

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Motasem Yosof Almasri
Date of birth: 9/4/1972
Nationality: Palestinian
Marital status: Married
Children: Four
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EDUCATION

General Secondary Education Certificate. Qadri Tuqan Secondary School, Nablus, Palestine (1989 – 1990). During my study in the school from primary to secondary levels my averages were excellent (**above 90%**). The General Secondary Education Certificate had lower average (**Good, 77.2%**) because of political problems that were reflected on the examination conditions.

General Certificate of Education in Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics. University of London school Examination Board (June, 1991).

Bachelor of Medical Analysis (Excellent, 85.7%). An Najah National University (1990 – 1995).

Master of Biological Science (Very good 83.3 %). An Najah National University (1996 – 1999).

Ph.D. in Medical Microbiology – Immunology (Serology) and Molecular Techniques (Excellent). From School of Medicine in Arestotles University of Thessaloniki in Greece (2001-2006).

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING COURSES

1. Teaching at An-Najah National University:

I started teaching (part time) at An-Najah National University at the academic year 2007/2008 (including summer courses). Each course included complete load of credit hours. I was employed (full time) in An-Najah University at the beginning of the academic year 2010/2011. I had taught the following courses:

1. Advanced microbiology 424513
2. General microbiology 7105403
3. Medical mycology 24441
4. General Biology 24101
5. General Biology 24102
6. Biology for Pharmacy 24121
7. Practical Medical Microbiology 105343

8. Practical Parasitology 24363
9. Practical General Biology One 24107
10. Practical General Biology Two 24108
11. Practical Biology for Pharmacy 24122
12. Research projects 24499
13. Laboratory of applied Biotechnology II (immunology)
14. Laboratory of Medical Mycology 24440

2. Experience in medical laboratory science:

- A. **Training course in medical laboratory analyses** in Med labs in **Jordan** for 2 month (1995).
- B. **UNRWA employee-** Medical laboratory technician (1997-2001).
- C. **Work in a special medical laboratory:** I have started this work since 1/4/2007.

3. Training course in AL makassed hospital genetic center (4/6/1999 -1/12/1999):

I had attended six month training course in the genetic center of AL Makassed hospital. This course involved **Karyotyping** –chromosomal analysis- and principles of **medical molecular diagnosis**. The molecular methods were used to detect mutation associated with certain diseases like sickle cell anemia.

4. Master research:

Epidemiologic Typing of Multi-Drug resistant Isolates of *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

This research involved the following:

- Determination of the **resistance profile** of *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* clinical isolates to a selected group of antibiotics. And to determine the most probable mechanism of resistance from these resistance profile.
- A study of the **DNA plasmid** size and frequency in *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* clinical strains.
- Study of **extracellular enzymes** of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* clinical strains such as Fibrinolysin and Elastase and consequently the estimation of pathogenesis degree of these strains.
- **Typing of *Escherichia coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*** clinical strains using:
 1. Pattern of resistance.
 2. Plasmid profile.
 3. Pyocin typing (for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* only).
 4. Biotyping using API20NE test kit for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and API20E for *E.coli*.
 5. Periplasmic proteins and whole cell protein electrophoresis pattern. This was made using SDS and silver staining.

6. PCR (Using Arbitrary primer).

5. **In Greece:** During the first 16 months in Greece I made a proposal and started the research. The proposal was: **Resistance of Staphylococci clinical isolates to Macrolides**. But the work's location of the main adviser was changed so I changed the subject of the research. In This research I made the following:

- The purity of 400 staphylococci strains provided by the medical microbiology department was examined by Gram stain and biochemical tests.
- **Erythromycin and Clindamycin minimal inhibitory concentrations (MIC)** of these 400 staphylococci isolates were found using agar dilution test.
- **Erythromycin–Clindamycin** induction test was made for Erythromycin resistance Clindamycin susceptible strains.
- The mode of resistance to macrolide was concluded from these above mentioned assays. And the **genetic analysis** for determination of the resistance mechanism was carried out for representative isolates. Where the **genes of resistance to Macrolides (*erm* genes and efflux genes)** were detected by **PCR**.

6. **My Ph.D. program** was titled:

Laboratory Diagnosis of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* Infection in Children.

This research included the following main items:

1. Determination of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* infection rate among hospitalized children due to respiratory tract infections.
2. Determination of the most suitable approach for the diagnosis of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* infection in children. The investigated methods included:
 - A- Pathogen detection in throat swab specimens by:
 - Culture
 - Antigen detection test
 - PCR
 - B- Detection of antibodies against *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* by:
 - Complement fixation test.
 - Enzyme immunoassay (IgM, IgG and IgA).
 - Indirect Immunofluorescence (IgM and IgG).
 - Western blot –immunoblot (IgM and IgA).
3. Part of the of P1 adhesion **gene was sequenced** for a number of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* isolates. Using **Bioinformatics programs (BLAST and CLUSTAL programs)** the nucleotide sequences were compared to P1 nucleotide sequences of references strains in order to determine the type of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* strains and to **detect differences of the nucleotide sequences** among similar and different strains. Furthermore, nucleotide sequences were translated into amino acid sequence using a special Bioinformatics program for mycoplasma codon. The amino acid sequences of different strains were compared using CLUSTAL program in order to find the differences in amino acids sequences.

