# Al Mashrabiya

## THE SALIM EL-HOSS BIOETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

**ISSUE NO.2 - SPRING 2017** 







Faculty of Medicine Salim El-Hoss Bioethics and Professionalism Program



# **EDITORIAL**

The enthralling mashrabiyas carry within them enigmas that affect the viewer and the viewed. For us at SHBPP, mashrabiyas are a representation of what we do. They are often part of the world, yet discreetly away. They allow us to see things in a bird's eye view and appreciate features and dimensions that are often taken for granted and even go unnoticed but which are vital to life in general and to the profession of medicine in particular.

Welcome to the second issue of Al Mashrabiya, the SHBPP newsletter, a yearly newsletter that aims at sharing with our colleagues some of what SHBPP has been doing.

## Thalia Arawi, PhD

Founding Director, SHBPP

SHBPP is an interdisciplinary resource for faculty, students, healthcare providers and policy makers who are involved in bioethics education, research, and consultation in Lebanon and the region. Launched in April 2010, it is the first targeted initiative in the Arab World that seeks to educate, research, and champion issues related to professionalism, medical humanism and bioethics.

## SHBPP AND PATIENT CARE

#### **Clinical Ethics Consultations**

In its constant commitment to provide the highest standards of patient care and upon the requests of patients, family members, and/or members of the healthcare teams, the SHBPP has continued to offer bedside clinical ethics consultations at AUBMC. The increase in such requests in 2016 reflects the increased awareness of the relevance and the need for such consultations as well as the importance of shared decision making in healthcare. In addition, SHBPP has been providing more organ transplant consultations by conducting ethics assessments for recipients and donors involved in organ transplants on an individual basis with the help of AUBMC Clinical Bioethicist. This process discusses ethical concerns related to selection, voluntariness, informed consent, disclosure of benefits and risks to the potential donor, the potential recipient, etc. The heroes of the transplant equation, both donor and recipient, are always grateful that AUBMC continuously takes care of the little details to ensure all is well. For many who have been at other medical centers before, the experience was the distinguishing feature of AUBMC.

#### Medical Center Ethics Committee (MCEC)

The American University of Beirut Medical Center Ethics Committee (MCEC) is an advisory group appointed by the Medical Board upon the recommendation of the Chief of Staff. When requested, the MCEC examines and reviews ethical issues that may come up in the course of a patient's care. The role of the MCEC is to periodically review and update existing ethics-related policies and compose new ones as may be needed and/or upon the request of the Chief of Staff . It is also part of its mission to deliberate and educate about ethical questions in specific cases. In addition, MCEC plays a major role in enhancing a culture of morality, integrity and responsibility, and promoting ethical culture in the community. The MCEC members include physicians, nurses, social workers, a lawyer, a philosopher, a community member, and the medical center's bioethicist. In 2016, and for the first time in the history of AUBMC, the MCEC has appointed residents as members of the committee. We hope to have more students on board in an effort to further enhance the effectiveness and comprehensiveness of the MCEC activities.

## SHBPP ACTIVITIES

#### Workshops and Conferences

Ever since its launch, SHBPP has been actively involved in the dissemination of a culture of bioethics, both in Lebanon and the region. To date, 33 conferences and workshops have been held. In 2016, the SHBPP organized two regional conferences and collaborated on three workshops whose themes revolved around bioethics. Participants were professionals from Lebanon and the region.

- SHBPP's 8th Regional Conference "Stem Cells: Controversies and Promises" (March 26 and 27, 2016), was held in Bahrain in collaboration with the Arabian Gulf University and in joint providership with the Cleveland Clinic.
- A workshop on "Screening and Detecting Child Abuse" (September 24, 2016), was held in collaboration with the Child Protection Program at AUBMC.
- SHBPP's 9<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference "Ethical and Legal Dilemmas in the Practice of Medicine and Research: A Middle East Perspective" (November 4 - 5, 2016), was held in Doha, Qatar in collaboration with Weill Cornell Medicine – Qatar (WCM-Q)



8th regional conference "Stem Cells: Controversies and Promises"



Workshop on "Screening and Detecting Child Abuse"



9<sup>th</sup> regional conference, "Ethical and Legal Dilemmas in the Practice of Medicine and Research: A Middle East Perspective

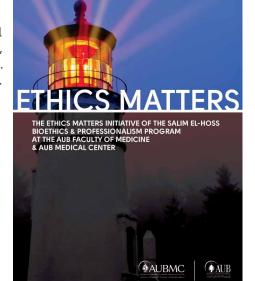
#### **Ethics Matters Lecture Series and Grand Rounds**

The Ethics Matters (EM) Lecture Series is an initiative that aims to:

- **Raise** general awareness to the importance and relevance of ethical issues in health care within AUB community, the Faculty of Medicine, the Medical Center, as well as professionals and institutions in the region.
- **Provide** opportunities to stay abreast of new developments in bioethics.
- **Develop** the educational program in bioethics at the Faculty of Medicine.

