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Thesis Title	Serum Thymidine Kinase-1 Concentrations, Prostatic Specific Antigen (PSA) and PSA-Associated markers in Diagnosis and prognosis of Prostatic Tumor: A Comparative and Follow up Study			
Year	2021		CD: 1302	
Abstract	<p>Back ground: Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) and prostate cancer (Pca) both involve enlargement of the prostate. prostate cancer is the second most prevalent cancer in men globally. It has been reported that the majority of men will develop benign prostatic hyperplasia by the time they reach their 60s. There is a real problem in distinguishing between Benign prostatic hyperplasia and prostate cancer, as the prostatic specific antigen (PSA) fails to be considered as an accurate prostate cancer marker. It is prostate tissue specific and not prostate cancer specific biomarker test.</p> <p>Objectives: The aims of the present study were to 1) measurement of serum levels and diagnostic efficiency of serum PSA-associated biomarkers and thymidine kinase 1 in diagnosis and differentiation of prostatic tumor; benign prostatic hypertrophy and prostatic carcinoma, 2) apply of these biochemical markers in studying of gray zone of tPSA (4-0 ng/ml) and differentiate the underlying cause of prostate tumor in order to reduce the unpleasant and invasive prostate biopsy, 3) usefulness of these biochemical markers in prognosis of PCa after therapeutically treatment, and 4) study the relationship of these biomarkers with the results of prostate biopsy method [Gleason score (GS)] and cancer stages.</p> <p>Materials and Methods: A cross sectional and case control study was carried out at Biochemistry Department, College of Medicine, University of Baghdad and at Surgical Urology department, Ghazi Al-Hariri Hospital for Specialized Surgery/ Medical Teaching City, during the period from tenth of September 2019 to twentieth of March 2020. It included 110 patients ages range (45-81 years) with benign prostatic hyperplasia (n=55) and prostate cancer (n=55). Forty - five apparently healthy subjects were also included as controls. Peripheral blood samples from controls and patients were collected before obtaining a prostatic biopsy from patients. Serum samples were used for measurements of total Prostate Specific Antigen (tPSA), Free Prostate Specific Antigen (fPSA), Thymidine Kinase 1 enzyme (TK1) and Dihydrotestosterone (DHT) by using ELISA technique. Prostatic Specific Antigen Density (PSAD) and PSA- age –volume (PSA-AV) were also calculated. Gleason score (GS) of prostate biopsy was obtained for each PCa patient and classified as clinically advanced GS > 6 and less advanced < 6. Twenty-five patients with prostate cancer were followed for 6 weeks</p>			

of treatment with Zoladex therapy and second samples of blood were collected and the separated serum samples were used for measurements of the same studied biochemical markers in order to study their prognostic efficiency.

Result: The mean (\pm SD) values of serum tPSA and fPSA levels in Pca were increased significantly compared to each of BPH and controls (for all, $p=0.001$), while the mean value of fPSA/tPSA was significantly decreased in PCa in comparison with those of BPH and controls ($p=0.001$). These parameters did not differ significantly between BPH and controls. The mean value of PSAD was significantly increased in Pca than in BPH ($P < 0.001$). Area under curve (AUC) and the calculated Reservoir operator curve (ROC) revealed that tPSA at cut-off 10.1ng/ml has AUC=0.85 in differentiation between PCa and BPH, while TK1 has AUC=1 at cut-off 924 pg/ml in such differentiation. The number and percentage of PBH of the involved studied patients who had tPSA in gray zone (4-10 ng/ml) was 53 (73%) and that of PCa was 16 (22%) reflecting that the major patients with gray zone of tPSA are those with BHT. The results revealed that serum TK1 has the more sensitive and specific diagnostic and differentiating efficiency between PCa and BPH who have had tPSA in gray zone with AUC=1 at cut=off 924 pg/ml. The AUC values of tPSA (AUC=0.51), fPSA (AUC=0.70), fPSA/tPSA (AUC=0.73), PSAD (AUC=0.91), PSA-AV (AUC=0.90), DHT (AUC=0.76) in such differentiation. Serum level of fPSA was the only biochemical marker of the measured ones which differentiates between high and low clinically grad of GS ($p < 0.024$). Serum levels of tPSA, fPSA and TK1 have the highest prognostic efficiency in follow up of Zoladex therapy treatment in PCa patients, however the cut-off value of free and total PSA are very high (26.4 ng/ml, 4.50 ng/ml, respectively).

Conclusion: Serum tPSA level in screening of prostate tumor is 4.2 ng/ml while that in differentiating PCa and BPH is 10.1 ng/ml. serum level of TK1 was superior of tPSA in screening of prostate tumor and differentiating of it (for all, AUC=1). Serum TK1 level at cut-off value 924 pg/ml has the highest diagnostic and differentiating utility between PCa and BPH in this zone with AUC=1 compared with that (AUC=0.51) of tPSA and (AUC=0.71) of fPSA. Applying of noninvasive blood biochemical test in differentiating of prostate tumor in gray zone will decrease the needing for invasive unpleasant prostate biopsy. Serum fPSA level has the best differentiating efficiency between high grad GS value (> 6) and low grad GS value (< 6) of PCa.

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Thesis Title	Adult acute myeloid leukemia patients with R882H mutation in DNMT3A gene: frequency and clinicopathological features			
Year	2021		CD: 1303	
Abstract	<p>Background: Acute myeloid leukemia (AML) is heterogeneous disease result from clonal transformation in the precursor hematopoietic cells in the bone marrow. AML characterized by uncontrolled proliferations, loss of normal differentiation of the immature cells into normal mature cells, which lead to accumulation of abnormal precursors in the bone marrow (BM) and might exploit into the peripheral blood (PB) reaching into different tissues in the body. Various cytogenetic and molecular changes participate in the development and progression of AML. It is important to focus on these alterations for diagnosis, risk stratification, choice of appropriate treatments, monitoring of minimal residual disease (MRD). De novo methyltransferase 3 alpha (DNMT3A) gene that coded for DNA methyletransferase enzyme, (DNMT3A) is a member of DNMTS family that involved in DNA methylation an important epigenetic process. The alteration in epigenetics not include changes in the DNA sequences although these alterations involved in pathogenesis and progression of AML disease. Different types of mutations in DNMT3A gene with incidence of 18-20% in all AML, but two third mutations are missense mutations at codon R882, and R882H mutation represents two third R882 mutations that resulted from G to A transition with consequence substitution of histidine instead of arginine. Mutations of DNMT3A gene in AML associated with increased age, higher WBC and blast percentage and M4, M5 subtypes of AML, unfavorable prognostic impact.</p> <p>Some studies reported that DNMT3A mutations are pre –leukemic and persisted during the disease evolution so patients with these mutations tend to resist the induction chemotherapy and relapse.</p> <p>Objective: of the Study This study designed to show; the frequency and association of R882H mutation in the DNMT3A gene with different clinicopathological features and the effect of this mutation on response to the induction chemotherapy in Iraqi adult newly diagnosed de novo AML patients.</p> <p>Patients, Materials and Methods: Fifty-two newly diagnosed de novo Iraqi adult (>15 years) non-M3 AML patients enrolled in this study from</p>			

National Center of Hematology in Baghdad Teaching Hospital of Medical City from 2nd of November 2019 till 12th of March 2020. The diagnosis of AML was done in National Teaching laboratories of Medical City, when complete blood count (CBC), blood films, bone marrow smears and the immunophenotyping of peripheral blood and or bone marrow aspirates examined by hematopathology specialists. Two ml of peripheral blood collected in EDTAk3 tubes and stored at - 20 °C until the DNA extraction was done. DNA extracted by using (WizPrep™ gDNA Mini Kit (Blood), Korea) and stored at -80°C until the time of testing in the National Teaching Laboratories of Medical City in Baghdad.

For detection of DNMT3A R882H mutation Allele specific real time PCR technology used in a private laboratory in Baghdad followed by sequencing analysis was done in (Macrogen Company, Korea) for nine samples to show the concordance between the two methods. To amplify the target region in DNMT3A gene, which included the mutational hot spot (R882H), tetra-designed primers supplied by (Macrogen Company, Korea) were used and for sequencing technique, the outer primers only were used.

Results: The frequency of R882H DNMT3A mutation in the studied non M3 newly diagnosed de novo Iraqi AML patients was (5/52, 9.6%). There was insignificant higher mean age (54 ± 22.3) in patients with R882H mutation than mean age (45.3 ± 19) of patients without R882H mutation (p-value = 0.582) with insignificant tendency of male predominance (3 out of 5) patients positive for R882H mutation with (p value >0.05). Non-significant association between FAB distributions in relation to R882H mutation (p-value= 0.774). Mean of WBC count in R882H mutation positive patients was significantly higher than the mean of WBC in patients negative for R882H mutation (p-value = 0.03) and insignificant difference between means of (Hemoglobin, absolute neutrophil count, platelet count, peripheral blood and bone marrow blast percentages) with p-values >0.05. There might be insignificant tendency of having hepatosplenomegaly in (3/5) patients with R882H mutation with p-value=0.095. Insignificant unfavorable response to induction therapy in patients (4/5) with R882H mutation with p-value = 0.712.

