QR code
<https://goo.gl/forms/INPFwuAksJ2TxGGz1>
For inquiries and more information: Email :neurosciencesdn@gmail.com





Sudan



Neuroscience projects (SNPs) workshop