To date, SHBPP has held 53 EM lectures, three of which were held in 2016.

- "Women's Bioethics 101"
  by Dr. Thalia Arawi at the later:
- by Dr. Thalia Arawi at the International College (February 25, 2016) • "Human Factors in Healthcare"
- by Dr. Nadine Moacadieh at Issam Fares Lecture Hall (April 13, 2016)
  "Emergency Physicians' Empathy: Perceptions of Patients and Their Physicians"



by Dr. Khayrat Habbal at Afelche Library, AUBMC (October 19, 2016)



"Emergency Physicians' Empathy: Perceptions of Patients and Their Physicians" lecture

## HUMANISM AND PROFESSIONALISM

#### **Humanism Award**

The AUBFM-SHBPP Humanism and Professionalism Award was launched in 2011 with the first recipients in 2012 being Dr. Nabil Sharara from Family Medicine and Dr. Hussein Darwish from the Division of Neurosurgery. This prestigious award honors qualities of compassionate care and selfless dedication to excellence and is granted to a physician and a resident who exemplify the humane and professional aspects of medicine. In 2016, Dr. Mona Osman El Hage, Instructor of Clinical Family Medicine at AUBMC, received the physician award and Dr. Hassan Doumiati, third year resident in the Department of Neurology, received the resident award. Congratulations!



The 2016 AUBFM-SHBPP Humanism and Professionalism Award recipients

## **EDUCATION**

#### Physicians, Patients, and Society 4 (PPS-4)

Newly introduced in 2016, the Physician, Patients, and Society 4 (PPS-4) module, incorporated in the Family Medicine rotation, is a culmination of the PPS series, in which med 4 students get the chance to put into practice what they have learned in PPS-1, 2, and 3. In PPS-4, students are able to view and experience all of the before learned concepts in practical context. They also learn how to be proactive in carrying out their mission of the psycho-social, spiritual, and economic dimensions of healthcare especially in the case of disadvantaged communities whereby first-hand aid can make a difference in the lives of patients. Different rotating groups of students accompany the practicing family physician and/ resident of the Family Medicine to their site visits in underserved areas. This includes, but is not limited to, Tahaddi, a resource center where families can receive medical and social care and can be empowered to access the wider heath system. Tahaddi offers free consultations to patients while medication and lab exams are provided at the lowest possible cost. The aim of these visits is to familiarize the student with medical care given to patients in disadvantaged communities outside the tertiary care setting. Students are also introduced to new concepts and skills which involve on-the-ground interaction with a very underprivileged sector of society. The visits also include home visits with a formal reflection component.



#### **BROWnies Activities**

The SHBPP and the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit launched the first BROWnies event on March 3, 2016. BROWnies, AUBMC's *Bioethics Rounds on the Wards*, serves as a platform for inter-professional team discussion with attending physicians, residents, interns, nurses, 4<sup>th</sup> year medical students, and AUBMC clinical bioethicist convening to discuss real patient cases. These discussions serve as a basis for reflection, dialogue, and deliberation about moral problems, values, concerns, etc. They also provide participants with a safe forum to clarify and expose critical issues faced in patient care and come up with recommendations.

In 2016, six BROWnies activities were held, and hopefully there will be more to come. The events have garnered very positive feedback with participants commentating, 'It is great to have a safe space [in which] to discuss these issues, BROWnies is needed, especially when we have challenging cases,' and 'We often deal with such cases and do not really know what to do.' And of course, brownies are served at every gathering!