4. **The epidemiology of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*** infection in children in north Greece was investigated. This epidemiological study included correlation of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* infection in children with different symptoms, laboratory tests,etc.

7. Other researches in Greece:

- **Molecular diagnosis of urinogenital infection** caused by *Ureaplasma urealyticum* and *Mycoplasma* species (*M. hominis* and *M. genitalium*) by examining urine samples by PCR. In this research the identification of the species was made by DNA sequencing of the PCR product and by using **BLAST program**.
- Diagnosis of respiratory tract infections for a number of pathogens using PCR and/or serologic tests:
 1. Adenoviruse. In addition, to molecular detection of the virus, the type of the virus's strains was determined for PCR positive samples by DNA sequencing.
 2. Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). In this research RNA of the virus was targeted by PCR for the amplification process. Typing of RSV was carried out using PCR (published).
 3. *Chlamydia pneumoniae*
 4. *Coxiella burnetii*
 5. Metapneumoniae virus
 6. Coronaviruses (published)

PUBLICATIONS- ARTICLES:

1. Part of the master work was published:
Adwan K, Abu-Hasan N, Adwan G, Jarrar N, Abu-shanib B, **Al-masri M. Molecular epidemiology of antibiotic-resistant *Escherichia coli* isolated from hospitalized patients with urinary tract infections in northern Palestine. *Pol J Microbiol* 2004;53(1):23-6.**
2. E. Souliou, **M. Almasri**, A. Papa, A. Theodoridou, E. Diza. **Laboratory Diagnosis of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* Respiratory Tract Infections in Children. *Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis* (2007) 26:513–515.**
3. Anna Papa, Evangelia Papadimitriou, Luciano Kleber de Souza Luna, **Motasim Al Masri**, Efimia Souliou, Maria Eboriadou, Antonis Antoniadis, and Christian Drosten. **Coronaviruses in children, Greece. *Emerging Infectious Dis* (2007) 13:947-948.**
4. Anna Papa, **Motasim Almasri**, Efimia Souliou, Evangelia Papadimitriou, Maria Eboriadou, Antonis Antoniadis. **Types of**

Mycoplasma pneumoniae in Greece. *Aristotles University Medical Journal* (2008) 35(3):39-42.

5. **M. Almasri**, E. Diza, A. Papa, M. Eboriadou, E. Souliou. ***Mycoplasma pneumoniae* respiratory tract infections among Greek children.** *Hippokratia* (2011) 15(2):147-152.
6. **Almasri M**, Papa A, Souliou E, Haidopoulou K, Eboriadou M. **Respiratory syncytial virus infection in hospitalized children older than 2 years with community-acquired pneumonia.** Will be published at *Hippokratia* 2013, 17, 2:146-149.
7. Ghadeer Omar, Lubna A . Abdallah, Shurooq Ismail, **Motasem Y. Almasri.** **Screening of Selected Medicinal Wild Plant Extracts Antibacterial Effect as Natural Alternatives.** **International Journal of Indigenous Medicinal Plants**, ISSN: 2051-4263, Vol.46, Issue.2: 1299-1304.
8. Ghadeer Omar, Saleh Fares, Lubna Abdallah, **Motasem Almasri**, Ahmad Slaileh, Zakaria Zurba. **Antibacterial Activity of Selected Palestinian Wild Plant Extracts against Multidrug-Resistant Clinical Isolate of Streptococcus pneumoniae.** *JPR:BioMedRx: An International Journal* 2013,1(10),963-969.
9. Murad N Abualhasan, Nidal Jaradat, Nael Abu-Hasan, **Motasem Almasri**, Adham Abu Taha, Ahmad Rabbaa, Noor Natsheh, Sajed Shalalfeh, Majdi Najib **Bioactivity of Viscum album extracts from Olive and Almond host plants in Palestine.** *Pharmacognosy Journal*02/2014; 6(2):38-44.
10. Jaradat Nidal Amin¹, Abualhasan Murad, Al-Masri Motasem, Speih Reem Ibrahim, Johari Mona Ass'ad, Awad May Ayed. **Phytochemical Screening and In-vitro Evaluation of Antioxidant and Antimicrobial Activities of the Entire Khella Plant (Ammi visnaga. L.).** Vol 17, article 21.
11. Mohammed Suleiman, **Motasem Al-Masri**, Anas Al Ali, Diaa Aref, Ayman Hussein. **Synthesis of Nano-sized Sulfur Nanoparticles and their Antibacterial Activities.** *J. Mater. Environ. Sci.* 6 (2) (2015) 513-518.

