



Mental Health in Conflict - Palestine

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Background

- War and organized violence cause and amplify psychosocial stressors, which have been shown to negatively affect people's mental health
- There is a **lack of systematic mental health research** conducted in war affected settings, due to capacity and resource issues
- This WS aims to **build interdisciplinary research capacity** for mental health in *Palestine, Lebanon* and the *UK* based on **long-standing partnerships** between researchers and health professionals and policy makers.



Deliverables Year 1: Completed



- **Training needs assessment**
(March-April)
 - Report completed and published
- **Certified Summer Course in**
“Research Methods for Mental Health in War and Conflict”
 - Development (Jan -June)
 - Delivery of intensive certified summer course with 30 persons trained (July)
 - Course evaluation (September)



Deliverables Year 1: Completed



- **MRC Grant application** submitted: *“Life course study of the impact of conflict on mental health in the occupied Palestinian territory, with a focus on adolescents”* (November)
- **Publication:** Collier, J., & Kienzler, H. (2018). Barriers to cardiovascular disease secondary prevention care in the West Bank, Palestine—a health professional perspective. *Conflict and Health*, 12(1), 27.
- **Research and training meetings at BZU and KCL:**
 - Weeam for course development at KCL (June)
 - Brad and Preeti for grant development at BZU (Oct)
 - Alessandro for literature review & capacity building at BZU (Dec)
 - Hanna for research and online course development at BZU (Sept-Dec)



Deliverables Year 1: ongoing



- **Publications**

1. Tamimi, N. et al. “Capacity Building in Research Methods for Mental Health in War and Conflict: Needs Assessment and Training Course Development in the Occupied Palestinian Territory”
2. Massazza, A. et al. “Uncertainty and Mental Health: An Interdisciplinary and Systematic Review of the Literature”

- **Online course development:** “Research Methods for Mental Health in War and Conflict”

- Literature review: online learning in development/humanitarian settings
- “Manual - Designing an Online Course for Research Methods for Mental Health in War and Conflict (MOOC)”



Year 2



Capacity building:

- **Cohort training:** 4 successive qualitative and quantitative research methods workshops (Jan, Feb, Aug, Sept)
- **Online Course** “Research Methods for Mental Health in War and Conflict” for researchers and mental health practitioners in Gaza
 - Development (January – July) / Trial (August) / Delivery (October)
- **Capacity strengthening programme:** “*Training on the job*” (postdocs /research assistants)

Research

- Systematic literature review on uncertainty and mental health
- Qualitative research exploring uncertainty and mental health to develop a new metric

Outcomes and Outputs

- Submission of manuscripts to academic journals
- Strengthening collaborations to expand/ develop research schemes





Years 3-4

- Training new cohort through blended learning approach
- Developing relevant metric for uncertainty & mental health
- Piloting and validating uncertainty & mental health metric
- Using uncertainty & mental health metric in statistical survey
- Writing and submitting papers for publication
- Expanding and strengthening research collaborations
- Continuing capacity building of postdoctoral staff and research assistants

