

NEWSLETTER

PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT

SEMESTER 1
2024-2025



*"Movement is the essence of life, and
physiotherapy keeps it flowing."*

PREPARED BY : DR . DRAGANA DJURIC
STUDENT : NOURA ALBLOUSHI

Welcome Note To The Department Newsletter



Dear Students, Colleagues, and Friends,

It gives me a great pleasure to welcome you to the latest edition of our Department of Physiotherapy newsletter. This platform serves as a celebration of the achievements, innovations, and collective efforts that establish our department as a leader in physiotherapy education, research, and clinical practice.

Physiotherapy is at the core of transforming lives, promoting mobility, and enhancing the quality of life for individuals at every stage of life. Our dedicated team in the Physiotherapy Department is committed to leading this transformative journey by fostering a culture of learning, collaboration, and community engagement across Abu Dhabi and the UAE. With a highly skilled faculty, state-of-the-art facilities, and a curriculum designed to meet evolving healthcare needs locally and globally, we are preparing future physiotherapists to excel in diverse fields of practice.

This newsletter highlights our department's dynamic growth and showcases the inspiring accomplishments of our students and faculty. It reflects their significant contributions to research, health promotion innovations, and community outreach initiatives that strengthen our bond with the Abu Dhabi community we proudly serve.

I encourage you to explore this issue and discover the stories that illustrate our unwavering commitment to excellence and compassionate care. Your support and engagement are essential to our continued success, and I warmly invite you to share your thoughts, achievements, and ideas with us as we move forward together.

Lastly, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the visionary and extraordinary leadership at FCHS. Their unwavering support makes all our accomplishments possible. A special thanks to every member of the FCHS family for being an integral part of our journey in the Physiotherapy Department

Muhammed Al-Jarrah
Professor and Head. Physiotherapy Department.
FCHS. Abu Dhabi

Expression Of Thanks



In this issue of the newsletter, we continue to highlight the important achievements of our department in the semester one of 2024-25. With the same dedication, student projects continued, resulting in the completion of three studies in collaboration with hospitals in Abu Dhabi and one systematic review. Plans have also been made to present students' research projects in the upcoming period.

Both students and staff were very active in eight events held at FCHS Abu Dhabi and Al Ain campus, such as celebrating World Physiotherapy Day and conducting awareness campaigns on breast cancer, osteoporosis, and menopause.

Alumni and final-year students showcased poster presentations about their research projects at three conferences in the UAE. Additionally, one community project was carried out.

Third-year student Fatima Alhameli achieved remarkable success by winning a silver medal in the Health and Social Care category at the WorldSkills competition in France, marking the highest achievement in this category for FCHS and the UAE. We are honored to have motivated students who, through years of preparation, participate in Emirates Skills competitions, and we hope Fatima's achievement will inspire younger students.

Alongside curriculum work and regular duties, faculty members continued their professional development by attending 14 national and international conferences. Several faculty members also presented at six international congresses in the UAE, the region, and Europe.

I would like to extend our sincere acknowledgment to all Al Ain and Abu Dhabi staff and to Ms. Sreelakshmi Preman, adjunct in Abu Dhabi, involved in teaching this semester and to all clinical physiotherapists involved in research with students.

We owe a big thanks to colleagues from both campuses who led extracurricular activities initiated by Student Service: Mrs. Aysha Alhosani, Mrs. Zaina Abu Khdaib, Mrs. Amna Almansoori, Mrs. Raghda Elbawab and Mrs. Alyazia Alhaj.

We thank Noura Albloushi, fourth-year student, for her time in designing this newsletter.

