



February 2023

# RCR NEWSLETTER

Fogarty Research Ethics Educational Program in Jordan

## Inside This Issue

- Establishment of the first bioethics master program in the MENA region.
- The 6th & 7th RCR conference in 2021 & 2022.
- New Series of the RCR Webinars.
- RCR newly released courses in Research Ethics.
- RCR workshops in MENA, 2021 – 2022.
- Program Papers Published.



RCR (Responsible Conduct of Research) defined as the “practice of scientific investigation with integrity”. It involves the awareness and application of established professional norms and ethical principles in the performance of all activities related to scientific research. From the time of the launch of the “Research Ethics Program in Jordan” in 2015 till now; the program has been able to do a versatile range of achievements Research Ethics Program In Jordan ([www.jordanrcrprogram.com](http://www.jordanrcrprogram.com)). During 2021-2022, we are very proud to establish the First Bioethics Master Program in the MENA Region, that enrolled nine students from MENA in its first patch. We held the 6th International Conference on Ethics in Jordan and the MENA and IBRO-MENA virtually by the Jordan University of Science and Technology, in 2021 entitled Neuroethics and Neuroscience, Responsible Conduct of Research. Thereafter, in continuation of the series of international conferences, the “7th International Conference on Ethics in the MENA” was virtually hosted by the University of Balamand, Lebanon in 2022. The number of participants in both conferences exceeded more than 200. We released more than 11 online free courses covering the awareness and application of established professional norms and ethical principles in the performance of all activities related to scientific research. Finally, RCR courses in research ethics are available currently on Maharat platform, to date, they were attended by more than 750 researchers from 10 different countries. Ten advanced training of trainers in RCR and research methods workshops by our alumni were held and attended by more than 397 trainee attendees in all 10 workshops. We released a new Series of the RCR Webinars across the MENA covering multiple topics. Finally, RCR project has produced several types of more than 25 publications. The program follows and members commission and carry out research in the field of research ethics and other fields, making the results available for policymakers, researchers and academics through their productive

## Research Ethics & Responsible Conduct of Research Project to Establish the First Bioethics

RCR project announces the availability of master's degree scholarships in biomedical ethics and bioethics in Jordan available to those from Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Yemen, Egypt, Sudan, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania. The project offers at least 8 scholarships each year to pursue a master's degree in Biomedical Ethics from Jordan University of Science and Technology. The scholarship covers tuition fees, university fees and one-time round trip airline tickets. According to the scholarship regulations, applicants who wish to apply for the scholarship must be from one of the above-mentioned countries, hold a university degree (Bachelor, Master or PhD) in medicine, nursing, pharmacy, applied medical sciences or biology, and prove his/her English proficiency. The master of bioethics degree is an innovative, interdisciplinary program combining approaches from science and technology, the humanities and arts, and public health and medicine. It prepares students from diverse personal and professional backgrounds to address the bioethics challenges they will face in professional and civic life. The common factor is a commitment to wrestling with issues of fairness, equity, and justice in health care and medical research. Students who are accepted in the bioethics master program will take several compulsory courses in the topic such as research ethics, foundations of bioethics, empirical research methods, clinical trials and ethics in pharmacy, biostatistics, skills development and teaching methods, critical thinking and analysis. Also, some other elective courses, along with passing the comprehensive exam. Overall, Courses are taught at the campus of Jordan University of Science & Technology (just), which draws professors united by their passion for the subject matter. Below are students who were accepted by the RCR scholarship in the academic year 2022/2023, who sent their applications through the program [M.Sc application link](#).



