

## **ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean**

### **Annual Report 2023**

#### **MEMBERS**

Ghaieb Bashar Mohamed Aljandeel (Iraq), chair  
Chahnez Triki (Tunisia), past chair  
Sally Mohamed Shaaban (Egypt), YES representative  
Fatema Abdulla (Bahrain)  
Raidah Saleem Al-Baradie (Saudi Arabia)  
Nirmeen Kishk (Egypt)  
Hakim Leklou (Algeria)  
Adel Misk (Palestinian Territory)  
Reda Ouazzanni (Morocco)  
Foksouna Sakadi, Jr. (Chad)

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Developed the regional Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders (IGAP) for ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean
- Held a townhall meeting of ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean chapters
- Held the first Iraqi Epilepsy Conference: Contribution of over 350 participants on the first day and 150 on the second day from various districts around Iraq, as well as participation of an array of professors from different countries such as the UK, Italy, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar, providing a great opportunity for epilepsy professionals to share expertise, knowledge, and skills

#### **ACTIVITIES**

- ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean annual meetings
- User manual: A step-by-step guide to implement a national action plan for epilepsy (to be finalized within two months of 2024)
- Adapted guidelines for management of status epilepticus and use of emergency rescue medicines to LMIC (to be finalized within two months of 2024)
- Ten fellowships (juniors)
- Three courses for the visiting teacher program in Egypt, Tunisia, and Chad
- Townhall meeting with attendance from 15 chapters in ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean
- San Servolo course
- Three ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean courses in English/French in Iraq, Tunisia, and Morocco
- Cours supérieur d'électroencéphalographie clinique in Morocco
- Two ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean EpiCases: Epileptic encephalopathy and Temporal lobe epilepsy
- Joint monthly English and French webinars with ILAE-Africa
- EEG Course for Technicians in December in Egypt

- Training general practitioners for the early care of people with epilepsy in Tunisia
- The ILAE Tunisian Chapter participated in the Workshop Air Fit Project about the impact of climate change on epilepsy
- The First Iraqi Epilepsy Conference
- The 7th Congress of Neurophysiology organized in June in Marrakech, Morocco
- The 2nd Nurse Educational Session in Epilepsy in Morocco
- ILAE Epilepsy in Children Workshop in December in Rabat, Morocco

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- One of most significant accomplishments that was achieved in 2023 was the development of the IGAP for the ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean region and working on a chapter-level to develop plans for each country in the region.
- Iraq hosted the ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean Epilepsy Course for the first time. The attendance was superb with over eighty participants joining each day from different medical facilities and neurological centers across Iraq. In addition, a substantial number of our colleagues attended virtually.
- The first African Brain Week was held in February 2023 in Morocco. The event featured different neurological themes, while allocating the first day to epilepsy, covering different aspects of management. The event was a great success thanks to the participation of international experts.
- The first Iraqi Epilepsy Conference was held in December 2023.
- An Epilepsy Booklet to help the non-medical population understand the disease was developed by the ILAE Moroccan Chapter.
- Telemedicine activities were held in different parts of rural areas in Morocco and Africa.
- A new ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean representative for the Young Epilepsy Section (YES) was elected.
- ILAE-YES groups were established in most of Eastern Mediterranean countries.

## RESEARCH & ARTICLES PUBLISHED

[Which terms should be used to describe medications used in the treatment of seizure disorders? An ILAE position paper, \*Epilepsia\* \(2024\)](#)

Emilio Perucca, Jacqueline A. French, Ghaieb Aljandeel, Simona Balestrini, Patricia Braga, Jorge G. Burneo, Augustina Charway Felli, J. Helen Cross, Aristeia S. Galanopoulou, Satish Jain, Yuwu Jiang, Reetta Kälviäinen, Shih Hui Lim, Kimford J. Meador, Zarine Mogal, Rima Nabbout, Francesca Sofia, Ernest Somerville, Michael R. Sperling, Chahnez Triki, Eugen Trinkka, Matthew C. Walker, Samuel Wiebe, Jo M. Wilmschurst, Elaine Wirrell, Elza Márcia Yacubian, Jaideep Kapur

[Epileptic EEG patterns recognition through machine learning techniques and relevant time–frequency features, \*De Gruyter\* \(2023\)](#)

Sahbi Chaibi, Chahira Mahjoub, Wadhah Ayadi, Abdennaceur Kachouri

[Cutaneous adverse effects of antiepileptic drugs, \*Therapies\* \(2023\)](#)

Fatma Zgolli, Imen Aouinti, Ons Charfi, Widd Kaabi, Imen Hamza, Riadh Daghfous, Sarrah Kastalli, Ghozlane Lakhoua, Sihem El Aidli

[First report of Tunisian patients with CDKL5-related encephalopathy, \*Epilepsia Open\* \(2024\)](#)