#### SHARP Summer Certificate Program (June - July 2016)

The Scholars in HeAlth Research Program (SHARP) launched its summer certificate program for the fourth time on June 15, 2016. One of the required courses in the program is the "Introduction to Research Ethics and Responsible Conduct of Research" which is coordinated by Dr. Thalia Arawi, Founding Director of the Salim El-Hoss Bioethics and Professionalism Program at AUB-FM/MC. The course includes lectures given by Dr. Mona Naboulsi, Dr. Rami Mahfouz, Dr. Ghada Hajj Fuleihan and Ms. May Al-Kassar covering a wide array of aspects of research ethics such as the history of ethical principles, the development of research codes of conduct and ethical practices and includes various ethical issues. This is in addition to the talks given by invited speakers Dr. Fadia Homeidan, Director of the Office of Grants & Contracts at AUB, Dr. Abdo Jurjus, Professor at the Department of Physiology, and Mrs. Laura Dosh, IACUC Officer. Students also had a field visit to the animal care facility at the Faculty of Medicine. The work of the class of 2016 for the Research Ethics course project resulted in student presentations on numerous topics like research in the ED, compassionate use, research and vulnerable populations, research during times of crisis, whistleblowing, data management, mental health research, stem cell research etc. Congratulations to the graduates of 2016!



Congratulations to the graduates of 2016!

## SHBPP NEWS

**BEAM (Bioethics Education and the Movies) launched at the International College (IC) Middle School- Ras Beirut!** On the occasion of the World AIDS Day 2016, the outreach initiative of the Salim El-Hoss Bioethics and Professionalism Program at the American University of Beirut held its first BEAM event on November 30, 2016 at the International College, Ras Beirut. The event consisted of a screening of the movie Philadelphia, followed by a panel discussion by Dr. Abdel Rahman Bizri (MD in infectious diseases at AUBMC) and Dr. Thalia Arawi (Clinical Bioethicist at AUBMC). After the event, students donated money to the SHBPP Medical Humanism Fund.



#### The Lures of the Scalpel" Grand Round at Weill Cornell Medicine – Qatar

Dr. Thalia Arawi, was invited to give a Grand Round at Weill Cornell Medicine – Qatar addressing healthcare professionals including physicians, pharmacists, nurses, medical educators and students on November 6, 2016. The talk, entitled "The Lures of the Scalpel", addressed the ethical controversies surrounding plastic surgery. Dr. Arawi discussed that amidst the rising "market" demands for plastic surgery in the Arab region, it is crucial that plastic surgeons recognize the importance of maintaining the internal ends of medicine in their practice without being drawn away by the lures of commercial and financial gain. The talk was followed by Q&As.

# Interactive Educational Workshop: "The Research Journey: Innovative Approaches in Engaging Communities in Research."

The Collaborative for Leadership and Innovation in Health Systems (CLI) at AUB in partnership with Ahliah School organized an interactive educational workshop on October 18, 2016 titled "The Research Journey: Innovative Approaches in Engaging Communities in Research."

The workshop consisted of a number of hands-on activities distributed over six booths that explained the various aspects of research. Booth N.4 introduced students to the principles of research ethics and clarified what is expected from them as researchers, how to prevent research misconduct, how to address ethical issues arising during their research projects, and what is the role of an ethics review committee. This booth was organized in collaboration with the Salim El-Hoss Bioethics and Professionalism Program at the AUBFM-MC. Graduate and undergraduate students led the activities in each booth.



#### "Aging Is Beautiful" Campaign

October 1st is International Day of Older Persons. The SHBPP took this opportunity to highlight the value of older people in our societies in an effort to shift perspectives about aging from stereotypical and prejudicial attitudes to more positive and supporting attitudes, which can ultimately enhance the day-to-day experiences of older people and improve policy responses and services. Accordingly, the SHBPP created three posters with themes that draw upon positive attitudes towards aging and the empowerment and appreciation of older persons; the posters were released and shared on SHBPP's social media platforms. They were also shared with and discussed during the Third Educational Symposium of Dar Al-Ajaza Al Islamia Hospital, which took place on October 1, 2016.



#### New Faculty Orientation on SHBPP

New faculty members joining the American University of Beirut Faculty of Medicine (AUB FM) and Medical Center (AUBMC) attended an orientation session about the Salim El-Hoss Bioethics and Professionalism Program.

Dr. Thalia Arawi introduced the faculty members to the mission of the program and gave them an overview of the services it provides as well as the many initiatives it has accomplished and continues to work on.

#### Releasing the "Human Research: Should I Participate" Brochure

The SBHPP released its "Human Research: Should I Participate?" flyer in English and Arabic and in collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health (MoPH). This flyer will be made available at all the hospitals and research centers in Lebanon.