Conclusions: R882H DNMT3A mutation was frequent in newly diagnosed de novo Iraqi AML patients, significantly associated with higher total WBC count and insignificantly might be tend to associate with older age, male gender, higher BM blast percentage and monocytic AML subgroups, the effect of positivity of R882H DNMT3A mutation on response to treatment was insignificant but might be unfavorable in this study. The using of the rapid, simple (allele-specific real-time PCR) method in this study for detection of R882H mutation in DNMT3A gene in AML patients displayed a concordance with sequencing technique, which is not available easily in the Iraqi laboratories until now.

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Thesis Title	Knowledge, Attitude and Practices of Mothers Regarding Food Safety and its Association with Occurrence of Diarrhea and Weight Status of their Children /Baghdad: 2020.			
Year	2021		CD: 1305	
Abstract	<p>Introduction: Foodborne disease is one of the world's most common health problems. children are more prone for it than adults. The responsibility of mother is to guarantee food safety at the household, so evaluation her conception on food safety is necessary to minimize foodborne outbreaks</p> <p>Objectives of the study: 1. To measure level of knowledge, attitude, and practice of food safety among mothers and find out if it has association with occurrence of diarrhea and weight status of their children. 2. To find out any association between mother characteristics and her knowledge, attitude, and practice on food safety and child characteristics with their weight and occurrence of diarrhea.</p> <p>Subject and methods: A cross-sectional study conducted in three Primary Health Care Centers in Baghdad Al-Rusafa Health Directorate in the period from the 2 nd of july to the end of october 2020, 500 mothers and children were enrolled in the study.</p> <p>Results: The food safety knowledge score among participants mothers was 8 ± 1.868 over 11, attitude score was 15.43 ± 3.118 over 20, and practice score was 27.85 ± 5.184 over 40</p> <p>conclusion: Studied mothers had high Knowledge level, positive attitude and fair practice on food safety, there was a significant association between mother low knowledge, negative attitude and poor practice on food safety and diarrhea in children, and between poor practice and child underweight.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Internet Addiction Among High School Student in Baghdad City			
Year	2021		CD: 1309	
Abstract	<p>Background: The escalating need for the Internet, whether positively or negatively, is becoming a significant concern worldwide; many factors make them very attractive to both young and old. Internet addiction is classified as a compulsive-control disorder. It is also considered as non-substance misuse and behavioural addictions.</p> <p>Objectives: To assess the prevalence of internet addiction among high school students and to examine if internet addiction is associated with socio demographic factors, academic performance, internet activities and parental factors.</p> <p>Method: 526 students were collected by convenient sampling method from high schools in Baghdad city. A self-administrated internet addiction test and a questionnaire form were developed by researcher to enquire about the socio demographic factors in students of 6 high schools in Baghdad city during the period between November 2020 and February 2021.</p> <p>Results: The prevalence of internet addiction among the students was 45.82%, 13.3 % of the students were mildly internet-addicted, 23.4 % were moderately addicted and 9.1 % were severely addicted and was significantly lower in females than males (38.0% vs 57.3%). The prevalence of Internet addiction was significantly higher in Al-Rusafa district, students with chronic illness, students with separated parents, low father and mother educational level and 6th grade high school students. the prevalence of Internet addiction was significantly lower in students with higher academic performance, using Internet for browsing, studying and both parents alive.</p> <p>Conclusions: There is high internet addiction prevalence among high school students in Baghdad city, mainly in males with lower academic performance, separated parents and low educational level of parents.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Serum Preptin Level in Iraqi Beta Thalassemic Major Patient			
Year	2021		CD: 1311	
Abstract	<p>Background: Beta thalassemia syndromes are a set of hereditary blood disorders marked by a deficiency of beta-globin chain synthesis, result in decrease hemoglobin in red blood cells, anemia, and a reduced RBC production. Iron overload is a common finding in chronically transfused beta thalassemia major patients with possible effect on beta cell function and secretion. The most applicable laboratory test for estimating body iron stores is ferritin. Preptin, an oligopeptide secreted by pancreatic beta-cells, is involved in glycometabolism and bone metabolism; preptin plays a role in osteoporosis pathogenesis, most likely by bone development rather than bone resorption. It has effect on bone anabolism by increasing osteoblast replication while decreasing apoptosis. This study aimed to assess preptin level in the serum in beta major thalassemic patients through: • Measure the level of serum preptin in thalassemic and non-thalassemic group. • Found the correlation of serum preptin with the studied parameters (ferritin, insulin, PO4 -2 , Ca+2) • Investigate the relationship between circulating preptin and development of osteoporosis, which is main complication of thalassemia major.</p> <p>Material and methods: A case-control study that was performed in Ibn Albaladi Hospital during the period from 1st of September 2020 to the end of January 2021. It included 48 beta thalassemia major patients and 36 subject as healthy control. Information was taken from each subject including age, diseases regarding Subjects with any. cardiovascular diseases, liver diseases, kidney diseases, bone disease, diabetes mellitus, as well as patients less than 18 years were excluded in this study. The biomarkers studied were: fasting serum preptin, insulin, ferritin, liver enzymes, creatinine, calcium and phosphate and then Serum preptin and insulin were measured by ELISA technique. But serum ferritin, AST, ALT, creatinine and calcium ions were measured by Beckman UA analyzer while phosphate ions were measured by cobas c system.</p> <p>Results: There is significant decrease in serum Preptin, Insulin, Creatinine and body mass index in patients group as compared to control group, while for the other variables ALT, AST, Ca+2, PO4 -2 and Ferritin mean values in</p>			

	patients group were higher than control group. There was a significant positive correlation between preptin and insulin $P=0.05$, $r=0.11$; and no significant negative correlation between ferritin and insulin $P>0.05$, $r=0.08$.
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Conclusion:

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The significant decrease of serum preptin level in patient with thalassemia major. And due to the effect of preptin hormone on bone anabolism and bone mineral density, it may have an important role in the development of osteoporosis as one of complications associated with beta thalassemia.• Preptin hormone can be used as a screening biomarker for assessment of osteoporosis. |
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Thesis Title	Rifampicin Induced Chemical Synovectomy in Iraqi Hemophilic Patients			
Year	2021		CD: 1312	
Abstract	<p>BACKGROUD: Chronic synovitis is one of the most important complications in haemophilic patients. Rifampicin is an antibiotic which its intra-articular injection leads to destruction of the synovial membrane of haemophilic patients medically.</p> <p>OBJECTIVES: The current study was preformed to assess the effectiveness of chemical synovectomy with rifampicin in Iraqi hemophilic arthropathy patients in reducing hemarithrosis and improve clinical symptoms.</p> <p>METHOD: Between September 2019 and May 2020 the study treated 55 patients with hemophilic arthropathy by synoviorthesis with rifampicin (500 mg with 7–10 mL normal saline for knee joint and 250 mg with 3–5 mL normal saline for elbow joint) once a week for total 5 weeks. Clinical status (bleeding frequency, pain, joint physical status) and radiological staging was evaluated as parts of the WFH scoring system before and after rifampicin synovecomy.</p> <p>RESULTS: After synovectomy the number of bleeding episodes and pain showed especially significant improvement. For the World Federation of Hemophilia physical examination score (gilbert score), there was a highly significant improvement in physical finding (swelling, muscle atrophy, deformity of knee, range of motion, flexion contracture and instability), the total mean decrease from (8.2±2.9 to 3.3±1.6) (p < 0.05). According to the Fernandez-Palazzi classification, synoviorthesis was considered satisfactory (good) in 45 (70.3%) joints and unsatisfactory (fair) in 19 (29.7%) joints. There was a highly significant reduction in the ESR and C-reactive protein value in all the hemophilic patients (p < 0.05) after synovectomy.</p> <p>CONCLUSION: Rifampicin synovectomy is an effective, safe, economic and practical method in the management of hemophilic arthropathy.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Molecular Analysis of Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane Conductance Regulator (CFTR) Gene Mutations among a Sample of Iraqi Cystic Fibrosis Patients			
Year	2021		CD: 1313	
Abstract	<p>Background: Cystic fibrosis (CF) is an inherited autosomal recessive disorder that is distributed worldwide and most commonly in Caucasians of North Europe. All the body's exocrine glands are affected by CF but the major damage is in the pulmonary and gastrointestinal systems, due to the presence of abnormal thickened and viscid mucus. CF is caused by a mutation in the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR), where more than 2100 mutations and variants were detected to date, F508del being the most common CFTR gene mutation reported worldwide. The diagnosis is made from the combination of clinical features, sweat chloride test, biochemical tests, radiological tests, newborn screening and molecular diagnosis. In Iraq, CF is underestimated and there are no official records about incidence and impact of CF. Unavailability of newborn screening and molecular genetic testing made early recognition and confirmation of the disease more difficult.</p> <p>Aims of the study: To determine the types and frequencies of certain CFTR mutations among a group of clinically diagnosed Iraqi cystic fibrosis patients, assess the zygosity status and allelic forms in these cases, and to determine the genotype-phenotype correlation of the detected mutations.</p> <p>Patients and Methods: Thirty-one patients with a clinical diagnosis of cystic fibrosis were recruited to this cross-sectional study mainly from the Pediatric Gastroenterology and Liver Diseases Consultation Clinic and In-patients Wards at The Children Welfare Hospital / Medical City in Baghdad during a one-year period extending between November 2019 and November 2020. The clinical diagnosis of cystic fibrosis was made by the pediatricians according to the diagnostic criteria (clinical presenting symptoms and signs, physical examination and the result of sweat chloride test and supporting biochemical results). Peripheral blood samples were collected from 25 patients. Molecular analysis was performed by Multiplex PCR amplification and reverse hybridization using the kit (Common CF-StripAssay, Vienna Labs Diagnostics GmbH– Austria), that covers 34 mutations and 3 polymorphic variants in the CFTR gene allocated on 2 strips.</p>			