Chahnez CharfiTriki, Salma Zouari Mallouli, Marwa Ben Jdila, Mariem Ben Said, Fatma Kamoun Feki, Sarah Weckhuysen, Sabeur Masmoudi, Faiza Fakhfakh

[A novel homozygous PIGO mutation associated with severe infantile epileptic encephalopathy, profound developmental delay and psychomotor retardation: structural and 3D modelling investigations and genotype-phenotype correlation, \*Metabolic Brain Disease\* \(2023\)](#)

Ameni Aguech, Lamia Sfaihi, Olfa Alila-Fersi, Roeya Kolsi, Abdelaziz Tlili, Thouraya Kammoun, Ahmed Fendri, Faiza Fakhfakh

[Treatment of seizures in the neonate: Guidelines and consensus-based recommendations—Special report from the ILAE Task Force on Neonatal Seizures, \*Epilepsia\* \(2023\)](#)

Ronit M. Pressler, Nicholas S. Abend, Stéphan Auvin, Geraldine Boylan, Francesco Brigo, Maria Roberta Cilio, Linda S. De Vries, Maurizio Elia, Alberto Espeche, Cecil D. Hahn, Terrie Inder, Nathalie Jette, Angelina Kakooza-Mwesige, Silke Mader, Eli M. Mizrahi, Solomon L. Moshé, Lakshmi Nagarajan, Iris Noyman, Magda L. Nunes, Pauline Samia, Eilon Shany, Renée A. Shellhaas, Ann Subota, Chahnez Charfi Triki, Tammy Tsuchida, Kollencheri Puthenveettil Vinayan, Jo M. Wilmschurst, Elissa G. Yozawitz, Hans Hartmann

[Wearable Electromyography Classification of Epileptic Seizures: A Feasibility Study, \*Bioengineering\* \(2023\)](#)

Achraf Djemal, Dhouha Bouchaala, Ahmed Fakhfakh, Olfa Kanoun

[Epileptic encephalopathy and amelogenesis imperfecta: What about KohlschütterTönz syndrome? Case report and literature review, \*Special Care in Dentistry\* \(2023\)](#)

Manel chalbi, Meriem Nefzaoui, Miniar Rhaïem, Soumaya boussaid, Mohamed ali chemli

[Case report: Functional analysis of the p.Arg507Trp variant of the PIGT gene supporting the moderate epilepsy phenotype of mutations in the C-terminal region, \*Frontiers in Neurology\* \(2023\)](#)

Ikhlas Ben Ayed, Olfa Jallouli, Yoshiko Murakami, Amal Souissi, Salma Mallouli, Amal Bouzid, Fatma Kamoun, Ines Elloumi, Fakher Frikha, Abdelaziz Tlili, Sarah Weckhuysen, Taroh Kinoshita, Chahnez Charfi Triki, Saber Masmoudi

[Criminal liability and epilepsy: a case report of a postictal attempted homicide from Tunisia, \*The International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine\* \(2023\)](#)

Sana Omri, Najeh Smaoui, Rim Feki, Imen Gassara, Lobna Zouari, Jihene Ben Thabet, Mohamed Maalej, Manel Maalej Bouali, Nada Charfi

[Epilepsy awareness days, weeks, and months: Their roles in the fight against epilepsy and the intersectoral global action plan on epilepsy and other neurological disorders](#), *Epilepsy & Behavior* (2023)

Rugare Mugumbate, Raymond Klevor, Mauricio Olave Aguirre, Gams Massi Daniel, Nasir Yaqoob, Keryma Acevedo, Enat Yewnetu, Chantal Kanyabutembo, Etedal Ahmed A. Ibrahim, Salim Boutadghart, Adam Janneh, Najib Kissani

[Telemedicine for Individuals with epilepsy: Recommendations from the International League Against Epilepsy Telemedicine Task Force](#), *Seizure* (2023)

Pauline Samia, Jitendra Kumar Sahu, Amza Ali, Roberto Horacio Caraballo, Josephine Chan, Ana Carolina Coan, Pablo Sebastián Fortini, Samson Gwer, Bosanka Jovic-Jakubi, Najib Kissani, Yanin Rivera, Fred Stephen Sarfo, Mamta Bhushan Singh, Eugen Trinkka, Ji Yeoun Yoo, Hsiang-Yu Yu, Johan Zelano, J.Helen Cross

[Prevalence of epilepsy in Morocco: A population-based study](#), *Epilepsia Open* (2023)