Dr Dragana Djuric

Physiotherapy Department



Abu Dhabi team (AUH)

(Left to the right): Ms. Ana Anjos- Senior Instructor, Dr. Cathrine Tadyanemhandu – Assistant Prof., Ms. Amna Almonsoori- Teaching Assistant, Dr. Muhammad Al Jarrah- Professor, Dragana Djuric- Senior Instructor, Dr. Sunitha Mysore- Principal instructor, Ms. Zaina Zaina Abu Khdaire - Instructor, Ms. Aysha Alhosani, lab. Specialist



Al Ain team (AAN)

(Left to the right): Ms. Raghda Albawab- Instructor., Dr. Emne Mahmoud Hammoud- Assistant Prof., Dr. Salwa Ali Elsobkey- Associate Prof., Dr. Muhammad Al Jarrah- Professor, Balkhis Banu- Assistant Prof, Ms. Alyazia Alhaj- Lab

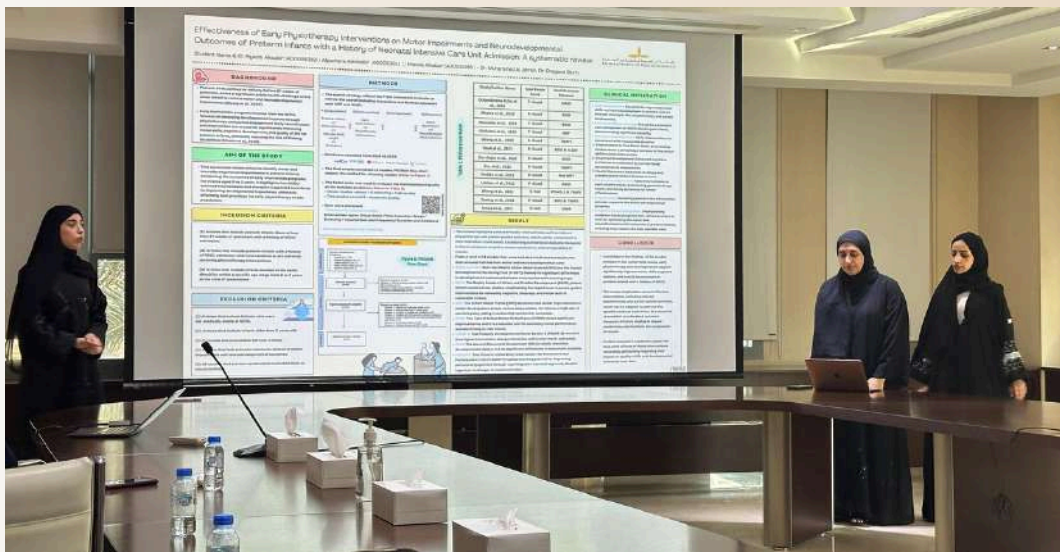
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Collaborative Staff and Students Research Project

Students presentation 10th of December

In this academic year physiotherapy department in Abu Dhabi continue with collaborative staff and student projects with clinical partners. In this semester, during our students' clinical rotations, data collection, entry, analysis and interpretation, research report writing, and dissemination of results were conducted for three research projects in Amana Healthcare Long-Term Care Pediatrics Unit in Danat hospital, NMC hospital and Sheikh Khalifa Medical City.



Collaborative Staff and students Research Project

We invited clinical educators from NMC, SKMC and Amana Danat Alemarat to attend the student presentations. FCHS physiotherapy staff and clinical educators actively participate in the discussions, sharing their valuable insights and expertise, and exploring how research findings can be effectively implemented in clinical practice, enriching both learning and professional application.



Students & Alumni Presentations

World Congress on Rehabilitation 2024 , Abu Dhabi 23-25th September

It was a great opportunity for former FCHS students to present their graduate project: The effects of Aquatic-based therapy on gait and balance in pediatric Cerebral Palsy patients: A Systematic Review



Presenter: Sara Ahmed Al Marzooqi, Maha Khalaf Al Shebli, Fatima Abdulhakim Al Zubaidi

3rd SSMC Educational week 16th October

Physiotherapy alumni Khadijeh Rajab presented student research graduate project: Correlation of the activity measure for post-acute care (AM-PAC -6 clicks) and Kansas University sitting and standing balance scale to Morse fall risk scale in older people with medical and surgical conditions: A cross-sectional study.



Students & Alumni Presentations

2nd Global Congress on Pediatric Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Medicine : Advancements in Pediatric Rehabilitation:Innovations and Insights in Pediatric Physical Therapy, Dubai 12-13th December

Alyazeya Ali Alkaabi and Aljawhara Alahbabi, graduate students presented their final research project: Effectiveness of early physiotherapy interventions on motor impairments and neurodevelopmental outcomes of preterm infants: A systematic review.