Woroud Abdulghafour  
Sudanese



Dana Al Zoebi  
Syrian



Zahraa Almuhsen  
Iraqi



Heba Alkaiyat  
Jordanian



Raneem AlShuaibi  
Jordanian



Farah Hazzam  
Jordanian



Raghad Aljaraha  
Jordanian



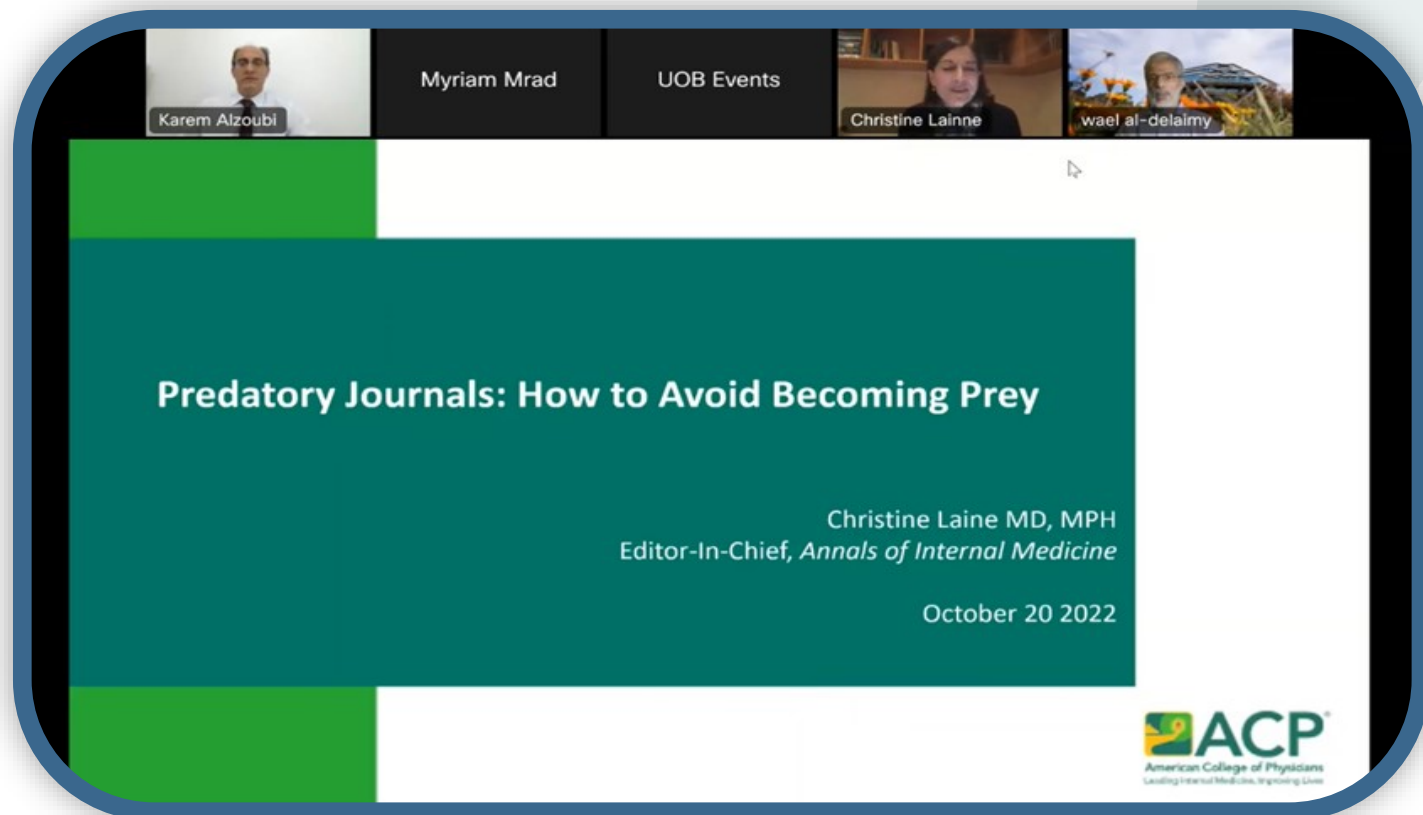
Nour Hwamdah  
Jordanian



Toojan Qadoura  
Jordanian

Meet  
our  
Students

## The 6th & 7th RCR Conference Organized in 2021 and 2022



The 6th International Conference on Ethics in Jordan and the MENA and IBRO-MENA which was held virtually by the Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid, Jordan on August- 05/06, 2021 and covered the following themes: Neuroethics and Neuroscience, Responsible Conduct of Research. Thereafter, in continuation of the series of international conferences held by the Responsible Conduct of Research Program in Jordan and the MENA region, "7th International Conference on Ethics in the MENA" was virtually hosted by the University of Balamand, Lebanon, the RCR program, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid, Jordan and the University of California at San Diego, CA, USA, during the period from Twenty-First and Twenty-Second of October 2022. The number of participants exceeded more than 200 participated during both conferences.

The 7th conference covered the two themes; First, predatory journals, open access publishing versus subscription, and related challenges. Second, responsible conduct of research and research ethics. The conference was opened by Opening Remarks conducted by Prof. Wael Al-delaimy, Director of the Responsible Conduct of Research Program, UCSD, USA, followed by A directive talk conducted by Prof. Kareem Alzoubi, Co-Director of the Responsible Conduct of Research Program, JUST, Jordan. The conference program and the discussed topics are presented in the next page.