Zouhayr Souirti, Mohammed Hmidani, Abdelaziz Lamkaddem, Kawtar Khabbach, Salma Belakhdar, Doae Charkani, Driss Mhandez Tlemcani, Nabila Lahmadi, Maroua El Akramine, Samira Erriouiche, Asmae Berrada, Asmae Ahniba, Mohammed Omari, Samira El Fakir, Nabil Tachfouti, Mohammed Abdoh Rafai, Imane Chahid, Bentahar Meriam, Mariam Jilla, Aayad Ghaname, Youssef Benmansour, Younes Filali Zegzouti, Najib Kissani, Abdelhakim Lakhdar, Rachid Belfkih, Mohamed Aggouri, Reda Ouazzani, Abderrahmane Chahidi, Abdelkrim Janati Idrissi

[Trace Elements and Epilepsy](#), *Nutritional Neurosciences* (2023)

Abdelaati El Khiaat, Driss Ait Ali, Bilal El-Mansoury, Youssef Ait Hamdan, Brahim El Houate, Mohamed El Koutbi, Lahcen, Tamegart, Halima Gamrani, Najib Kissani

## MEETINGS

During 2023, ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean had 12 meetings, once monthly; 11 meetings were virtual, and one was in person.



**Eastern Mediterranean Region Epilepsy Course**  
Saad Al-Witry Neurosciences Hospital-Baghdad  
9-10 August 2023



**The First Iraqi Epilepsy Conference**  
Rotana Babylon Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq  
1-2 December 2023



DAY 1: Epilepsy- Theme: Epilepsy surgery 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	
8h-8.45	Registration and welcome reception
	Welcome speech : Pr Najib Kisoani, president of the organizing committee & LMCE (Morocco) Pr Zouhair Souflet, president of the Moroccan society of neurophysiology (Morocco) Pr Rachid Soulimani, president of the scientific committee (France) Pr Ghaleb Bachar, President of ILAE- East Mediterranean Region (Iraq) Pr Chantal Kanyabwamba, Epilepsy Alliance Africa (Rwanda)
8.45-10.45	Session 1: Epilepsy surgery : clinical evaluation and selection Moderators: Pr Agbeteu Mendimou (Porto-Novo / Benin); Pr Youssef Maiga (Bamako/Mali)
15 min	The IGAP: International Global Action Plan for epilepsy and other neurological disorders for the next 10 years
30 min	Basics Principles in epilepsy surgery
20 min	How to select refractory epilepsy cases?
20 min	Neuropsychological treatment for adult epilepsy
20min	Neuropsychological tools in surgical epilepsy and universal cross-cultural assessments
20 min	Career's perspective of childhood onset of complex epilepsy
10 min	Discussion
30 min	Coffee-break
11.15-12.45	Session 2: Epilepsy surgery: EEG and imaging Moderators: Pr Arif Heccker (Lahore/Pakistan ), Pr Otheth Seidi (Khartoum/Sudan), Pr Khalid Aniba (Marrakech, Morocco)
20 min	EEG in refractory epilepsy: before and after surgery.
20 min	Video-EEG pre-evaluations of refractory epilepsies
20 min	MRI in refractory epilepsy
20 min	Epilepsy and cognition
20 min	Ketogenic diet: is it a solution for refractory epilepsy?
10 min	Discussion

## African Brain Week February 2023



## 2nd Nurse Educational Session in Epilepsy



## Telemedicine activities in different parts of rural areas in Morocco and Africa



Temehdite, Ifrane, Morocco



International Epilepsy Day in Sfax

Training for parents of children with epilepsy, games and workshops for children with epilepsy  
13 February 2023

ILAE  
Cours régional d'épilepsie :  
15 et 16 Décembre 2023, Sfax, Tunisie

**1<sup>er</sup> Jour**  
Matin de 9h-13h  
Session 1 : Bases de l'EEG

9-9.30	Conférences : Bases et techniques de l'EEG	Conférencier : Leila Triki (Sfax)
9.30-10	Comment interpréter un EEG	Hana Zouari (Sfax)
10.00-10.30	Artifacts et pièges EEG	Khalil Ben Ghili (Monastir)
10.30-11.00	Pause-café	
11.00-11.30	Session 2 : Étiologies des épilepsies	
11.00-11.30	Apport de la classification des syndromes épileptiques ILAE 2022	Chahnez Triki (Sfax)
11.30-12.30	Cas cliniques : Les épilepsies (pharmacorésistantes)	Habiba Lakhou (Algérie)
12.30-14.00	Déjeuner	
14.00-14.30	Session 3 : Sémiologie des épilepsies	
14.00-14.30	Explorations génétiques des épilepsies/ quand ?	Mehrez Ben Ayed (Sfax)
14.30-15.00	Avant application de la classification (NOS) : quel apport pour l'épilepsie	Mehrez Ben Ayed (Sfax)
15.00-15.30	Thérapie génique en épilepsie	Sahar Ben Said (Tunis)
15.30-16.00	Pause-café	
16.00-16.30	Session 4 : Cas cliniques d'épilepsie	
16.00-16.30	Cas interactif 1 : Une question est en jeu	Salma Zouari (Sfax)
16.30-16.40	Cas interactif 2	Offa Jelloul (Sfax)
16.40-17.00	Cas interactif 3 : À propos d'un état de mal <i>(résumé)</i>	Khamis Shabbache (Tanger)
17.00-17.30	Plan d'action global d'épilepsie : ou on est dans l'ENR ?	Chahnez Triki (Sfax)
	YES section Tunisie	Khalil Ben Ghili (Monastir)