Results: There was a slight male predominance (1.38:1), most patients [30(97%) cases] presented during the first year of life, with majority [27(87%)] born to two consanguineous parents, and presenting with typical combined respiratory and GI manifestations. All 31(100%) had elevated sweat chloride test and the majority have disturbed liver functions. Molecular analysis revealed the presence of 3 mutations in 5(20%) patients in addition to IVS8 variants (5T, 7T, and 9T) in 15(60%) patients. The detected mutations in this study included: F508del (exon 10) mutation as seen in 2 (8%) patients, W1282X (exon 20) mutation in 2 (8%) patients and R1162X (exon 19) mutation in 1 (4%) patient only. All the detected mutations of the 5 cases were in homozygous state and they all presented with typical combined pulmonary and GI manifestations. The IVS8 polymorphic variants in intron 8 were detected in 15(60%) cases; 11(44%) cases had IVS8 7T/7T homozygous variant, two (8%) cases had IVS8 7T/9T heterozygous variant, 1(4%) case had IVS8 9T/9T homozygous variant, and the remaining 1(4%) case had a heterozygous IVS8 5T/7T variant.

Conclusions: The mutation detection rate of this kit in the current study was 20%, detecting 3 out of 34 mutations. The mutations detected were F508del, W1282X, and R1162X, almost similar to some Arab and Middle Eastern countries; the detected mutations had good correlation with their respective phenotypes. R1162X mutation was only reported in Iraq and Egypt. There is a real need for extensive genotyping of CFTR in Iraq to enable faster and more accurate diagnosis, especially when clinical/sweat chloride test findings were equivocal as well as it helps in prenatal diagnosis of affected CF families.

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Thesis Title	The Effect of Carbamazepine and Valproic Acid on Thyroid Hormone Levels in Epileptic patients			
Year	2021		CD: 1316	
Abstract	<p>Background: patients with epilepsy need long term antiepileptic drugs, several studies found that antiepileptic drugs had effect on endocrine function including thyroid gland.</p> <p>Aim of the study: to evaluate thyroid function test in epileptic patients who were treated by either valproic acid or carbamazepine.</p> <p>Patient and method: a cross sectional study conducted at Baghdad teaching hospital including 75 patients with epilepsy who uses either carbamazepine or valproic acid as mono-antiepileptic drug. While patients using other antiepileptic drugs and patients with thyroid disease were excluded from the sample. The epidemiological data included; type of epilepsy (focal, generalized, secondary generalization), duration of the disease, type of treatment, duration of treatment, dosage of treatment were included, thyroid hormone level (TSH), thyroxin level (T4), tri-iodo-thyronine (T3), drugs level were measured.</p> <p>Results: there was insignificant correlations between the duration of AED use and thyroid function level in the study group. The only correlation observed between serum AED levels and thyroid function result was decreased serum T4 level was associated with increase carbamazepine blood level.</p> <p>Conclusion: In our study we find that a significant differences in T4 level in patients receiving valproic acid as monotherapy than in patients whose using carbamazepine while no significant differences in TSH level between the studied groups.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Body Weight Perception and Weight Control Behaviors Among Adult Females in Basrah City			
Year	2021		CD: 1317	
Abstract	<p>Body weight and its perception are important aspects of health and constitute a significant role in physical and mental well-being. This is cross-sectional study conducted during the period from the 2nd of January to the 1st of December 2020 on a sample of adult females who were attending primary health care centers in Basrah city. It aimed to estimate the prevalence of body weight misperception among adult females in Basrah city and weight control behaviors that used by them. 443 females were asked to participate in the study ,400 of them agreed and completed the interview, the remaining 43 disagreed to participate in the study or not completed the interview. The researcher designed and used an interview questionnaire, all females who were included in the study were interviewed, then weights and heights were measured by the researcher herself. The study results showed that about half of participant misperceived their body weight 211(52.7%). The association between body weight misperception and age was significant. The association was also significant between self-perception of body weight and the actual weight status according to BMI. The results showed that 141(35.3%) of the sample underestimated their weights and 70(17.5%) overestimated them, type of misperception (over and underestimation) is significantly associated with the actual weight according to BMI. The most common action for weight control performed by all of the participants was trying to lose weight 159(39.8%). Weight control action is significantly associated with actual weight according to BMI and with weight perception. The most common motivator to control weight was looking better 159(39.8%), the motivator is significantly associated with weight perception. More than third of the sample followed unhealthy ways for weight control 158(39.5%), while 110(27.5%) followed healthy ones. WCBs is significantly associated with weight perception accuracy. More than a half of studied population experienced pressure to be at certain weight, media was the most common source of pressure.</p> <p>Objective of the study: To study the distribution of weight misperception and to assess the intentions of weight management behaviors in the adult females of Basra city.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Rate and Risk Factors of Urinary Tract Infection in a Sample of School Age Children Attending Al Imamain Kadhimain Medical City/ 2020			
Year	2021		CD: 1325	
Abstract	<p><u>Background:</u> Urinary tract infection is considered an important risk factor for the development of renal insufficiency or end-stage renal disease. Children have a wide variety of clinical presentation, ranging from the asymptomatic presence of bacteria in the urine to potentially life-threatening infection of the kidney.</p> <p><u>Objective:</u> To measure the rate of urinary tract infection, and to detect bacteriuria in school going children whether symptomatic or not also to identify the type of bacteria detected in urine and to identify the risk factors that may be associated with urinary tract infection in this age group.</p> <p><u>Methodology:</u> A cross-sectional study with analytic elements was conducted within five months in pediatric department of Al Imamain Kadhimain Medical city. A convenient sample of 300 children of school age (6-12) years old included, data were collected by direct interview with children and/or their caregiver using a questionnaire and measurement of weight and height, general urine examination and urine culture were done.</p> <p><u>Results:</u> Total study group included 300 children, 14.7% had positive urine culture of which 1.6% were of children without any symptoms, and E.coli being the most frequent detected organisms 65.9%.</p> <p><u>Conclusion:</u></p>			

	<p>The rate of urinary tract infection among school age children is relatively low, with significant predisposing risk factors like intake of carbonated beverages, holding back urine, not washing hands after toilet and using tight clothing.</p>
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Thesis Title	Risk Factors of Stillbirth in AL-Yarmouk and AL-Imamin AL-Kadhimin Hospitals in Al-karkh/Baghdad A Case Control Study 2021			
Year	2021		CD: 1327	
Abstract	<p>Background: Stillbirth is defined as the fetal death in utero after the completion of 28 weeks of gestation. There are many risk factors for stillbirth; these could be maternal, fetal, placental, cord, and intrapartum risk factors. Diagnosis done by history, clinical examination, and ultrasound examination. Management is either by watchful expectancy or by induction of labor or CS.</p> <p>Objective: To know the association between maternal and fetal risk factors and the occurrence of stillbirth in AL-Yarmouk and AL-Imamin AL-Kadhimin Hospitals in Al-karkh/Baghdad 2021.</p> <p>Study design and setting: This case control study (1:2) was carried out in AL-Yarmouk and AL-Imamin AL-Kadhimin Hospitals in Al-karkh/Baghdad from 1st of February to 30th of June 2021. Analysis of a total number of (354) women with singleton pregnancies and a gestational age of 28 weeks or more. Both primiparas and multiparas were included in this study, and all were selected randomly from labor room. They were divided into two groups, 236 of them were considered as control group (pregnant women with gestational age of 28 weeks or more with viable fetus), and the rest (118) were regarded as the cases which includes pregnant women with a gestational age of 28 weeks or more who had intrauterine death. Both groups subjected to the same questionnaires including age, parity, blood group and Rh, and other risk factors.</p> <p>Results: Maternal and fetal risk factors which include high maternal age, high parity, DM, hypertension, antepartum hemorrhage, poor antenatal care, low socioeconomic state, low educational level, low fetal birth weight, preterm baby and fetal congenital anomalies associated with high stillbirth risk.</p> <p>Keywords: Stillbirth, Intrauterine death, Parity.</p> <p>Conclusion: The risk of stillbirth is substantially elevated among high maternal age, high parity groups, and fetal congenital anomalies this influence by other risk factors. Care providers may consider these groups for targeted periconceptional counseling.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Assessment of dose volume histogram statistics using three-dimensional conformal radiotherapy Technique in head and neck versus pelvic malignancies			
Year	2021		CD: 1328	
Abstract	<p>Background: Patients with head and neck cancers and pelvic cancers are often treated with external beam radiation therapy as definitive and adjuvant treatment, dose volume histogram is the best tool for plan evaluation in three Dimensional conformal Radiotherapy to assess target volume coverage and doses to organ at risks, the optimization of a treatment plan has to be evaluated not only in terms of dose distribution to achieve the optimal planning target volume coverage, but also in terms of reducing radiation doses to organ at risks for better sparing from radiotherapy toxicity . Aim of study: To compare the actual planning target volume coverage by a prescribed dose of radiotherapy (for radical purpose) in head and neck versus pelvic malignancy, with analysis of dose volume histogram for organ at risks.</p> <p>Patients & Methods: This is a cross-sectional retrospective descriptive comparative study conducted at Baghdad nuclear medicine and radiation therapy center at the Medical City Complex, Baghdad, Iraq, during a period of four months from (Dec. 2020 to Apr. 2021). The total number of patients included in study was (82). 41 patients with Head and Neck Cancer and 41 patients with pelvic cancers.</p> <p>Results: The most common age group involved by head and neck cancers and pelvic cancers are the 5th and 6th decades of life, account 63.1 % for head and neck cancers and 53.4 % for pelvic cancers of studied patients, The tumor characteristics regarding sex, revealed male predominance for head and neck cancers where male patient account 61% while female 39% of studied patients. Cancer of larynx is the higher incidence cancer of head and neck, account 46.3% in studied patients, regarding gynecological cancers; uterine cancer is the higher incidence in studied patient account (78%) of (NO.=19). The dosimetric assessment in this study revealed that the planning target volume coverage in head and neck cancers at V90% isodose line and V95% isodose line by using three-dimensional conformal radiotherapy was superior for phase two than phase one and the difference is significant, p-value (<0.0001). The planning target volume coverage in</p>			