## The 7th RCR Conference Program

21 October 2022

**Authors Beware Predatory Journals.** Christine Laine, MD, MPH, Editor in Chief, Annals of Internal Medicine, Senior VP, American College of Physicians, Professor of Medicine, Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA, USA.

**What Research Administrators Need to Know About Recognizing Predatory Publishing: Guidance and Best Practices** William L. Gannon, Ph.D., Director, Academic Integrity & Research Ethics (AIRE program), Research Faculty, Biology & Museum of Southwestern Biology, The University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, USA

**Open Access is the future, but it is not free.** Joel Kaufman, Professor, Epidemiology, Professor, Env. and Occ. Health Sciences, Professor, Medicine – General Internal Medicine, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA

**Discussion Panel: (Panelists)** , MD, MPH, Editor in Chief, Annals of Internal Medicine, Senior VP, American College of Physicians, Professor of Medicine, Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA, USA. Ph.D., Director, Academic Integrity & Research Ethics (AIRE program), Research Faculty, Biology & Museum of Southwestern Biology, The University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, USA Professor, Epidemiology, Professor, Env. and Occ. Health Sciences, Professor, Medicine – General Internal Medicine, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA Professor, Director, Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy, University of Miami, FL, USA.

**Knowledge and Attitudes toward Predatory Journals in Low-resourced countries: The Moroccan Experience** Dr. Nadia El Kadmiri, Polydisciplinary Faculty of Taroudant, Ibn Zohr University, Morocco.

**Preprints, to do or not to do?** Dr. Alaa Abouelfetouh, College of Pharmacy, Alexandria University, Egypt

22 October 2022

**Knowledge and Awareness of Authorship Practices Among Health Science Students: A Cross-Sectional Study.** Wisam Ismail, College of Pharmacy, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, USA

**Knowledge and Perceptions of Honorary Authorship among Health Care Researchers: Online Cross-sectional Survey Data from the Middle East.** Mayis Aldughmi, The School of Rehabilitation Sciences, The University of Jordan, Jordan.

**Knowledge and practice of patients' data sharing and confidentiality among nurses in Jordan.** Sawsan Abuhammad, Faculty of Nursing, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan

**Ethical considerations for conducting research with children.** Nivine Abbas, University of Balamand, Lebanon

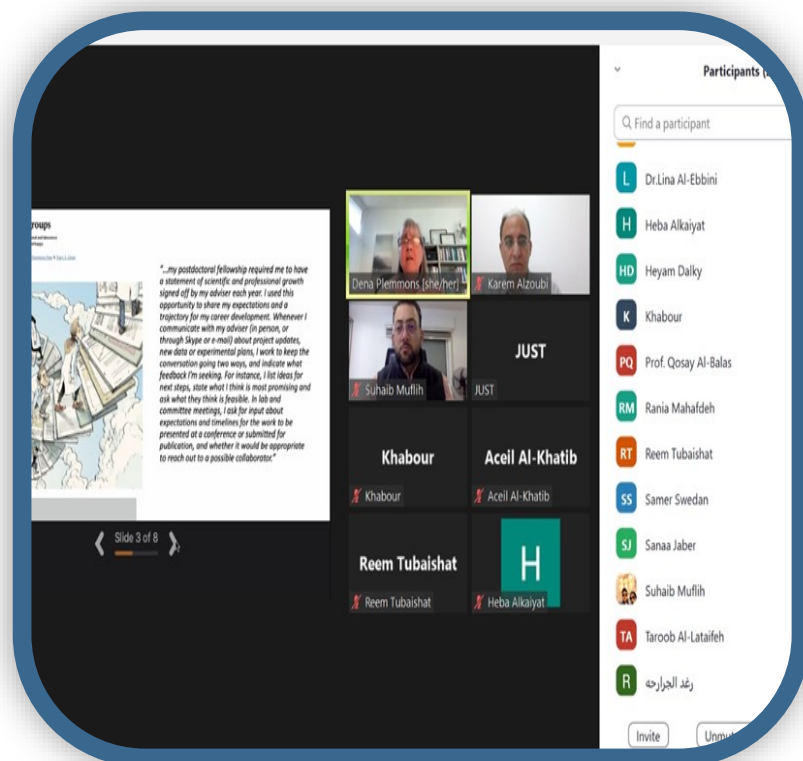
**Knowledge, practices, and patterns of data confidentiality among pharmacists in a developing country.** Lobna Ghariabeh, College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Amman Ahliyya University, Amman, Jordan.

