

## **R4HC-MENA**

Mental Health in Conflict  
BZU-KCL

Rita Giacaman, Hanna Kienzler, Weeam Hammoudeh, Nancy Tamimi

### **Progress Update** (since September 2020)

#### **Capacity Building**

- Our online FutureLearn course “Qualitative Research Methods for Mental Health in War and Conflict” is currently running for a 2<sup>nd</sup> time from 9 November – 13 December. There are 36 participants from the MENA region.
- Online course material is currently translated into Arabic. Once finalised, the documents will be uploaded to the course run.
- Hanna Kienzler met with David Avery from Future Learn to discuss the sustainability of the online course. The course will be fully open in 2021. While participants can access the material for free, they will need to pass tests and pay around £35 for the certificate (we are in discussion about geo-pricing with KCL).
- Rita Giacaman gave a lecture about initial findings of the research on uncertainty during COVID19 in Palestine to students on the Human Rights Masters Degree at BZU.

#### **Research**

- Qualitative research on the effects of uncertainty during COVID19 in Palestine has been concluded. Data are currently analysed in order to be written up as journal article.
- Qualitative data on the impact on uncertainty on mental health (research conducted before the COVID19 pandemic) are currently being analysed in order to be written up as journal article.
- Palliative Care and Mental Health study has received ethical approval from both BZU and KCL Research Ethics Boards. The project will be launched in January 2021.
- Collection of survey data from our online course “Qualitative Research Methods for Mental Health in War and Conflict” is under way.

#### **Journal article publications**

*Submitted and under review*

Tamimi, N., Kienzler, H., Hammoudeh, W., & Giacaman, R. (2020). Capacity Strengthening: Development and Evaluation of the Training Course ‘Research Methods for Mental Health in War and Conflict’. *International Journal of Training and Development*.

Tamimi, N., Kienzler, H., Hammoudeh, W., & Giacaman, R. (2020). ‘Qualitative Research Methods for Mental Health in War and Conflict’: The Development and Implementation of a Locally Responsive Online Learning Initiative for Researchers and Practitioners in the Gaza Strip. *Global Mental Health*.

### *In preparation*

Massazza, A., Kienzler, H., Mitwalli, S., Tamimi, N., & Giacaman, R. (2020). The Association between Uncertainty and Mental Health: A Scoping Review of the Quantitative Literature”

### **Conferences and meetings**

- Abstract submission: Tamimi, N., Kienzler, H., Hammoudeh, W., & Giacaman, R. Capacity building in Research Methods for Mental Health in War and Conflict: Training Course Development and Evaluation in the occupied Palestinian territory.” Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) virtual conference 12-14 March 2021.
- Hanna Kienzler initiated a collaboration with the Dahdaleh Institute for Global Health Research and organised a workshop on Global Health and Humanitarianism. Members and affiliates from R4HC-MENA included Abdulkarim (Karim) Ekzayez and Fawzia Fall. The plan is to expand the collaboration and organise a larger workshop/conference in 2021.

### **Outreach**

[كورونا وفلسطين... مجهولية الحاضر والمستقبل: تأملات من الواقع الفلسطيني المعاش في الضفة الغربية](#)

Blog piece by Halawi, Hala, Mitwalli, Suzan & Hammoudeh, Weeam published on the Birzeit University Blog about “Corona and Palestine... Uncertainty of the future: Reflections on the Palestinian situation in the West Bank.”

[مجهولية الحاضر والمستقبل: تأملات من واقع كورونا في الضفة الغربية](#)

Blog piece by Halawi, Hala, Mitwalli, Suzan & Hammoudeh, Weeam published by the Institute for Palestine Studies about “Uncertainty of the present and the future: Reflections on the Corona virus situation in the West Bank.”