	<p>pelvic cancers at V95% isodose line was superior than that of head and neck cancers and the difference was significant, p-value (<0.0001). There is no significant difference between planning target volume coverage by 95% isodose line of phase one and phase two pelvic cancers, p value (0.1). Regarding organ at risks in head and neck cancers the Mean dose of Right parotid in 38/41 (92.7 %) of patients included in study is 3990.82 ± 1470.74 cGy, and left parotid mean dose in 36/41(87.8) is 3829.33 ± 1417.68 cGy. Mean dose of Spinal cord in 41(100 %) of patient included in study is 2247.92 ± 912.03cGy. Mean dose of Right cochleae in 38 (92.7 %) of patients included in study is 2452.87 ± 1596cGy and to Left cochleae in 36/41(87.8 %) is 2361.86 ± 1599.27. Mean dose of Right lens in 38/41 (92.7 %) of patients include in study is 87.92 ± 81.82cGy and Left lens in 38/41(92.7 %) is 82.95 ± 81.79.</p>
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Thesis Title	Three-Dimensional Echocardiography versus Two-Dimensional Echocardiography in the Assessment of Aortic Stenosis Valve Area			
Year	2021		CD: 1330	
Abstract	<p>Background: In patients with aortic valve stenosis, accurate measurement of aortic valve area is critical for clinical decision-making. So far, no studies have been conducted to investigate the role of three-dimensional echocardiography in the quantitative evaluation of AS.</p> <p>Aim of the study: To compare the reproducibility and accuracy of the measurement of aortic valve stenosis area, by two-dimensional echocardiography on the principle of continuity equation compared to three-dimensional echocardiography on the principle of left ventricular Stroke volume calculation.</p> <p>Patients and methods: AVA were calculated in a cross-sectional study using transthoracic echo-Doppler and continuity equation, as well as 3D and 3D/2D planimetry.</p> <p>Results: There were 31 patients with AS examined (16 men, mean (SD) age 64 (12) years). Analysis of correlation and absolute agreement revealed high agreement and minimal absolute differences in AVA across all planimetric methods: 3D versus 3D/2D: 0.914 (0.829–0.957); 2D vs 3D/2D: 0.746 (0.537–0.869). For AVA evaluation, the correlation coefficient r between 3D and 2D was 0.901 and 0.727, respectively. The intraobserver variability for all approaches was equal, while the interobserver variability for 3D techniques was higher than for 2D techniques (p, 0.036).</p> <p>Conclusion: The 3D/2D echo techniques for AVA planimetry agreed well with the traditional 2D methodology and flow-derived methods. When compared to 2D AVA on the principle of continuity equation, the 3D approach was at least as excellent as the 2D method and had greater repeatability. 3D aortic valve area is a non-invasive method that gives a quantitative evaluation of AS that is accurate and reliable.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Adverse Events Following Immunization of COVID-19 Vaccine in Baghdad / Al-Rusafa, 2021			
Year	2021		CD: 1331	
Abstract	<p>Background: Implementation of an effective preventive measure is the only option left to counteract COVID-19. The worldwide magnitude of the COVID-19 pandemic has made the development of vaccines unprecedented urgency. This urgent need has led to many different approaches in vaccine development considerations. COVID-19 vaccine may have some adverse events, which are normal signs that the body is building protection.</p> <p>Objectives: To identify the prevalence, types and potential attributed factors for the adverse effects of COVID-19 vaccines.</p> <p>Method: A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted in the Iraq / Baghdad / Al-Rusafa Directorate of Health (DOH) from the 7th of April to the 5th of August 2021. A total of 420 participants were enrolled in the study. The descriptive analysis focused on frequencies, and percentages while Chi-square and Fisher exact test were used to compare groups.</p> <p>Results: The most prevalent adverse events were injection site tenderness and joint pain /lethargy. There was a significant association between the adverse events, time of disappearance, and the type of vaccine, the highest percentage was associated with Pfizer BioNTech. The adverse events were significantly higher in females. There was a significant association between the first and second doses regarding the prevalence of injection site tenderness, joint pain, fever, and other adverse events.</p> <p>Conclusion: Most vaccinated people developed mild adverse events. Injection site tenderness was the most prevalent adverse events. The gender and type of vaccine significantly affected the development of the adverse events. The first dose was significantly associated with a higher percentage of adverse events.</p> <p>Keywords: COVID-19, vaccine, Adverse events, Iraq.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Serum Glucose 6 phosphate isomerase concentration as a diagnostic test in rheumatoid arthritis			
Year	2021		CD: 1332	
Abstract	<p>Background: Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) a chronic auto-immune disease, is characterized by inflammation that contributes to the deterioration of joints, bones, tendons and ligaments. Approximately more than 0.5–1% of the people across the world are affected by RA and associated musculoskeletal disorders as depicted by the statistics. Rheumatoid arthritis affects three folds more frequent in women than men. Glucose-6-phosphate isomerase, also known as phosphoglucose isomerase and phosphor hexose isomerase, catalyzes the interconversion of D-glucose-6-phosphate and D-fructose-6-phosphate, a step in glycolysis and gluconeogenesis. In addition to its enzymatic activity, G6PI acts as a cytokine and growth factor in a wide variety of extracellular processes. (G6PI) is one of the autoantigens against which RA patients develop autoantibodies that have been found to circulate in serum and in synovial fluid of these patients</p> <p>Objective: To evaluate serum concentration Glucose-6-phosphate isomerase (G6PI) in patients with early rheumatoid arthritis and its role in disease activity as well as it's associated with Anti-citrullinated peptide antibodies (ACPA) assessment to improve diagnosis of Rheumatoid arthritis (RA).</p> <p>Patients and Methods: This study was conducted at biochemistry department college medicine University of Bagdad and to Rheumatology unit Baghdad Teaching Hospital in the Medical City Bagdad, Iraq. during the period from December 2020 to March 2021, it included 60 Iraqi patients with rheumatoid arthritis (45 female and 15 male). Also included 28 apparently healthy individuals as controls (18 female and 10 male). About 6 ml of blood samples were obtained from veins of healthy control subjects and patients having rheumatoid arthritis participant in this study. Each blood samples divided into two parts:</p> <p>(A) The first part 2.5 ml of whole blood retained in EDTA tubes for measuring of erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR).</p> <p>(B) The second part 3.5 ml of blood were left for 30 min at room temperature allow samples to clot in plain tube. After coagulation, sera were separated by centrifugation at 3000 rpm for 10 minuts. and used for</p>			

measurements of CRP, RF, S.Cr, Urea, ALT and AST by automated method by using cobas c 111 analyzer and Abbott Architect C4000, and assayed Anti citrullinated peptide antibodies (ACPA) and. Glucose-6-phosphate isomerase Concentration (G6PI). by using enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) technique.