**The Value of Autonomy in Herbal Medicine Use and Disclosure Among Patients with Chronic Diseases.** Suhaib Muflih, Faculty of Pharmacy, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan.

**Launching a birth cohort for environmental health research in a low-resource setting: ethical perspectives and lessons learned from the EELI Study.** Emile Whai-

## New Series of the RCR Webinars

As part of the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) efforts to disseminate knowledge about research ethics and Bioethics topics. A webinar entitled "Fundamental of Bioethics: The Islamic Perspective", was held by Qosay Al-Balas, Professor, Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy, Faculty of Pharmacy, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid, Jordan, Tuesday, Dec-06-2022. However, the project team have announced that whole RCR Webinar Series of 2022/2023 will be launched soon. In January 2023 a webinar entitled "Creating a Culture: Guidelines and Advice through a Lab Manual" was held by Dena Plemmons, Director, Research Ethics & Education Program, UCR, CA, USA.



While below is a list of 2021 webinars that were conducted as part of the RCR activities.

### RCR 2021 Webinars

Dr. Sawsan Abuhammad, Faculty of Nursing, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan. entitled: Research Misconduct. Tuesday, Sep-28-2021 at 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm Jordan time (GMT +2)
Dr. Lobna Gharaibeh, Assistant Professor, Biopharmaceutics and Clinical Pharmacy Department, Faculty of Pharmacy, Al-ahliyya Amman University, Amman, Jordan. Ethical Issues Concerning Research Conducted in Children. Tuesday, Nov-30-2021 at 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm Jordan time (GMT +2)
Qosay Albalas, Faculty of Pharmacy, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan Research ethics and Islam. Sep-21-2021 at 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm Jordan time (GMT +2)
Mariam Abbas, Sudan University of Science and Technology, Sudan. Informed consent: Why is it important for research? May-15-2021 at 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm Jordan time (GMT +2)
Dr. Alaa Abouelfetouh, Dept of Microbiology and Immunology, Faculty of Pharmacy, Alexandria University and AlAlamein International University, Egypt. Tuesday, June-15-2021 at 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm Jordan time
Dr. Ahmed Al-delaimy, Faculty of Medicine, Anbar University, Iraq. Ethics in Health Promotion Research. Thursday day, July-15-2021 at 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm Jordan time (GMT +2)

## Train of Trainers-Workshops Conducted by the Program Fellows

A number of our fellows held workshops on research ethics and responsible conduct of research; the workshop attendees came from many different backgrounds; they were either fellow faculty members or graduate/undergraduate students at their institutes. Ten advanced training in RCR and research methods workshops for our alumni that was attended (on average 35-50 participants per workshop for a total of 397 trainee attendees in all 10 workshops. In the next page is the list of workshop dates, topics, and speakers.





## List of 2020 & 2021 The Training of Trainers (ToT) Workshops

Dec 08, 2020: Pedagogy and Critical Thinking (by Kenneth Goodman, Professor, Director, Institute For Bioethics and Health Policy, Co-Director, University Ethics Programs, University Of Miami, Fl, USA, and Professor Michael Kalichman, Founding Director Of The UC San Diego Research Ethics Program, School Of Medicine, University Of California At San Diego, Ca, USA.)

Dec 15, 2020: Bioinformatics (by Suhaib Muflih, RCR Fellow, Faculty of Pharmacy, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid, Jordan, and Reema Karasneh, RCR fellow, Faculty of Medicine, Yarmouk University, Irbid, Jordan).

Dec 22, 2020: Qualitative Research (by Bonnie N. Kaiser, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, UCSD, CA, USA)

Jan 05, 2021: Emergency Research Ethics (by Kaveh Khoshnood, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor of Epidemiology; Faculty Director, Innovate Health Yale; Program Co-Director, Global Health Ethics Program, Yale Institute for Global Health; Program Director- BA-BS/MPH Program in Public Health at Yale)

Jan 12, 2021: Reproductive Ethics (by Saleem Bani Hani, Associate Professor, RCR Fellow, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan)

Jan 19, 2021: Islamic Ethics (by Qosay Albalas, Professor, RCR Fellow, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan and Dr. Mohammed Ghaly (PhD), Professor of Islam and Biomedical Ethics, College of Islamic Studies, Research Center for Islamic Legislation and Ethics, Hamad Ben Khalifah University, Qatar)