International Student Competition

45th Worldskills , Lyon, France

10th-15th September

Actvet's team has won 10 medals at @worldskillslyon2024 in Lyon, France, achieving first place in the Middle East. Fatima Alhameli the third year physiotherapy student has won a Silver medal in category Health and Social care, Making UAE, Fatima College and Physiotherapy department very proud.



Community Projects

Mobile Heart Clinic

Our third MS5 years students in collaboration with Jaheziya- Emirates Preparedness and Response program, conducted a mobile heart clinic in Baniyas to celebrate World Heart Day and Globalphysiotherapy day of service. The event focused on pushing forward the World Heart Day 2024 Theme “Use Heart for Action’. The students conducted cardiac screenings and health promotion for healthy heart.



Continuous Professional Development

1st Diabetes educational conference 14th September



World Congress On Rehabilitation-Work and Employment, 23-25th September

The aims of the Congress were to address global challenges faced by people of determination focusing on overcoming barriers that hinder their integration in society and ensuring equality. To achieve the strategic objectives of the Rehabilitation International (RI) and the International Social Security Association (ISSA) more than 190 speakers presented their work .



4th Middle East International Pediatric Neurology Conference

27th-28th September

The 4th Middle East International Pediatric Neurology Congress was the leading congress in the region that gathered top speakers and experts to highlight the latest developments and innovations in the Pediatric Neurology practice. The congress was a ground for interaction for healthcare professionals, including but not limited to, pediatric neurologists, neurologists, genetic and metabolic consultants, pediatricians, and other healthcare professionals.



The University of Chicago Blood Cancer and Gene Therapy Conference

28th September

The conference served as an ideal platform for clinicians to engage in enlightening discussions and acquire in-depth knowledge about the latest breakthroughs in the treatment of Blood Cancer and Gene Therapy. It offered a unique opportunity to stay abreast of current challenges while exploring remarkable scientific and clinical developments in the field. With a remarkable lineup of distinguished speakers, the conference emphasized the importance of fostering collaboration on both regional and international levels. The exchange of professional expertise among participants from around the globe is certain to catalyze transformative outcomes and advancements in the field of Blood Cancer and Gene Therapy



Cleveland Clinic Structural Heart Symposium

5th-6th October

Our third MS5 years students appreciated learning from the cardiologists and cardiac surgeons through real patient case presentation including investigations and management done at the CCAD structural heart symposium. It was an opportunity for student to supplement their knowledge that they are acquiring this semester.



The 6th Abu Dhabi International Vascular Conference, 11th - 12th October

The conference featured sessions steered by distinguished leaders from various disciplines, including vascular surgery, radiology, medicine, podiatry, neurology, cardiology and critical care. They presented a holistic view of patient management, encompassing both traditional practices and innovative treatments.



6th Annual Medical Education Symposium, Dubai 18th -19th October

An enlightening educational symposium at MBRU, Dubai which provided valuable insights on transformative role of Artificial intelligence and effective teaching strategies that foster deep learning and engagement. The discussions from pioneers of education emphasized the importance of quality of education practices and highlighted the promising advancements shaping our education systems future.



3rd International Breast Cancer Symposium, Cleveland clinic Abu Dhabi, 11th- 12th October

The symposium offered a multidisciplinary platform featuring the latest advancements in breast cancer care, including cutting-edge research, innovative treatment methods, and patient-centered rehabilitation strategies. This engagement provided insights directly applicable to enhancing physiotherapy education and clinical practices.

Networking with global experts also opened opportunities for collaboration, contributing to improved teaching methodologies and research initiatives in physiotherapy, particularly in the context of cancer rehabilitation.”



World Stroke Congress 23rd-26th October

The international stroke community meet in Abu Dhabi to work together to reduce the burden of stroke by delivering improvements in prevention, treatment and recovery. The event promoted evidence-based practices, advocated for patient support groups and networking of health professionals to improve patient care.



