

Meeting Report

First seminar on clinical research and publication

Tripoli Medical Centre, Monday August 6th, 2007

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The First seminar was held at Tripoli Medical Centre on the 6th of August. The focus of the seminar was "clinical medical research and publication". The seminar theme was designed to stimulate healthcare professionals to perform report and publish their clinical research to help improving the healthcare system in general.

The organizing committee declared that there will more such events with the aim to help the young health care professionals attain unique skills, gain further insight into the ways of clinical research and publication to advance medicine and meet the continuous medical development needs for Libyan medical community.

Overview of the Seminar:

The faculty members were mainly from ljm Editorial and Reviewers Board. The main program was based on two sessions each consisting of three presentations followed by a panel discussion.

The first session started with introduction words from Dr O Shamam, general director of TMC, who encouraged the young doctors to ask questions and be active in the seminar. Prof M Daw, editor in chief, provided a concise talk emphasizing the importance of making international contribution of Libyan data. Overview from previous Libyan publications from Italian colony time Journal bulletin Tripoliana up to date by steps done by ljm. The talk focused on importance of citations and making the Libyan research seen and read by others.

Open Access publication and why ljm is an open access journal was the talk by Dr O Bakoush. The chosen strategy of Open access publication make a strong push for ljm to be indexed by Directory of Open access publication, Google scholar, and make ljm listed on many international universities libraries in different parts of the world. This makes ljm international journal and chances of citations increases. Problems of low contribution by Libyan medical professionals and poor response to peer review comments were also highlighted. Dr E A Elkhammas presented an overview on clinical research and the benefit to advance the quality of health care systems with a focus on the Libyan health care. He also stressed the importance of clinical research ethics as an important principle in conducting any research. To improve health service good quality clinical research is a must. Dr A Arifi talk was on delay on knowledge translation and the knowledge lost making the use of basic

science into clinical practice unnecessary delay. Dr R Bendardf illustrated and reviewed the steps of how to write a scientific paper. The lecture enjoyed by most of the attendees. Dr M El-Segaier talked about the peer review process and the cons and pros of peer review in general. He explained how Peer review aimed to improve quality of published papers and Blind review is the best way to do it.

The seminar ended by a panel discussion on biomedical research status in Libya. The current patient file system, the knowledge of research methodology, the staff evaluations and promotions in medical universities, and the importance of team works spirit are among discussed issues.

Final remarks

The seminar was attended by more than 200 physicians and students. Eighty six percent of the attendees who filled evaluations felt that the presentations were informative. Over 80% of this group of attendees wanted the program to be repeated within a year with some workshop design and examples of research topics. In general the seminar was very well received and very highly rated by most of attendees. The comments heard were encouraging with useful feed back to all speakers and the content of their presentations.

The local organizers Prof Mohammed Daw, Dr A Al-Tubuly, Dr Mounir Khalil, Dr Abdullah Turkey, and Dr Zaidon Al-Falahy deserve many thanks for an outstanding job.