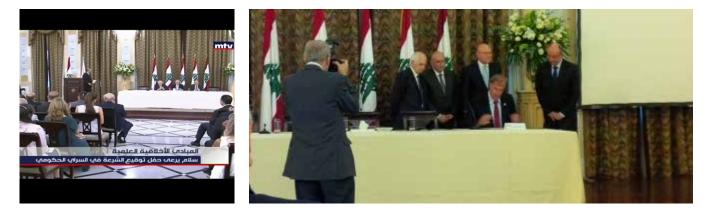
#### The Nuffield Council on Bioethics and SHBPP Collaborate to Release New Arabic Animated Video

SHBPP is happy to share a product of its collaboration with the Nuffield Council on Bioethics, the highest bioethics authority in the UK. The Nuffield Council on Bioethics has achieved an international reputation as an independent body advising policy makers and stimulating debate in bioethics. This collaboration led to the production of an Arabic Version of an animated short video about research ethics for children: Health research: making the right decision for me. This animation reveals ethical issues from the perspective of Mia – a character who goes through some of the questions and issues that might be raised when a young person is invited to take part in clinical research.



#### Historical Moment? Charter on the Ethics of Research

Officials from all universities in Lebanon signed the Charter on the Ethics of Research in the Grand Governmental Saray on Friday July 15, 2016. The Charter was developed with the help of numerous universities including the American University of Beirut, The Lebanese University, St. Joseph University, and others. SHBPP was involved in revising the new charter. We hope this will make a difference.





#### "Ethical Issues in Genomic Nursing" Panel Discussion

On the occasion of the 48<sup>th</sup> Middle East Medical Assembly (MEMA) at AUBMC, Dr. Thalia Arawi was invited as a panelist at the "Ethical Issues in Genomic Nursing" panel discussion as part of the "Transforming Care through Genomic Nursing" sessions on May 13, 2016. The panel included Drs.: Kathi C. Huddleston, Lina Badr, Thalia Arawi, Father Boulos Wehbe, and Al Sayyed Jaafar Hussein Mohammad Fadlallah, who offered various ethical, clinical, and religious perspectives to specific cases brought forward at the discussion in addition to tackling numerous questions from the audience. Moderated by TV presenter Rima Karaki, the panel discussion drew in a large audience and was attended by faculty, staff, and students.



#### "HIV/AIDS and Moral Concerns" Lecture for Med 2 Students

Dr. Thalia Arawi gave a lecture addressing second year medical students on the issue of moral concerns related to HIV/AIDS on May 12, 2016 at the Issam Fares lecture hall in AUBMC. The lecture was followed by Q&A's.



#### Second Bioethics Multimedia Festival

On May 7, 2016, SHBPP organized the second "Bioethics Multimedia Festival", a celebration of the works of med. three students in their "Physicians, Patients and Society 3 (PPS3)" course. The top 10 submissions for this year were chosen, and students showcased samples of their bioethics projects (documentaries, edutainment games, and posters) tackling a range of bioethics topics. Students received certificates in recognition of their work.





#### **Psychiatry Didactic Sessions**

Dr. Thalia Arawi gave a lecture under the title "Clinical Ethics and the Whole Patient" as part of the didactic sessions at the AUBMC Psychiatry Department. The lecture focused on the importance of adopting a holistic approach in treating patients, one which focuses on the patients as a whole and takes into consideration the psycho-social dimension of illness, not just the specific disease or condition at hand.

#### International Women's Day Event

On the occasion of International Women's Day which falls on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March, SHBPP collaborated with the International College (IC) Middle School, Ras Beirut and organized a student activity to shed light on bioethics vand videos prepared by a group of IC ninth grade students. Students received certificates of appreciation for their creative and enthusiastic efforts.



## SHBPP PARTICIPATION

In addition to the activities it organized in 2016, SHBPP, represented by its Founding Director Dr. Thalia Arawi, also participated in a number of local, regional, and international activities, which included:

#### K2P Policy Dialogue "Improving the Prescribing Quality and Pattern of Pharmaceutical Drugs in Lebanon"

In collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health, the Knowledge to Policy (K2P) Center at the Faculty of Health Sciences at the American University of Beirut (AUB) organized a national policy dialogue on Friday October 14, 2016, which aimed at Improving the Prescribing Quality and Pattern of Pharmaceutical Drugs in Lebanon. The dialogue was facilitated by head of the K2P Center, Dr. Fadi El-Jardali, who pre-circulated the K2P Policy Brief to all attendees to enable a more scientific and systematic participation. Dr. Thalia Arawi was invited to attend the event and take part in the deliberations.