SSMC Critical care Congress :Middle East 31th October-2nd November

The Congress offers a unique platform to explore research, stimulating ideas, forge valuable connections and gain perspectives from diverse multidisciplinary critical care team member. The congress covered diverse topics of adult and pediatric critical care.



Global Stem Congress 6th-7th November

The conference highlighted how rapidly evolving technologies are transforming education, making learning more interactive, immersive, and accessible. Unlike traditional methods, today's STEM approaches emphasize hands-on, project-based learning and encourage students to think critically and solve real-world problems. The event provided a deeper understanding of how innovations like AI, robotics, and virtual reality redefining skill development.



MENA Congress Neurogenetic Disorders 2024, Dubai 15th-16th November

It was the first conference dedicated to neurogenic disorders in the region. The congress included the following sessions: Neurocutaneous diseases, Movement disorders, Genetic white matter diseases, Neurodegenerative diseases, Neurometabolic diseases, Neurodevelopmental disorders, Neuromuscular diseases, Genetic epilepsies, Updates on diagnostics, Advancements in therapy and prevention



7th International Physical & Rehabilitation Medicine Conference , Rehab 360: Advancements in Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation, Abu Dhabi 22nd-23rd November

The conference brought together experts from an interdisciplinary rehabilitation team from various countries. Emphasis was placed on novelties in rehabilitation, such as new technologies for improving mobility and functionality and devices for activities of daily life. The speakers shared their experiences from different areas of rehabilitation through parallel sessions and workshops. Dr. Sunitha Mysore was a member of the Scientific Committee, contributing to the conference's academic rigor and organization. Physiotherapy FCHS staff attended the conference, and two staff members presented their work on advanced mobility technologies for neurological patients.



2nd Global Congress on Pediatric Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Medicine, 12th-13th December

This year's congress had a particularly relevant and timely theme: "Advancements in Pediatric Rehabilitation: Innovations and Insights in Pediatric Physical Therapy" The Pediatric Physiotherapy 2024 was an enriching and informative event, bringing together leading experts, researchers, clinicians, and educators in the field of pediatric physiotherapy and rehabilitation medicine from around the globe. Through engaging presentations, interactive workshops, and networking opportunities, attendees had the chance to explore the latest advancements, share best practices, and collaborate on strategies to enhance pediatric rehabilitation outcomes.



FCHS Activities

World Physiotherapy Day, Abu Dhabi 9th September

Physiotherapy department celebrated World Physiotherapy Day. It is an opportunity to recognize the work that physiotherapists do for their patients and community. Year 2024 theme focuses on Low Back Pain. Students with the physiotherapy team planned, organized and executed an excellent event with multiple educational fun games stations and amazing giveaways.



World Physiotherapy Day, Al Ain, 9th September

Cardiopulmonary race is an innovative and engaging activity to celebrate World Physiotherapy Day 2024, while reinforcing important educational content. By combining mental and physical challenges, this activity promotes both academic and physical well-being, aligning with the core values of physiotherapy



World Physiotherapy Day, Specialized Rehabilitation Hospital, Abu Dhabi 9th September

Our FCHS students joined hands with Specialized Rehabilitation Hospital in celebrating the World Physiotherapy Day. The activities of the day included raising awareness of the profession, participating in Pilate session to prevent low back pain and interaction with patients doing different activities with them



Breast cancer awareness day

15th October

Physiotherapy department joined all programs at FCHS to celebrate breast cancer day and spread awareness. Our aim was to share knowledge about physiotherapy rehabilitation after mastectomy-removal of breast cancer. Third year MS6 students prepared, organized and planned for creative educational activities that caught everyone's attention at the event.



AbuDhabi campus



Al Ain campus

World Osteoporosis Day, Al Ain 22nd October

In this event staff and students raised awareness of bone health, and of the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease. Students amazingly executed the event and was praised by everyone on the campus.



School Orientation Day – Future International School, Al Ain 22nd October

Mrs. Alyazia skillfully organized and conducted the school orientation session. She collaborated with Future International School to introduce the physiotherapy program to students from Grades 10 to 12. The students displayed great enthusiasm for joining FCHS for their future studies.