Review of Articles:

I made the review for the following journals:

- 1- Journal of medical virology
- 2- An-Najah Research journal

Supervision of Master thesis:

- 1- Resistance of Staphylococcal and Streptococcal Clinical Isolates to Macrolides and Functionally Related Antibiotics in Nablus District

Defense committee member of the following Master thesis:

- 1- Characterization of E. coli isolates from patients with urinary tract infection from Thabet Hospital-Tulkarm, Palestine
- 2- Polymerase chain reaction for detection of foodborne bacterial pathogens in meat products in Jenin district-Palestine

CONFERENCES AND OTHERS

After my return to Palestine:

In The 8th Palestinian International Conference of Laboratory Medicine At August 14-16, 2014, I made an oral presentation with the title: Resistance of Staphylococcal and Streptococcal Clinical Isolates to Macrolides and Functionally Related Antibiotics In Nablus District.

I participated by a poster in European Society for Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ESPID) annual conference in Thessaloniki in Greece (8-12/May 2012)

I participated directly in data analysis and poster preparation, the presenting author was Anna Papa. The poster was:

Respiratory Syncytial Virus in young children Hospitalized with pneumonia

Anna Papa, **Motasem Almasri**, Efimia Souliou, Katerina Haidopoulou, M. Eboriadou

I was a member of the biological department committee of the **Third Palestinian Scientific Exhibition at An-Najah university** held at 5-6/11/2012.

I was chief of the biological department committee of the **French-Palestinian Scientific Exhibition at An-Najah university** held at 29-30/10/2011.

In this exhibition, I participated by supervising students and the following poster was presented: **Laboratory Diagnosis of Respiratory Tract Infections**

I was a member in the biological department committee of the **Seven Scientific Exhibition at An-Najah university**, and participated by supervising students. The **Seven Scientific Exhibition** was held at 20-23/4/2011.

In the sixth Scientific Conference organized by school of medicine of Al-Quds university (24-25/3/2011), I made an oral presentation with the title: **Treatment of Staphylococcal Infections with Erythromycin and Clindamycin.**

In the Second Conference on Biotechnology Research and Applications in Palestine (26-27/9/2010) I made the following oral presentation:

Molecular and Serologic Approaches for Diagnosis of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* Infections in Children and Typing of the Pathogen

I made oral presentation at the **Sixth Palestinian Conference for Laboratory Medicine**, which was held at Al-Quds University, Jerusalem, Palestine in March 13/3/ 2010. The presentation was:

Phenotypes and Genotypes of Macrolide Resistance among Staphylococci Clinical Isolates in Northern Greece.

In the Fifth Scientific Conference organized by school of medicine of Al-Quds university (29/4/2009), I made an oral presentation with the title: ***Mycoplasma pneumoniae* Infections in Children.**

I participated in the **Medical Technology scientific day at An Najah university (27/3/2009)** and presented a lecture with the title: **Laboratory Diagnosis of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* Respiratory Tract infections in Children.**

During my master study, I participated in the celebration of **An Najah National University of 75 years of establishment-1998** (for 3 days) by a poster: **Isolation of amino acids by chromatography.**

In the sixth scientific exhibition (15/4/2009) of An Najah University, I prepared for the student the following powerpoint slides:

Resting and action potential in the nerve cell.

Muscle contraction

I attended the workshop “**Frontiers in Molecular Biology and Biomedicine**” organized by Birzeit university and **European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO)** in March 20, 2010 at Birzeit university.

In addition, I participated in the followings:

Workshop in the diagnosis of Brucellosis- 2000.
Third Palestinian Conference of Medical Technology- 1999.
Second Palestinian Conference of Medical Technology- 1998.
First Palestinian Conference of Medical Technology- 1997.

In Greece:

I participated in a number of papers for conferences during My Ph.D. program, where I was involved in the following:

The Third Greek National Conference of Medical Pathology- Thessaloniki, 2003:

Seminar: Laboratory Study of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* Infections in Children.
Poster: Genetic Study of Staphylococci Isolates' Resistance to Macrolides and Lincosamides.

The Second National Conference of Clinical Microbiology- Athens, 2005:

Seminar: Epidemiological and Genetic Study of Mycoplasma and Ureaplasma Infections of the Genitourinary Tract.

The Fourth Greek National Conference of Medical pathology- Athens, 2006:

Seminar: Laboratory Diagnostic Methods for *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* Infections.

The 8 Greek National Conference of Virology- Thessaloniki, 2006:

Seminar: New Coronavirus Strain NL63 and Other Strains in Children with Respiratory Tract Infections.

OTHER PARTICIPATIONS

I am now a member of the microbiology master program committee formed by the collage of science. Our committee proposed a syllabus for microbiology master program.

COMPUTER SKILLS

Microsoft windows
Microsoft office (Word, and Powerpoint)
Statistical Analysis System (SPSS)
Bioinformatics programs (BLAST program, CLUSTAL program, etc).
Internet skill.

LANGUAGES

Arabic (Mother tongue)

English

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Medical Microbiology

Infectious Diseases

Immunology

Molecular genetics

Medical laboratory tests

Epidemiology