

NIHR Research Unit on Health in Fragility



Queen Margaret University

INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH
AND DEVELOPMENT

In collaboration with



The RUHF Newsletter - Issue 1 / April 2018

Quarterly news on NCDs and MHPSS healthcare in fragile settings

Video Release

Addressing NCDs and Mental Health diseases in Lebanon



Dr Farah Naja

Associate professor of Nutrition Epidemiology
at the department of Nutrition and Food Science
at the American University of Beirut

The influx of refugees has contributed to fragility of health provision in Lebanon especially to control and treat non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and mental

organizations, on how to improve vital healthcare delivery in fragile settings.

[Watch the video here](#)

Engagement Meeting

QMU and AUB researchers liaise with stakeholders in Beirut



RUHF researchers taking part in the group-discussions during the Stakeholder Meeting held in Beirut between 28 and 29 March.

Global Health researchers from the [NIHR Research Unit on Health in Fragility \(RUHF\)](#), at Queen Margaret University (QMU) and key stakeholders involved in the provision of health services to address non-communicable diseases and mental health problems in Lebanon gathered in a two-day meeting in Beirut last month to identify priority research interventions to improve healthcare services among Syrian refugees and host communities in Lebanon.

Around thirty stakeholders, including representatives from the Ministry of Public Health, United Nations agencies (UNHCR, UNFPA) and the Lebanese Red Cross, among other organisations, attended the meetings. Coordination between private and public agents, effective accountability and local and contextualised research were identified as priority actions.

Research Fieldwork

Test of QMU Social Mapping tool to tackle NDCs in El Salvador



RUHF researchers seek to understand how Salvadorian patients with chronic diseases, such as diabetes and kidney disease, use health services and, where and who they ask for help within their communities. [RUHF](#) researchers are mapping key social connections and evaluate community engagement in tackling non-communicable disease in El Salvador. This participatory and innovative tool has been used by QMU researchers, led by [Alison Strang](#), in other fragile settings, such as Kurdish Region of Iraq. Photos: Luis Rene Dominguez Posada

Learn more about the application of this tool in other contexts [here](#)

Webinar

Sophie Witter will provide insights into Health and Fragility

The deputy director of the NIHR Research Unit on Health in Fragility ([RUHF](#)) will share her expertise in health systems in fragile and conflict affected settings.

Professor [Sophie Witter](#) is Research Co-Director of ReBUILD consortium focused on health systems development in post-conflict areas and she is currently leading research

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The webinar, organised by our partner AUB - Global Health Academy, will be held on May 17, at 2pm (UK time).

[Register and get more information here](#)

Interview

RUHF welcomes Ibrahim Bou Orm, first PhD student of the Unit

His study focuses on health system analysis in Lebanon. Ibrahim Bou Orm (Beirut, 1991) is a physician with a Master's degree in Public Health. He has several years' experience coordinating projects on the prevention and control of NCDs, such as cancer and diabetes for the Ministry of Public Health in Beirut.

PhD students from Sierra Leone will join the RUHF in September.



[Read Ibrahim's story here](#)

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