Menopause event: Age of Renewal

30th October

Education session provided valuable insights into the specific needs of Emirati women during menopause, informing culturally sensitive support strategies and healthcare interventions. The aim was to empower women to view menopause as a positive stage in life, encouraging an informed and supportive community. 4th year Physiotherapy students prepared the booth with education materials about importance of strength training and physical activities for women in menopause.



Class of 2024 Graduation Ceremony, ADNEC

13th November

Abu Dhabi Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training, organized graduation ceremony for the class of 2024 for Abu Dhabi Polytechnic, Fatima College of Health Sciences and Abu Dhabi Vocational Education and Training Institute. Physiotherapy staff attended the ceremony and we were very proud that 21 physiotherapy students from AUH and AAN got Bachelor degree in Physiotherapy.



National Day Celebration 21st November

FCHS celebrated National Day with pride and enthusiasm, featuring a variety of cultural performances, traditional displays, and activities that highlighted the rich heritage and unity of the nation.



AbuDhabi campus



Al Ain campus

Sheikh Zayed Festival on 26th November

"I took part in the skills event at Sheikh Zayed Festival. I answered a scientific question correctly, "What metal combines with chloride to form salt?" I was awarded the new Apple Watch. The experience itself was delightful and enjoyable. I got to refresh my knowledge about chemistry and science from it. I hope this won't be the last time!"

Yasa Alblooshi 3ed year student



Physiotherapy Staff Publications

Dr. Emne Hammoud

- Hammoud Emne, Banu Shaik Balkhis, Ibrahim El Bawab Raghda, El-Sobkey Salwa B. Physical Activity Level, Weight Categories, and Fat Distribution: A Cross sectional Study of College Students. New Emirates Medical Journal; Volume 5, Year 2024.

Dr. Sunitha Mysore

- Sunitha Bhagavathi Mysore, Dragana Djuric, Adam Zeghan, Areen Oudeh, Belal Al Qerem, Abdulla Al Humaidan, Amina Hussain Salem Alyafei, Muhammed Al Jarrah (2024). Rehabilitation services for children with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic in the United Arab Emirates: Experiences of parents, Paediatrica Croatica, Vol. 68, No 3.
- Robinson, C., Mysore, D., McColl, E., & Mysore S B. (2024). Top tips for preventing musculoskeletal disorders and optimizing posture for dental professionals. British dental journal, 237(5), 306–309.

Dr. Dragana Djuric

- Djuric D., Mysore S. (2024). Perspective of robotic-assisted treadmill training in children with cerebral palsy on motor functions and gait, Serbian Archive for Medicine, Volume 152, Issue 7-8

Dr. Salwa Elsobkey

- El-Sobkey SB, Fouda BM, Ahmed RS, and El-Sayed DG. Transtheoretical Model-based Interventions are Effective in Promoting Healthy Behaviors Related to Modifiable Risk Factors of Noncommunicable Diseases: A Systematic Review. Dubai Medical Journal. 2024;7(2):63–86.

Dr. Shaik Balkhis Banu:

- Vijaya Gunturu, Niladri Maiti, Babacar Toure, Pankaj Kunekar, Dr. Shaik Balkhis Banu and Sahaya Lenin, Transfer Learning in Biomedical Image Classification, 2024 International Conference on Advances in Computing, Communication and Applied Informatics (ACCAI).
- V Malathy, Dr. NiladriMaiti, Dr. Nithin Kumar, D. Lavanya, S. Aswath, Dr. Shaik Balkhis Banu, Deep Learning -Enhanced Image Segmentation for Medical Diagnostics, 2024 International Conference on Advances in Computing, Communication and Applied Informatics (ACCAI).
- Kasharaju Balakrishna, Praveen Kumar, Md. Shakil Hossain Ridoy, Vasantha Gadipally, Dr. Shaik Balkhis Banu and Joshuva Arockia Dhanraj, Robotics and AI Integration for Automated Surgical Procedures, 2024 International Conference on Advances in Computing, Communication and Applied Informatics (ACCAI).
- Shaik Balkhis Banu et al, Prediction of Diabetes Mellitus Using Improved Model of Artificial Neural Network for Early Diagnosis, proceedings of the 5th international conference on data science, machine learning and applications, volume 1, book series: Lecture Notes in Electrical Engineering ((LNEE,volume 1273), 6th October 2024
- Dr. Namrata Singh, Dr. Rita Biswas, Balbhagvan Acharya, Dr. Avni Sharma, Dr. Ashok Kumar Sahoo and Dr. Shaik Balkhis Banu, The Role of Leadership Styles in Shaping Organizational Culture: A Human Resource Management Approach, Journal of Informatics Education and Research, ISSN: 1526-4726, Vol 4 Issue 2 (2024).