#### The Third Educational Symposium of Dar Al-Ajaza Al Islamia Hospital

Dr. Thalia Arawi was invited to take part in the Third Educational Symposium of Dar Al-Ajaza Al Islamia Hospital which was held at the Lancaster Plaza Hotel on October 1, 2016, which marks the occasion of the International Day of Older Persons. Dr. Arawi was part of the panel at the third session that took place under the title "Living and dying in pain: it doesn't have to happen".



#### The Annual Conference of the Lebanese Society on Family Medicine: Family Medicine in a Globalized World

Dr. Thalia Arawi was invited to participate in the Annual Conference of the Lebanese Society or Family Medicine, held for this year under the title of "Family Medicine in a Globalized World" at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Beirut between September 30 and October 1, 2016. Dr. Arawi took part of a discussion panel addressing the issue of the commercialization of medicine along with Dr. Georges Kehdy and Dr. Salah Zeineddine.



#### "How to Report Bioethics?" Workshop, a UNESCO Initiative in Collaboration with New Health Concept

Dr. Thalia Arawi was invited to participate in the UNESCO initiated workshop "How to Report Bioethics?", which was held on June 20-22, 2016 at the Padova Hotel, Sin El Fil, in collaboration with New Health Concept (NHC), a Lebanese organization specialized in healthcare management and consulting. The three day workshop was attended by journalists, journalism students as well as healthcare professionals involved in bioethics.



#### "Social and Ethical Aspects of Women's Health Care Issues in Upper Egypt" Workshop by the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology at Beni-Suef University, Egypt, in collaboration with UNESCO

Dr. Thalia Arawi attended the conference "Social and Ethical Aspects of Women's Health Care Issues in Upper Egypt", which was held on Sunday, April 10, 2016 at the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology at Beni-Suef University, Egypt by UNESCO in collaboration with SHBPP. Dr. Arawi gave a lecture entitled "Baby à la Carte" which was followed by Qs and As.



#### "Equity in Access to Quality Healthcare Service and Information" Conference at Al Azhar University by International Islamic Center for Population Studies and Research

Dr. Thalia Arawi attended the conference "Equity in Access to Quality Health Care Service and Information" held by the International Islamic Center for Population Studies and Research on Saturday April 9, 2016 at Al Azhar University, Egypt. Dr. Arawi gave a lecture entitled "The Abuse of the Scalpel" which was followed by Qs and As.

#### The 1st Gulf Patient Rights Conference, Riyadh, KSA

Dr. Thalia Arawi was invited to speak at the First Gulf Patient Rights conference in Riyadh, KSA in February 2016. During the event more than 50 top national, regional, and international experts in healthcare, law, psychology, sociology, and management discussed issues related to patients' rights. The three-day event was inaugurated by Deputy Health Minister, Hamad Al-Dowailia. Topics discussed included patient rights from the Islamic perspective, international and regional experiences, and the role of civil society organizations, health facilities, regulatory authorities and educational, professional, and legal institutions in promoting patient



Knowledge-to-Policy (K2P) Center Policy Dialogue "Addressing Medical Errors in the Lebanese Healthcare System" The Knowledge to Policy (K2P) Center of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the American University of Beirut produced a policy brief showcasing the size of the problem of medical errors in Lebanon and shedding light on issues of cause and accountability.

The center organized on February 5, 2016 a policy dialogue entitled "Addressing Medical Errors in the Lebanese Healthcare System" in collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health to reach a comprehensive, evidence-based mutual understanding leading to real improvement in patient safety practices. The dialogue was facilitated by head of the K2P Center, Dr. Fadi El-Jardali, who pre-circulated the K2P Policy Brief to all attendees to enable a more scientific and systematic participation. Dr. Thalia Arawi was invited to attend the event and take part in the discussions.