ILAE  
Cours régional d'épilepsie :  
15 et 16 Décembre 2023, Sfax, Tunisie

**2<sup>ème</sup> Jour**  
Matin de 9h-13h  
Session 5 : Épilepsies épileptiques

9.00-9.30	Concept et classification des épilepsies épileptiques	Chahnez Triki (Sfax)
9.30-10.00	Epilepsies avec décharge épileptique	Mehrez Ben Ayed (Sfax)
10.00-10.30	Pathways EEG dans les épilepsies néonatales et de l'enfance	Rim Khouas (Sfax)
10.30-11.00	Pathways EEG dans les épilepsies de l'adulte et l'adolescent	Fatma Khouas (Sfax)
11.00-11.30	Pause-café	
11.30-12.00	Session 6 : Chirurgie de l'épilepsie	
11.30-12.00	Région cingulaire : comment mettre en place en région FMI	K. Khachachi (Sfax)
12.00-12.30	Indications et techniques de l'ablation épileptique	Georg Dachtler (Saxony)
12.30-13.00	Région parietale en région FMI	Fatma Khouas (Sfax)
13.00-13.30	Chirurgie des malformations corticales	Georg Dachtler (Saxony)
13.30-14.00	Déjeuner	
14.00-14.30	Session 7 : Cas cliniques d'épilepsie	
14.00-14.30	Cas interactif 5	Offa Jelloul (Sfax)
14.30-14.40	Cas interactif 6	Salma Zouari (Sfax)
14.40-14.50	Cas interactif 7 : Faut-il opérer ?	Imen Chaoui (Sfax)
14.50-15.00	Cas interactif 8	Georg Dachtler (Saxony)
15.00-15.30	Cas interactif 9 : Quand ça tombe devant les yeux	Wafa Bouachane (Sfax)
15.30-16.00	Culture de cours	

**ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean Course on Epilepsy in Sfax**  
54 doctors and scientists attended, including ten from Algeria  
15-16 December 2023



**AirFit Project**  
Impact of climate change on epilepsy



## YES EGYPT:



**YES members in Egypt hosted the first YES Egypt booth at the 12th Annual Conference of Neurology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Mansoura University from 1-3 November 2023 with attendance and participation of professors of the Egyptian Chapter of ILAE and the Egyptian clinical neurophysiology society.**



## YES IRAQ:

**The team has been officially established since October 2023.**

**Active participation at the 1st Iraq Epilepsy Congress  
"1-2 December 2023"**



Iraq YES Team got an award for their participation at the conference, Dr abas N. Sidiq got the Award on behalf of other members.



## YES EGYPT:



The team has been officially established since March 2023

### Recent activities in Last six months:

\*Educational activities in collaboration with Egyptian Medical Syndicate

**PEDIATRIC EPILEPSY PUZZLE**  
Friday 6 October 2023 (9AM)  
At : Egyptian Medical Syndicate  
Full Registration with Coffee Break

**Topic :**

- Epilepsy and seizure types in neonates and children
- Pediatric epilepsy syndromes in a glimpse
- Not every paroxysmal event is a seizure (seizure mimics)
- Management of epilepsy; it's far beyond anti-seizure medications
- Behavioral comorbidities in pediatric epilepsy
- Value of EEG in pediatric epilepsy
- MRI in pediatric epilepsy; is it really normal?
- Ketogenic diet in epilepsy
- Epilepsy surgery

**Speakers:**

- Dr. Ahmed Elkeiey** - Pediatric neurologist and epileptologist
- Dr. Mohamed Elkeiey** - Professor of Pediatric neurology Al-Azhar university
- Dr. Ahmed Saeed** - Pediatric neurologist and epileptologist
- Dr. Alshaimaa Shaban** - Lecturer of adult neurology Cairo university
- Dr. Hesham Nafea** - Clinical neurophysiologist Cairo university
- Dr. Ahmed Nassar** - Pediatric neurologist and epileptologist
- Dr. Micheal Samir** - Neurosurgeon

**Organizers:**

- Chair of CME committee: Prof. Osama Mahmoud
- Scientific Coordinator: Dr. Karim Salem
- Co-Chair of CME committee: Dr. Khaled Amin

**Contact:** 01091911629

## YES TUNISIA:



The team has been officially established since November 2023



Active participation at the ILAE-EMR regional Epilepsy course in Tunisia  
"15-16 December 2023"



Report submitted by Ghaieb Aljandeel