Results: Each biomarker (means \pm SD) is calculated, the results include several biomarkers and considers statically significant which include levels G6PI, ACPA, RF, CRP and ESR showed a highly significant difference in rheumatoid arthritis groups compared with the healthy control group, ($p \leq 0.001$). the study was found correlation between G6PI and age as ($r=0.33$ and $p \leq 0.008$) in rheumatoid arthritis patients. Also found positive correlation between G6PI and ACPI, ($r=0.34$ and $p \leq 0.008$) RF ($r=0.25$ and $p \leq 0.05$).and also a statistically significant positive correlation exists between G6PI and DAS28 in rheumatoid arthritis patients ($r= 74$ and $P > 0.005$) in this study.

Conclusions: In this study, there was significant difference in serum G6PI concentration, between patient and control group, with his sensitivity and specificity in differentiation between them. it seems to be a reliable marker for diagnosis of RA The increased expression of G6PI is highly correlated with the disease activity of RA.In this study, significant positive correlation between G6PI and ACPA.Combirtion of them to improve the diagnosis of RA.

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Thesis Title	The impact of Chronic Low Back Pain on quality of Life among Sample of Iraqi Patients: A cross- Sectional Study			
Year	2021		CD: 1333	
Abstract	<p>Background: Chronic pain has been defined as pain persisting more than three to six months. Low back pain and associated disabilities constitute a growing public health concern, especially in industrialized countries. Disability can be defined as a restriction or lack of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the normal range for a human being. It interferes with quality of life and work performance with subsequent burden on a family and community.</p> <p>Aim of study: This study aimed to assess the effect of pain intensity on quality of life among Iraqi patients with chronic low back pain and to examine the relation between socio-demographic characteristics with pain intensity and quality of life.</p> <p>Patients and Methods: A cross sectional study was conducted from September 2020 to January 2021 involving (100) participants conveniently selected in Rheumatological unit at Baghdad Teaching Hospital/Medical City, Iraq. Data were collected using a questionnaire that consists of the sociodemographic variables, short form 36 score [SF36] and numerical pain score, Statistical analysis was done using Statistical Package for Social Sciences.</p> <p>Results: The study involved (100) participants with chronic low back pain with mean (\pmSD) age of 45.54 (\pm 11.36) years and range of 17-58 years. About 54% of them were females. Approximately 72% were married, and the highest percentage (40%) had secondary educational level. The mean Body Mass Index of the studied group was 28.61kg/cm². Nearly ,12% of them were current smokers and 46.0% were housewives. A higher mean Numerical pain Score was reported among current smokers (p=0.016). A non-significant difference in Numerical pain Score has been noted in relation to gender, age, marital status, occupation, BMI, and educational level (p values were 0.876, 0.06, 0.392, 0.307, 0.139, and 0.664, respectively). This study also revealed a low total quality of life score among patients with increasing age, retired, not worked, and widowed patients.</p> <p>Conclusion: Chronic low back pain has a significant burden on quality of life of the participants. It has a great negative effect on the total degree of quality of life and the mental domain. Quality of life in chronic low back pain is influenced by different socio-demographic factors. Significant associations were found between the score of quality of life and each of age, occupation and marital status. Chronic low back pain intensity was associated with smoking.</p>			

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Thesis Title	The Perceptions of Healthcare Workers about the COVID 19 Vaccine, Baghdad, Iraq, 2021			
Year	2021		CD: 1334	
Abstract	<p>Background: Healthcare workers' perception and vaccine use are significant elements that are consistently linked to people's acceptance and lessened hesitation/aversion that will lead to increased vaccine usage and vaccination schedule adherence.</p> <p>Objectives: To determine the perceptions of healthcare workers working in the medical city teaching hospitals on the COVID-19 vaccine, Baghdad, Iraq, 2021.</p> <p>Methods: This is a cross-sectional study using a convenient sample of healthcare workers working in the medical city teaching hospitals, Baghdad, Iraq. The Data was collected from Feb to May 2021 using a self-administered questionnaire. The questionnaire is comprised of three parts; part 1 was made up of sociodemographic characteristics, part 2 comprised of questions on perception toward COVID-19 vaccination and part 3 was related to the barriers associated with COVID-19 vaccination and the possibilities for promoting COVID-19 vaccination in the future.</p> <p>Results: The total number of the study group was 312; 65% were females, 37% aged 30-39 years, and one-third were medical doctors. Around 54% reported a history of COVID-19 infection. Less than half (48%) of the participants decided to get the vaccine whenever available. Twenty-six percent of the participants believed that COVID-19 vaccine is safe whenever it will be available and 25% believed that it will be effective. The most reported source of information related to COVID-19 vaccine was from social media (57%), followed by official international health organization sites and media like WHO and US CDC (46.8%). Twenty-nine percent of the participants believed the vaccine can prevent the complications of COVID-19 and 92% recommend a strong public awareness campaign about the COVID-19 vaccine. In the binary logistic regression, being a doctor is significantly associated with an increased rate of vaccine acceptance (OR 7.2, 95% CI 2.67 -19.66, P 0.05).</p> <p>Conclusions: The overall rate of COVID-19 vaccine acceptance among healthcare workers was less than fifty percent. To establish and sustain public trust in COVID-19 vaccinations, healthcare workers have to be well prepared for a science- and evidence-based strategy that addresses vaccine safety and effectiveness in the community.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Effect of Cd, Pb, Cr, Zn and Cu on Disease of the Thyroid Gland			
Year	2021		CD: 1335	
Abstract	<p>Background: The thyroid gland has great importance in the health of the body, and losing the balance in its hormones may lead to many health problems. These causes may be internal or through external stimuli that activate some factors that lead to the destruction or increase of the gland's activity. Chronic toxicity from heavy metals can cause thyroid damage by inducing antibodies to the thyroid gland, this mechanism plays a role in the progression of autoimmune thyroid disease.</p> <p>The Aim of Study: Study the role and the effect of some heavy metals (cadmium, lead, chromium, zinc and copper) on the condition of the thyroid gland, and whether it is necessary to conduct them as routine tests in the event of dysfunction in it.</p> <p>Subjects, Materials and Methods: The study involved 90 subjects divided into three groups, the first group included 30 healthy subjects, the second group included 30 patients with hyperthyroidism, and the last group 30 patients with hypothyroidism. All subjects with age range (25-65 years). The study involves 24 female and 8 males in each group. The subjects chosen was done under clinical and lab exam. laboratory investigation included measurement of S.TSH, Total S.T3, and Total S.T3 (at the time of the patients visit the Specialized Center for Endocrinology and Diabetes and Al-Sadr General Hospital, but initial measurement, were taken from an archive that includes the medical history of each patient) was depended on enzyme-linked fluorescent immunoassay (ELFA), S.TPO concentration was calculated by enzyme-linked immune sorbent assay (ELISA), serum heavy metal which involves (S.Pb, S.Cd, S.Cr, S.Cu and S.Zn) was determined by Flame Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometry(FAAS)and Graphite Furnace Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometry(GFAAS) This work was during the period from November 2020 to January 2021.</p> <p>Results: In this study, high concentrations of lead, cadmium and copper were obtained (with $p\text{-value}\leq 0.05$), and significantly lower concentrations ($p\text{-value}\leq 0.05$) of chromium and zinc were obtained in hypo and hyperthyroid patients compared to healthy subjects. An inverse correlation between lead and cadmium was observed with TSH ($r=-0.41$, $p\leq 0.05$) and ($r=-0.56$, $p\leq 0.05$) consequently in hyperthyroid patients and no correlation</p>			

between TSH with lead, cadmium, chromium, copper and zinc in hypothyroidism. No correlation was observed between thyroid hormones (T3 and T4) and TPO-Ab with the lead, cadmium, chromium, copper and zinc (with P. value >0.05) in hypothyroid and hyperthyroid patients.

Conclusion: It is possible to suggest that thyroid gland dysfunction (hypothyroidism and hyperthyroidism) is associated with changes in heavy metals (Pb, Cd, Cr, Cu and Zn) concentration, some of them elevated (Pb, Cd and Cu) while others decrease (Cr and Zn) and this is evident through the results obtained from comparing them with healthy subjects, but at the same time the study cannot arrive at the association or coincidence of a specific mineral change with any of two glandular conditions except for the Cd. but the fact of relying on it and examining it as a routine in the case of thyroid dysfunction needs more accurate studies and a larger number of samples.