#### The Cambridge Bioethics Education Network Istanbul Conference and Meeting, Istanbul

Dr. Thalia Arawi attended the Cambridge Bioethics Education Network Istanbul Conference and Meeting held in Acibadem University, Istanbul, Turkey on January 21-22, 2016. She served as a moderator and a speaker at the conference and presented her talk under the title "A View from Within- For Better Patient Centered Care", which was followed by Qs and As. In addition to visiting the simulation center during her visit, Dr. Arawi also participated in a round at the Acibadem University medical school.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Thalia Arawi was appointed on the Board of the International Association of Bioethics (IAB) and was elected as the First Chair of the Bioethics Network for Women's Issues in the Arab Region (BiNWIAR)!



## SHBPP PRESS CORNER



# **BIOETHICS PROJECTS**

Of the bioethics projects created by med 3 students for their PPS-3 course, eight different groups presented their documentary videos and edutainment games, and 10 groups got to display their posters at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bioethics Multimedia Festival.

#### Documentaries

1) ScoopMEDia: Medicine, Media, and Ethics;

Adnan El Achkar, Margueritta El Asmar, Samer El Hayek, Christopher El Mouhayyar

- 2) The Last Resort
- Racha Abi Melhem, Ahmad Al Razim, Tarek Al Ariss, Hayat Al Tabosh

3) Placebos as Treatment Hussam Aridi, Omar Baba, Eugenie Atallah, Nour Beydoun

## Edutainment Games

1) Vaccination: A Choice or an Obligation?

Ahmad Ammous, Marwa Baalbaki, Sara Assaf, Amer Bechnak

- 2) Avoid the Lawsuit
- Karl Asmar, Andrew Barakat, Jacqueline Atallah, Bassel Bou Dargham 3) The Little Fighter

Savo Bou Zein Eddine, Alia Dani, Joseph Cheib, Jad El Abiad

- 4) The Ideal Physician Joseph Elias, Katia Christina Genadry, Johny Fares, Ryan Ghusayni
- 5) The Right to Know Vanessa Bou Sleiman, Helene Dabbous, Antoine Chami, Lina Deghayli

### Posters

- 1) Vaccination: A Choice or an Obligation? Ahmad Ammous, Marwa Baalbaki, Sara Assaf, Amer Bechnak
- 2) The Syrian Refugee Crisis Patrick Bou Samra, Rawad Chalhoub, Laudy Chehade, Jana Dbaibou
- 3) ScoopMEDia: Medicine, Media, and Ethics Adnan El Achkar, Margueritta El Asmar, Samer El Hayek, Christopher El Mouhayyar
- 4) Trick or Treat: The Pharma Mask Natasha Habr, Noor Halawi, Issa Hindi, Aya Itani
- 5) The Last Resort Racha Abi Melhem, Ahmad Al Razim, Tarek Al Ariss, Hayat Al Tabosh
- 6) Placebos as Treatment
  Husam Aridi, Eugenie Atallah, Omar Baba, Nour Beydoun
  7) The Right to Know
- Vanessa Bou Sleiman, Helene Dabbous, Antoine Chami, Lina Deghayli 8) Egg Donation or Egg-sploitation?
- Karim Hajjar, Kamil Hanna, Mohammad Hosni, Hoda Jaffal
- 9) Consanguineous Marriage Nisrine Kawa, Mohamad Karim Koleilat, Rami Naaman, Farah Nassour
- 10) The Game of Life Barouyr Ajemian, Layala Al Mahmasani, Loay Al Rojolah, Fatima Allaw

Documentary: The Last Resort







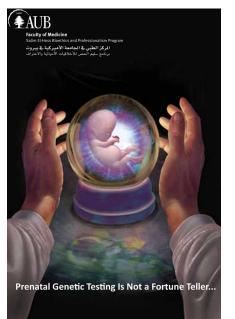


Edutainment Game: The Ideal Physician





Poster: The Right to Know



Poster: The Game of Life



More than half of all Syrians have been forced to leave their homes, making Syria the largest displacement crisis globally. Refugees should enjoy acces to public health services equivalent to that of the host population (Article 23, Refugee Convention of 1951) ►

Poster: The Syrian Refugee Crisis



INVESTIGATE BEFORE YOU PROPAGATE

Poster: ScoopMEDia: Medicine, Media, and Ethics

Salim El-Hoss Bioethics and Professionalism Program (SHBPP) American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC) Location: Cairo St., Marignan bldg., 9<sup>th</sup> floor

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You are all invited to share, invite friends, like, comment, discuss, post and share whatever you see worth sharing with a hopefully big community of followers.

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