



ASSESSMENT OF THE PREVALENCE OF MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS AMONG ADULTS, BURJ EL-BARAJNEH REFUGEE CAMP

Abstract

The study aims to provide key information on the prevalence and treatment gap of mental health disorders among adults 18 years and over in Burj el-Barajneh Camp, to better target services for the community. The study was conducted between June and November of 2010, after approval by local authorities, community leaders and the requisite ethical committees. Following random selection of households from a camp listing, the study involved a screening phase, interviewing household informants and individual household members with a variety of mental health assessment instruments, and a confirmatory phase with a clinical assessment by a psychologist on a randomly selected subset of screen positives and negatives.

Agenda

10:00 – 10:30 am: Introduction and Welcome

Dr. Abdallah Sfeir, Provost, Lebanese American University (LAU)

Dr. Abdallah Sfeir was appointed to the position of Provost of LAU in March 2009, after serving as the university's Vice President for Academic Affairs since 2003. During his term, LAU has undergone major growth, while maintaining a healthy increase in enrolment and the development of new schools and programmes. In the field of Engineering, Dr. Sfeir has published three books and several papers in the areas of thermal sciences and computer algebra.

10:30 – 11:45 am: Opening Speech

His Excellency Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, Representative of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Palestinian Ambassador

Dr. Abdullah Abdullah was appointed the Palestinian Ambassador in Lebanon in April 2010. He has worked with the PLO in a multitude of tasks, where he started out as Director of Fatah's Foreign Relations Office in 1969 in Beirut. He held the post of Palestinian Ambassador to Greece between 1990 and 2003. In 2006, he was elected Member of the Palestinian Legislative Council and was afterwards elected Member of Fatah Revolutionary Council and Chairman of its Political Committee in 2009.

Dr. Abdullah holds a Ph.D. degree in International Relations, a Master's degree in Sociology from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada and a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from the University of Damascus, Syria.

10:45 – 11:15 am: Announcement of the survey results

Dr. Augusto Llosa, Principal Investigator of the study, Epicentre

Dr. Augusto Llosa has been working as an epidemiologist for Epicentre since 2009 and is Principal Investigator for several mental health studies. He has also carried out surveys and outbreak investigations in several countries. Previously, he was Project Coordinator for Médecins Sans Frontières and India Liaison Office Director for the Institute for OneWorld Health, a non-profit pharmaceutical company,.

Dr. Llosa received his Ph.D. degree in Epidemiology from Stanford University and his B.S. in Biopsychology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He has co-authored publications in infectious diseases, cancer and injuries.

11:15 – 11:45 am: Discussion and questions

11:45 am – 12:00 pm: Closing Remarks

Fabio Forgione, Head of Mission, MSF

Fabio Forgione has been Head of Mission of Médecins Sans Frontières' programme in Lebanon since November 2009. He has been working with the organisation in the management of humanitarian programmes in Africa and Central America since 2005, working in countries such as Angola, Sudan, North Uganda, Ethiopia, and Guatemala.

12:00 – 12:30 pm: Lunch

DATE: MONDAY 11 APRIL 2011

PLACE: CONFERENCE ROOMS A, B AND C, 6TH FLOOR, IRWIN HALL, LEBANESE
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY, BEIRUT CAMPUS