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Thesis Title	Echocardiographic Assessment of Left Ventricular Functional Abnormalities in Acute Coronary Syndrome			
Year	2021		CD: 1336	
Abstract	<p>Acute coronary syndrome includes groups of clinical symptoms presented in the form of ST elevation myocardial infarction, Non-ST elevation myocardial infarction and Unstable angina. Echocardiography is a valuable non-invasive diagnostic technique which provides information regarding cardiac function and hemodynamics. However, transthoracic echocardiography is essential both for diagnosing and evaluation of ventricular function and the presence of regional wall motion abnormalities in acute coronary syndrome.</p> <p>The aim of this study involves an early detection of left ventricular systolic and diastolic dysfunction in patients with acute coronary syndrome, determination of the relationship between echocardiographic findings and electrocardiography, and assessment of the relationship between echocardiographic findings with the extent of severity post percutaneous coronary intervention.</p> <p>The study sample include (280) subjects of either gender with a mean age of (53 ± 10) years presented with acute coronary syndrome, 50 subjects with ST elevation myocardial infarction, 50 patients with Non-ST elevation myocardial infarction, 40 patients with Unstable angina. Patients group (140) also includes sixty (60) patients (follow-up group), 3-6 months post catheterization, however, they include thirty (30) patients with ST elevation myocardial infarction and thirty (30) patients with Non-ST elevation myocardial infarction, in addition to 140 healthy subjects served as control group. Each subject was submitted to anthropometric measurements, electrocardiography and echocardiography.</p> <p>The echocardiographic parameters considered in this study include: Left ventricular septal and posterior wall thickness, Left ventricular posterior wall diameter, End systolic volume, End diastolic volume stroke volume, Cardiac output, Ejection fraction, Mitral Annular Plane Systolic Excursion, Peak systolic annular velocity, Early to late diastolic filling ratio and regional wall motion abnormalities.</p> <p>The results of this study revealed that patients with ST elevation myocardial infarction and Non ST elevation myocardial infarction had significantly increased septal wall thickness with reduced Ejection fraction. XII Concerning left ventricular systolic function considering Mitral Annular Plane Systolic Excursion and Mitral</p>			

annular systolic velocity, Non ST elevation myocardial infarction had significantly reduced values of mean Mitral Annular Plane Systolic Excursion and Mitral annular systolic velocity when compared to ST elevation myocardial infarction and Unstable angina. In all patients' groups, Ejection Fraction was positively correlated with Mitral annular systolic velocity ($r = 0.218$, $P = 0.010$), while no significant correlation was found between Ejection Fraction and Mitral Annular Plane Systolic Excursion ($P = 0.675$), and also negative correlation between Mitral Annular Plane Systolic Excursion and Mitral annular systolic velocity ($P = 0.476$). Concerning grading of left ventricular diastolic dysfunction, Non ST elevation myocardial infarction group suffers moderate degree of diastolic dysfunction through the significant higher values of both early to late diastolic filling ratios when compared with mild degree diastolic dysfunction in ST elevation myocardial infarction and Unstable angina. In respect to either systolic or both systolic and diastolic dysfunctions, anterior and anteroinferior myocardial infarction were encountered more than other types, however, as extent of severity (by number of stenosed coronary arteries), involvement of more than two coronary blood vessels was reported in anterior myocardial infarction type. The follow up group post percutaneous coronary intervention revealed that in ST elevation myocardial infarction, Ejection Fraction and wall motion score were significantly increased and improved respectively when compared to baseline and Non ST elevation myocardial infarction group.

In conclusion, echocardiography is essential for an early detection of systolic and diastolic dysfunctions in acute coronary syndrome through the reduced Ejection Fraction and Mitral annular systolic velocity in addition to higher values of early to late diastolic filling ratios and significant correlation between Ejection Fraction and Mitral annular systolic velocity. Moreover, anterior myocardial infarction of ST elevation myocardial infarction type was the most common type, however, Left Anterior Descending coronary artery stenosis is commonly encountered. Furthermore, Mitral Annular Plane Systolic Excursion values are XIII reported to be significantly higher in ST elevation myocardial infarction type when compared with Non ST elevation myocardial infarction, however, Mitral Annular Plane Systolic Excursion is also significantly higher in Non ST elevation myocardial infarction when compared with control. In addition, Ejection Fraction and wall motion scores are improved following Percutaneous Coronary Intervention, when compared with other echocardiographic parameters which remain the same.

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Thesis Title	Impact of Rheumatoid Arthritis on Work Productivity among Sample of Iraqi Patients			
Year	2021		CD:1337	
Abstract	<p>Background: As far as rheumatoid arthritis is known as a chronic inflammatory disorder associated an impact on daily activities such as work. The impact on work could be heavy because persistent work disability (inability to carry on working), is prevalent in Rheumatoid Arthritis patients. Furthermore, the sequelae for the patient, like reduced life quality; work disability also causes elevated costs. Around 30% of the whole cost is came from production losses. The aim of this study is to evaluate work productivity in Rheumatoid Arthritis compared to healthy controls, and to assess the impact of socio-demographic characteristic of patients on work productivity.</p> <p>Patients & Methods: This was a case-control study conducted at the Rheumatology Unit of Baghdad Teaching Hospital in Medical City during the period from August 2020 to the end of March 2021. The current case control study was carried out on a convenient sample of 72 Rheumatoid Arthritis patients and compered to 72 health subjects as controls group. All patients were diagnosed as Rheumatoid Arthritis according to ACR/EULAR 2010 rheumatoid arthritis classification criteria. The selected patients and subjects interviewed and data about socio- demographic and clinical characteristics, lifestyle behavior, and disease activity were assessed. Impact on work productivity was evaluated using standardized Arabic version of instruments: Workplace Activity Limitation Scale (WALS), & Work Limitations Questionnaire (WLQ-25).</p> <p>Results: About 61(58.1%) of females had Rheumatoid Arthritis, which is higher that the percentage of rheumatoid arthritis among male 11(28.2%). WALStotal score was significantly higher among patients 20.3±4.06 than controls 2.7±1.95. WLQ-25 total score median (IQR) was significantly higher among patients 64(55.3-73) than controls 27.5 (25-29).</p> <p>Conclusions: Disease activity of patients with Rheumatoid Arthritis significantly impaired their WALS, and significantly increased their WLQ. Work productivity loss was significantly associated with disease activity using CDAI score, and significantly negatively associated with use DMARDs.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Evaluating the radiation induced sacral plexopathy after pelvic irradiation			
Year	2021		CD: 1350	
Abstract	<p>Background: Radiation-induced lumbosacral plexopathy (RILP) is a rare but severely debilitating side effect of abdominopelvic irradiation, which is used in the management of a myriad of primary and metastatic tumors involving the abdominal, pelvic and retroperitoneal regions. Although the exact mechanism of RILP is not yet clearly elucidated, postulated mechanisms include radiation-induced vascular injury and radiation fibrosis leading to axonal damage and entrapment of nerves/small vessels, respectively. Effects of radiation are suggested to be correlated to the dose per fraction and total dose of radiation therapy (RT), use of radiosensitizing agents, RT technique, and concurrent administration of chemotherapy. Furthermore, the risk of RILP occurrence particularly increases with intracavitary and intraoperative brachytherapy applications. In the current review, we aimed to summarize the latest literature considering aspects of the pathophysiology, clinical features differential diagnosis, and treatment of this debilitating complication.</p> <p>Aim of study: To identify the incidence of the risk of sacral plexopathy in patients receiving high dose pelvic irradiation in Iraq.</p> <p>Methods: A prospective study conducted in Baghdad Radiation Therapy Center at the Medical City Complex, Baghdad, Iraq during a period of six months from (October 2020 to May 2021). It involved 20 patients diagnosed by NCS to have lumbosacral plexopathy from nonmalignant conditions & 40 patients diagnosed with pelvic site malignancies (prostate, bladder, rectum & uterus) and received external beam radiotherapy for the primary tumor and pelvic lymph nodes. Doses of Radiotherapy used for the treatment of different patients were in the range of 45-76 Gy, given in standard fractionation 1.8-2 Gy/fx in five fractions per week. The patients were assessed for initial symptoms, vii location, and severity of sacral plexus injury by electro diagnostic study (nerve conduction study) done on both lower limbs for comparison, this assessment was done by Medtronic key point medical devise.</p>			

Results: In a study a total 40 patients, all of them diagnosed with pelvic malignancy and received axillary irradiation. Study patients' age was ranging from 30 to 77 years with a mean of 60.8 years. 55% of cancer patients were male while higher percent of male is seen in the LSP group with 67.5% 55% of them were hypertensive. (35%) of the patients had prostate cancer, while (25%) were diagnosed with rectal, uterine cancer. Bladder cancer (12.5%), fibrous histiocytoma (2.5%). The highest proportion of study patients were finished radiotherapy < 12 months (32.5%) (25%) of cases were treated with irradiation dose of 45 Gy/25 fx & 50.4 Gy/28 fx. (22.5%) were treated with irradiation dose of 74 Gy/37 fx In our study, patients who received pelvic irradiation showed normal electro diagnostic study as compared with the abnormal reading of patients with plexopathy of nonmalignant casuses. Conclusion: the oncologists must be alert about RILSP development in patients undergoing abdominal and/or pelvic RT, and when diagnosed, a multidisciplinary cooperative treatment team including radiation oncologists, physiotherapists, and algologists must be involved. Pain control, gait education, rehabilitation targeted at preserving existing muscle strength and functions, and assistive devices to increase patient QoL should be considered

Keyword: lumbosacral plexopathy, radiation therapy, prostate cancer.