Speakers At Conferences

World rehabilitation Congress 23rd-25th September

Three faculty members from physiotherapy department of FCHS contributed to this important Congress with its presentations.

Dr. Sunitha Mysore

Advancing Research in Rehabilitation: Pathways for young researchers in the United Arab Emirates.



Dr. Cathrine Tadyanemhandu

Bridging Access to Healthcare and Empowerment: Analyzing a Community-Based Rehabilitation Program for People with Disabilities in Zimbabwe



Dr. Dragana Djuric

Evidence Based of Robotic-Assisted Treadmill Training in Adults with Cerebral Palsy



Prof. Muhammed Al-Jarrah was a chair in the session: Forum for young researchers.

7th International Physical & Rehabilitation Medicine Rehabilitation, Rehab 360: Advancements in Multidisciplinary Rehabilitation

22nd-23rd November, Abu Dhabi

Djuric D., Robotic- Assisted Gait Training in Pediatrics: The UAE Experience



Mysore S., Assistive Mobility Technologies in Rehabilitation: Current Evidence and Future directions



2nd Global Congress on Pediatric Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation Medicine, Dubai 12th-13th December



**2ND GLOBAL CONGRESS ON
PEDIATRIC PHYSIOTHERAPY
& REHABILITATION MEDICINE**

Theme: Advancements in Pediatric Rehabilitation: Innovations and Insights in Pediatric Physical Therapy

12-13 DEC, 2024 DUBAI, UAE

PRESENTATION ON:

"ROBOTIC-ASSISTED GAIT TRAINING AS AN ADJUNCT TO CONVENTIONAL PHYSIOTHERAPY IN CHILDREN WITH SPASTIC CEREBRAL PALSY"

Dr. Dragana Djuric
Fatima College of Health Sciences, UAE

Pediatric Physiotherapy 2024
DUBAI, UAE: DECEMBER 12-13



Online Presentations

Dr. Shaik Balkhis Banu :

- Dr. Shaik Balkhis Banu, (30th to 31st October 2024), From Empathy to Exhaustion: The Prevalence of Compassion Fatigue Among Physiotherapists, 3rd International conference on business, digital transformation, and sustainability, Kingdom of Bahrain
- Dr. Shaik Balkhis Banu, (30th to 31st October 2024), Integrating Environmental Sustainability and HRM: A Green Approach for Hospitals, Kingdom of Bahrain
- Dr. Shaik Balkhis Banu, (30th to 31st October 2024), Under Pressure: The Rising Stress Levels Among College Students, Kingdom of Bahrain
- Dr. Shaik Balkhis Banu, (28th September 2024), Effectiveness of online learning in transforming education: an era of digital transformation, International Conference on Computer Engineering and AI Applications, Taylor and Francis, India.

Dr. Dragana Djurc

- Djuric D. (27-29th September), Advances in Treatment of Spinal Muscular Atrophy, 4th International Physiotherapy Congress Montenegro, Igalo (online presentation)
- Djuric D. (27-29th September), Challenges and Barriers in Contemporary Physiotherapy Education, 4th International Physiotherapy Congress Montenegro, Igalo (online presentation)

Team Building Activities

The purpose of team building activities at physiotherapy department is to connect staff in enjoyable experience and to increase trust, improve communication and collaboration.



Team Building Activities

Department meeting on 12th December and faraway party for Mrs.Amna Almansory.

