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)

*Epileptic EEG patterns recognition through machine learning techniques and relevant time–frequency features,* *De Gruyter* (2023)
Sahbi Chaibi, Chahira Mahjoub, Wadah Ayadi, Abdennaceur Kachouri
Cutaneous adverse effects of antiepileptic drugs, *Therapies* (2023)

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

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


Achraf Djemal, Dhouha Bouchaala, Ahmed Fakhfakh, Olfa Kanoun

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

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

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)

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

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

*Trace Elements and Epilepsy*, Nutritional Neurosciences (2023)
Abdelaati El Khiat, 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
African Brain Week
February 2023

2nd Nurse Educational Session in Epilepsy

Telemedicine activities in different parts of rural areas in Morocco and Africa
International Epilepsy Day in Sfax
Training for parents of children with epilepsy, games and workshops for children with epilepsy
13 February 2023
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

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