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Thesis Title	Possible Side Effects of Azithromycin and Imipenem on Male Fertility in Rat Model			
Year	2021		CD: 1351	
Abstract	<p>Background: Abstract Infertility is a psychological, economic, and medical problem that involves trauma and stress, with a strong emphasis on child-bearing. Antibacterial agents are used to treat a wide range of infections, cancer, protozoa, and helminths. However, antimicrobial therapy had been shown to have a significant impact on human and animal models sperm parameters.</p> <p>Aim of the study: This work was designed to investigate the possible side effects of (azithromycin & imipenem) on some parameters of male rat fertility, hormonal levels, histopathology, sperm DNA fragmentation and oxidative stress markers.</p> <p>Methods: This prospective study was performed on 40 grown-ups Wistar pale skinned adult rats. All rats were matured 11-12 weeks and weighing (180-310 g). After three days of adaptation, experimental rats were randomly directed to one of five groups, each group included 8 rats, as follows: Group A: Rats orally-administered distilled water (DW) daily via gavage tube for two weeks. This group served as negative control. Group B: Rats administered therapeutic dose of imipenem monohydrate solution (50 mg/kg/day) I.P for 14 days. Group C: Rats administered a double therapeutic dose of imipenem monohydrate solution (100 mg/kg/day) I.P for 14 days. Group D: Rats orally-administered therapeutic dose of azithromycin dihydrate solution (45 mg/kg/day) via gavage tube for 14 days. Group E: Rats orally-administered a double therapeutic dose of azithromycin dihydrate solution (90 mg/kg/day) via gavage tube for 14 days.</p> <p>Results: Azithromycin & imipenem administration for fourteen days showed that there was a significant decrease in the epididymis & testes weight. Testosterone hormone levels demonstrated significant decrement, FSH hormone level also highly influenced by administration of azithromycin & imipenem there was a significant increment of hormone level in comparison to the control group. LH hormone level significantly increased after administration of azithromycin & imipenem in therapeutic dose. DNA damage in testes by comet assay showed that there was</p>			

	<p>significant damage ($P<0.05$) in animals treated with all doses of azithromycin & imipenem each compared with the control animals in different degree (low, medium, high) damage. There was significant decrease in SOD level & significant increment after administration of azithromycin & imipenem in in both therapeutic & double therapeutic doses on MDA level. There were significant decrement of (Catalase,GSH) levels after administration of azithromycin & imipenem in both therapeutic & double therapeutic doses . There was significant decrement in sperm motility & sperm count at (therapeutic & a double therapeutic dose). There was a significant increment in the percentage of morphological abnormalities & dead sperms in comparison to alive after administration of azithromycin & imipenem at (therapeutic & a double therapeutic dose).</p>
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Thesis Title	Echocardiographic Profile of Left Ventricular Remodeling in Atrial Fibrillation			
Year	2021		CD: 1352	
Abstract	<p>Atrial fibrillation is one of the most important cardiac diseases. It is supraventricular arrhythmia presents as palpitation, breathlessness and fatigue. It can be classified into 4 categories paroxysmal (the heart can be restored in one week), persistent (atrial fibrillation last more than one week), long-lasting (continuous more than 12 months) and permanent (the heart failed to restore to sinus rhythm). The remodeling of the heart (precisely left ventricular remodeling) is the change in the size, structure and the function of the heart after an injury. The aim of the study is to investigate the relationship between atrial fibrillation and left ventricular remodeling using echocardiography. This study is a case-control study performed at Baghdad teaching hospital in the period from October 2020 through May 2021. In the Cardiac catheterization Department at the Echocardiography Unit. Patients and controls were selected from those referred to echo unit. A total of 164 persons (from both sexes) were enrolled in this study, and they were categorized into two groups: Control group of 80 persons with normal sinus rhythm apparently healthy (40women and 40 men) with mean age (56.01 ± 3.1) years. The other group (patients) of 80 persons (40women and 40 men) had AF and different diseases with mean age (56.6 ± 3.3) years.</p> <p>Patients with atrial fibrillation had significantly higher left atrium diameter and left atrium volume index than controls with P value less than 0.05) P =0.0002, P =0.0001) respectively. And also subjects with atrial fibrillation compared to controls had higher (left ventricular internal diamension in diastole, posterior wall thickness, left ventricular mass index and relative wall thickness) as (P) value less than 0.05, (P = 0.00001, P=0.0002, P= 0.0001, P=0.002, P = 0.0001) respectively. The percentages of geometric patterns in atrial fibrillation were: normal geometric patterns (3.8%), in concentric remodeling (27.5 %), in concentric hypertrophy it is (26.3 %) but in eccentric hypertrophy it is (42.5%) which is most common type of geometric patterns in this study. The percentage of normal geometric patterns which is 3.8% is significantly less than others remodeling patterns ($27.5\%+26.3\%+42.5\%$) = 96.2%. eccentric remodeling is most common</p>			

	type in male while concentric hypertrophy is most common type in female, the increase in Body mass index is correlated with the increase in epicardial fat thickness and the increase in left ventricular mass index is correlated with the increase of left atrium diameter.
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Thesis Title	Misconceptions of COVID-19 Pandemic Among a Sample of General Public in Baghdad Iraq 2021: A Cross Sectional Survey			
Year	2021		CD: 1354	
Abstract	<p>Background: the pandemic Covid_19 is an infectious disease caused by newly discovered corona virus which affect the whole globe with catastrophic harm which make it a severe challenge to the entire world. As any new event this pandemic was accompanied from its early days with myths and misconceptions which are beliefs and concepts that a group of people believe or hold, with no scientific evidence and usually had a bad impact on controlling the pandemic.</p> <p>Objectives: to determine the misconceptions regarding COVID -19 pandemic among adults attending the three primary healthcare centers in Baghdad, Iraq.</p> <p>Methods: Three primary health care centers were conveniently chosen to recruit adults attending them (using systematic sampling technique of every fifth attendee) and interview them to answer a special questionnaire form concerned with globally and locally spreading myths and misconceptions regarding COVID-19 pandemic and consisted of two part one for reporting demographic characteristics and the other consisted of 19 questions to assess people perceptions towards COVID-19 pandemic. Each question had two scores either zero for wrong response or one for correct one. Scores below 10 were considered bad perception and ≥ 10 were considered good perceptions.</p> <p>Results: The study included 400 participants; 235 (58.8%) were females with a female: male ratio of 1.4:1, their age ranged from 18-82 years with a mean of 40.2 ± 14.6 years SD, more than half of them (224; 56.0%) were ≤ 40 years of age, 272 (68.0%) were either governmental employee or working in private sector, 214 (53.4%) were with college education and higher and 300 (75.0%) were ever married. Good perception scores were found in 21.2% of the participants, Males, younger age groups, higher educational levels, ever married participants and those who were working privately had higher proportions of good perceptions toward COVID-19 pandemic, yet the associations were only statistically significant with age group and educational level.</p> <p>Conclusions and Recommendations: Good perception regarding COVID-</p>			

	19 pandemic was low, so efforts to increase public awareness about COVID-19 pandemic, prevention, transmission, signs and symptoms, danger signs, treatment options and the importance of vaccination are vital in controlling the pandemic.
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Thesis Title	The Adverse Events Following Immunization Reported to The Surveillance System in Iraq, 2015- 2020			
Year	2021		CD: 1355	
Abstract	<p>Background: Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) Surveillance system is one of the major elements of the national Immunization program and it involves important implications for the EPI policy. This system aims to distinguish if they causally linked the events to the vaccine or from coincidental events, and so by monitoring any data of concerns and addressing the community fears.</p> <p>Objectives: To describe the AEFIs reported to the Surveillance System in Iraq between 2015 to 2020 in all Directorates of Health among the under five children and childbearing age women.</p> <p>Methods: This is a descriptive desk review of secondary Adverse Events Following Immunization Surveillance data. conducted in the EPI department in the Ministry of Health (MOH)/ Baghdad, by retrieving the data of the reported AEFIs for the period 2015-2020 using Microsoft excel 2016.</p> <p>Results: from 2015 to 2020, there were 21,416 reported cases with the average rate of 21.45/100,000 administered doses. 20,682 (96.57%) reported cases classified as common while there were only 734 (3.43%) severe AEFI Cases. majority of the adverse events 84.72% contributed to the DTP containing vaccines.</p> <p>Conclusion: The National rates of the AEFIs were all on the low level. Majority of the reported AEFIs rates accounted for the minor and common vaccines sides effect, while the severe AEFIs rates were very low comparing with the global rates.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Sarcopenia in sample of patients with Hyperthyroidism			
Year	2021		CD: 1356	
Abstract	<p>Background: Hyperthyroidism is the ability of thyroid gland to secrete excessive amounts of thyroid hormones. Untreated hyperthyroidism can cause many symptoms such as palpitation, sweating, increase in appetite, weight loss and neuromuscular dysfunction. Sarcopenia is progressive and generalized skeletal muscle disorder that is associated with increased likelihood of adverse outcomes including falls, fractures and physical disability. The skeletal muscle is a major target of the thyroid hormones. Patients with hyperthyroidism have proximal muscle weakness, fatigability and exercise intolerance.</p> <p>Objective: This study was conducted to assess sarcopenia in sample of patients with hyperthyroidism.</p> <p>Patients and method: This were a case-control study conducted at Baghdad Teaching Hospital. Hyperthyroidism patients were diagnosed by endocrinologists. The sample was collected from October 2020 to the end of February 2021. A total of 50 Iraqi participants, 25 patients were diagnosed with hyperthyroidism and 25 apparently healthy control people were matched in age and gender. Diagnosis of sarcopenia was done by measurement of voluntary grip strength of the hand by using electronic dynamometer with a cut off value for women less than 16 Kg and for male less than 27 Kg.in addition to use a dual energy x-ray absorptiometry scan for body composition analysis and measuring of skeletal muscle index (SMI) which is defined as appendicular skeletal muscle mass/height m², cut off point less than 5.5 Kg/ m² for female and less than 7 Kg/ m² for male. Physical function was assessed by 4-meter usual gait speed test, cut off value ≤0.8 m/s. Sarcopenia was probable when only hand grip strength was impaired while it is confirmed when both hand grip and skeletal muscle index were affected and diagnosed as severe when all three parameters were reduced.</p> <p>Results: Hyperthyroidism patients had 3.5 times risk for developing of sarcopenia than healthy control group as (p value=0.003). Hand grip strength was significantly lower in hyperthyroidism patients compared to control (p-value= 0.004 for female and 0.026 for male), skeletal muscle mass index was also statistically difference between each group in addition</p>			