Jan 26, 2021: Pediatric Research Ethics (Tariq Mukattash, Professor, RCR Fellow, Acting Dean of Research, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan)

Feb 02, 2021: Peer review/Editorial ethics. (by Dena Plemmons, Director, Research Ethics & Education Program, UCR, CA, USA)

Feb 09, 2021: Stem Research Ethics (by Rana Dajani, Professor, Molecular Cell Biology, Faculty of Science, The Hashemite University, Jordan)

Feb 23, 2021: Mental Health ethics (by Wael Al-Delaimy, RCR Director, Professor, Division Chief of Global Health, Family Medicine and Public Health, UCSD, CA, USA)

## RCR Releases Courses in Research Ethics

Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) program, through its academy ( RCR Arab Academy ) has released more than 11 online free courses covering the awareness and application of established professional norms and ethical principles in the performance of all activities related to scientific research. Courses modules were developed aimed at researchers, students and anybody whose area of interest is scientific research. All the aforementioned courses are presented in the Arabic Language and available for free online. It is easy to use these courses and each course corresponds 3 to 5 hours in average. Upon completing each course, the attendee will receive his/her certificate with all needed details. These modules have been developed, within the framework of the RCR project and these are updated and further developed on an ongoing basis. The modules can be used in courses at basic and advanced level. The team who conducted these courses has used an innovative pedagogical model that combines several methods of teaching with interactive elements. The released courses contain a bunch of topics such as what is research ethics, good research practice, ethical considerations, methods, conflicts of interest and sponsorship, data management plans, researching humans, informed consent, researching patients, internet research, the collection, handling and storage of research data, fabrication and falsification, collaboration in science, publication ethics, predatory journals, co-authorship, avoiding plagiarism and self-plagiarism ... to mention few. Finally, RCR courses in research ethical principles are available currently on Maharat platform and could be reached through this link (<https://open.just.edu.jo/course/index.php?categoryid=9>), to date, they were attended by more than 750 researchers from 10 different countries. Here is the list of the available courses through RCR project.

### Available Courses

Conflict of interest in scientific research
Research data and information management
Informed consent
Research collaboration ethics
Research misconduct
Animal research ethics
Clinical Trials Ethics
Regulations, legislation, and the religious and ethical dimension in the use of stem cell
Basic principles of guidance, mentor, trainee, and coaching
Authorship Ethics
Protection of Human Subjects

Home / Courses / Scientific Research

### Scientific Research

Scientific Research Search courses

البحث العلمي

حماية المبحوثين في الدراسات على الإنسان Protection of Human Subjects

Course Type: Self-paced  
Start Date: 1-1-2020  
End Date: Open  
Course-Level: Intermediate  
Prepared by: Dr. Qosay



## Graduate Fellow Research Papers Published

RCR project has produced several types of publications. Its fellows and members commission and carry out research in the field of research ethics and other fields, making the results available for policymakers, researchers and academics through their productive publications. These publications are found in the table below.

### List of 2022 TOT Workshops

Alhamaly MA, Alzoubi KH, Khabour OF, Jaber RA, Al-Delaimy WK, Review of Clinical Equipoise: Examples from Oncology Trials. <i>Current Reviews in Clinical and Experimental Pharmacology</i> , 2023, 18(1), pp. 22–30
Mayyas F, Alzoubi K. Awareness and knowledge of manuscript writing and research integrity: A cross sectional survey among graduate students. <i>Heliyon</i> . 2022 Nov 5;8(11):e11447.
Ahmed WS, Ahmed A, Alzoubi KH, Nebeker C. Perceptions of Pharmacy Graduate Students Toward Research Ethics Education: A Cross-Sectional Study from a Developing Country. <i>Sci Eng Ethics</i> . 2022 Oct 26;28(6):47.
Al-Shami KM, Ahmed WS, Alzoubi KH. Motivators and barriers towards clinical research participation: A population-based survey from an Arab MENA country. <i>PLoS One</i> . 2022 Jun 24;17(6):e0270300.
Al-Zboon, E, Khabour O, Alzoubi KH. Exploring education faculty knowledge and perceptions of authorship in Jordanian universities. <i>European Online Journal of Natural and Social Sciences</i> 2022; 11, 309-315.
Mashaqbeh H, Alzoubi KH, Khabour KH, Abu-Farha R. Awareness and perception of pharmacy researchers about conflict of interest: A study from the MENA region. <i>Journal of Applied Pharmaceutical Science</i> , 2022, Vol. 12(08), pp 148-155.
Banihani SA, Alzoubi KH, Shawaqfeh MS, Vasudevan S. Perceptions towards sex selection among Jordanian population: A survey study. <i>Andrologia</i> . 2022 Jun 20:e14501.
Alkaraki AK, Khabour OF, Alzoubi KH, Al-Ebbini LMK, Altaany Z. Sharing, reuse, and storage of biosamples among biomedical researchers in Jordan: Practice and concerns. <i>PLoS One</i> . 2022 Apr 28;17(4):e0267552.
Gharaibeh L, Al-Azzam SI, Alzoubi KH, Karasneh RA, Abu-Farha R. Knowledge, practices, and patterns of data confidentiality among pharmacists in a developing country. <i>Heliyon</i> . 2022 Mar 15;8(3):e09115.
Khatatbeh M, Gharaibeh LF, Khabour OF, Abu-Farha RK, Alzoubi KH. Jordanian views regarding sharing of medical data for research: A cross-sectional study during COVID-19 pandemic. <i>PLoS One</i> . 2022 Mar 21;17(3):e0265695.
Arabyat RM, Qawasmeh BR, Al-Azzam SI, Nusair MB, Alzoubi KH. Faculty Members' Perceptions and Attitudes Towards Anti-Plagiarism Detection Tools: Applying the Theory of Planned Behavior. <i>J Empir Res Hum Res Ethics</i> . 2022 Feb 21;15562646221078655.

## Graduate Fellow Program Papers Published

### List of 2021 TOT Workshops

Khabour OF, Abu-Siniyeh AA, Alzoubi KH, Al-Sheyab NA. Challenges Faced by Behavioral Genetic Studies: Researchers Perspective from the MENA Region. *Curr Genomics*. 2021 Dec 31;22(7):550-556

Resources Within Muslim Societies During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *J Relig Health*. 2021 Oct;60(5):3372-3378.

Al Subeh ZY, Alzoubi KH. Researchers' ethical perspective about women participation in research studies in Jordan. *Heliyon*. 2021 Nov 27;7(12):e08492.

Al-Shatnawi SF, Alzoubi KH, Khasawneh RA, Khabour OF, Almomani BA. Exception from informed consent for biomedical research in emergency settings: A study from Jordan. *Heliyon*. 2021 Nov 27;7(12):e08487.

Mahafzah R, Alzoubi KH, Khabour OF, Abu-Farha R. Awareness and Perception of Healthcare Providers about Proxy Consent in Critical Care Research. *Crit Care Res Pract*. 2021 Sep 30;2021:7614517.

Altaany Z, Khabour OF, Alzoubi KH, Alkaraki AK, Al-Taani G. The Perception of Premarital Genetic Screening within Young Jordanian Individuals. *Public Health Genomics*. 2021;24(3-4):182-188. doi: 10.1159/000517162.

Alrabadi NN, Mukattash TL, Alzoubi KH, Abu-Farha RK, Khabour OF, Mhaidat NM. Awareness of pharmacy researchers about the national research code of ethics: A study from Jordan. *Heliyon*. 2021 Jun 2;7(6):e07180. doi: 10.1016/j.heliyon.2021.e07180.

Abuhammad S, Khabour OF, Alzoubi KH. Researchers views about perceived harms and benefits of gene editing: A study from the MENA region. *Heliyon*. 2021 Apr 23;7(4):e06860.

Karasneh R, Al-Mistarehi AH, Al-Azzam S, Abuhammad S, Muflih SM, Hawamdeh S, Alzoubi KH. Physicians' Knowledge, Perceptions, and Attitudes Related to Patient Confidentiality and Data Sharing. *Int J Gen Med*. 2021 Mar 2; 14:721-731.

Al-Ebbini LMK, Khabour OF, Alzoubi KH, Alkaraki AK. Ethical issues in bio-sample sharing among the public in Jordan. *Heliyon*. 2021 Feb 20;7(2): e06316.

Abuhammad S, Muflih S, Alzoubi KH, Gharaibeh B. Nursing and PharmD Undergraduate Students' Attitude Toward the "Do Not Resuscitate" Order for Children with Terminally Ill Diseases. *J Multidiscip Healthc*. 2021 Feb 24; 14:425-434.

Abuhammad S, Mufleh S, Alzoubi KH, Almasri R. Pediatrics Palliative Care from Nursing and PharmD Perspectives. *Pediatr Int*. 2021 Feb 3. doi: 10.1111/ped.14631.