	<p>to physical performance which was also lower in hyperthyroidism patients (p value=<0.001). Body mass index, bone mineral density, lean mass, disease duration and toxic state were significantly correlated with sarcopenia.</p>
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	<p>Conclusion: Hyperthyroidism patients are at higher risk for developing sarcopenia than in healthy controls. Female sex, lesser body mass index, low bone mineral density, lean mass with long disease duration and toxic state are risk factors for developing sarcopenia. While smoking and the exact etiology for hyperthyroidism did not increase the probability of sarcopenia and this suggest to need a look for their presence in hyperthyroidism patients.</p>
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Thesis Title	Prevalence of Obesity/ Overweight In 2-5 Years old Children Using Multiple Indicators, Hilla 2020			
Year	2021		CD: 1357	
Abstract	<p>Background: More and more preschool children in Iraq and elsewhere are becoming overweight or obese. Many countries are now reporting a similar trend among preschool children. However, little information is available on the prevalence of overweight and obesity among preschool children in Iraq. In addition, available data are based on reported rather than measured height, weight and BMI.</p> <p>Objectives: To determine the prevalence of obesity/overweight among preschool children in private and governmental kindergartens at Hilla ٢٠٢٠م</p> <p>Methods: Measuring heights, weights and BMI of a sample of children aged 2– 5 years living in Babel “Hilla” Iraq in both private and governmental kindergartens, using a cross sectional design with applied quantitative research. The study was conducted for a period extended from Jan 2020 till Dec 2020. The total participants were 2148 parents and their 2-5 years old children selected from all kindergartens available. The data collected by using an adapted questionnaire and were analyzed electronically.</p> <p>Results: The prevalence of overweight and obesity in preschool kindergarten children was 14.8% and 5.9% respectively, the main factors that affect childhood obesity are family income and the presence of obesity in other family members. Conclusions: There is a high prevalence of obesity/overweight among 2-5 years old children with a noticeable difference regarding obesity/overweight prevalence between governmental and private kindergartens.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Cardiac and Inflammatory Biomarkers among Hemodialysis Patients with Hepatitis C virus			
Year	2021		CD: 1358	
Abstract	<p>The current prospective case-control study was designed to investigate the possible association between the infection with hepatitis C virus and the increased risk of cardiovascular diseases among hemodialysis patients. Accordingly, 45 Iraqi patients on hemodialysis infected with hepatitis C virus (21 females and 24 males; female to male ratio 1:1.14; age groups range 24- 74 years; mean age 58.26 years) and 45 Iraqi patients also on hemodialysis without hepatitis C virus infection (control group); (17 females and 28 males; female to male ratio 1:1.6; age groups range 22-73 years; mean age 53.37 years) were enrolled in the current study. Blood samples were withdrawn from all the participants attending the Iraqi Center of Hemodialysis at Baghdad Teaching Hospital in the period from November 2020 till the last of April 2021. A specific designed questionnaire was used and data were collected from all the participants through direct interview. To confirm the diagnosis, chemiluminescent microparticle immunoassay technique was used to re-detect the existence of anti- hepatitis C virus antibodies in the serum of patients who already diagnosed with MINI-VIDAS technique. Serum specimens collected from all the participants was applied in the enzyme linked immunosorbent assay diagnostic procedure for the detection of the following biomarkers: Biomarkers of inflammation [Tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF-α) and High sensitivity C reactive protein (hs-CRP)]; Biomarker of endothelial function [Intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1)] and Biomarkers of cardiac dysfunction [N-Terminal-pro-brain natriuretic peptide (NTpro-BNP) and Troponin I (Tn-I)]. II Data analysis revealed that the serum levels of all the above-mentioned biomarkers (except for TNF-α) were found to be elevated in patients' group in comparison to the control group. Two strong positive correlations were found among the patients group; the first was between the hs-CRP biomarker and the ICAM-1 biomarker, whereas the second was between the ICAM-1 biomarker and the Tn-I biomarker. However, three positive correlations were recognized among the patients group; the first was between the hs-CRP biomarker and the Tn-I biomarker, the second was between the ICAM-1 biomarker and the NTpro-BNP</p>			

	<p>biomarker and the third was between the NTpro-BNP and Tn-I biomarkers themselves. Regarding other markers (serum albumin and alkaline phosphatase and hypertension), analysis of data demonstrated that there were statistically significant differences between the above-mentioned markers and the studied groups. Another statistically significant difference was noticed was between the serum levels of hs-CRP biomarker and having hypertension among the patients group. No significant differences were seen among the participants between: age, sex, having chronic diseases (diabetes mellitus and hypertension) and serum levels of TNF-α. From the above results it might reflect that there is a significant relationship between having hepatitis C virus infection and predisposition for cardiovascular diseases among hemodialysis patients.</p>
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Thesis Title	Validity of Echocardiographic Assessment of Coronary Sinus in Coronary Artery Disease			
Year	2021		CD: 1359	
Abstract	<p>Naturally, blood flow in the coronary arteries can increase four to six times to meet the cardiac demand for myocardial oxygen. This response is mediated by the dilation of the arteriolar bed, which decreases resistance and accelerates the flow. After myocardial infarction, there can be large differences in the degree of left ventricular systolic dysfunction and decreased coronary blood flow, which results in failure of the adaptive mechanism and diminished coronary blood flow. The coronary sinus blood flow measurements provide a good estimation of the global left ventricular perfusion. Percutaneous coronary intervention for symptomatic patients with chronic stable angina improves coronary artery blood flow and hence the left ventricular perfusion. Transthoracic echocardiography that is simple, non-invasive and cost-effective technique, can provide an efficient procedure for measuring coronary sinus blood flow. The general aim of this study is to assess the usefulness of transthoracic echocardiography (as a non-invasive technique), in evaluating the effects of chronic coronary artery disease on the global left ventricular perfusion through analysing the coronary sinus blood flow with Doppler echocardiography before and after percutaneous coronary interventions. This cross-sectional study was performed in Baghdad Teaching Hospital between October 2019 and March 2021. A total of 158 patients were included, they were selected from patients admitted to the department of catheterization and echocardiography at Baghdad teaching hospital. Ninety-two (92) patients with stable chronic coronary artery disease were admitted for diagnostic and/or therapeutic angiography, they served as the cases group; based on the angiography results: 63 patients had positive coronary lesions and proceeded to percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) and were considered as the positive group. 29 patients had negative result on coronary angiography and continued on medical treatment were considered as the negative group. Fifty 50 normal healthy adults with no coronary artery disease CAD or CAD risk factors served as the control group. Each patient was submitted for detailed medical history, standard ECG, 2D and Doppler echocardiography was performed and LV dimensions, ejection fraction, regional wall index LV</p>			

mas and LV perfusion were measured. The coronary sinus parameters: coronary sinus blood flow CSBF, coronary sinus velocity time integral CSVTI, coronary sinus CS peak and mean velocity and peak and mean pressure gradient PG were registered. Eight patients were excluded from the study. Demographic parameters were the same between the two groups ($P>0.05$). Controls had significantly higher coronary sinus blood flow CSBF, global LV perfusion and lower LV mass than the cases group (3.04 ± 0.7 mL/min/gm, 501.64 ± 63.8 mL/min and 99.97 ± 9.4 gm/m² in controls vs 2.11 ± 1 mL/min/gm, 223.15 ± 55.7 mL/min and 195.74 ± 68.6 gm/m² in the cases group). After successful catheterization, the positive group also showed significant increase in CSBF 438.09 ± 89.9 ml/min (p value less than 0.05) after successful PCI. The same applied for the global LV perfusion which increased to 2.537 ± 1.06 mL/min/gm. Among the positive cases, (48.75%) showed single vessel disease (SVD), (16.25%) had double-vessel disease (DVD) and (11.25%) had triple-vessel disease (TVD). Cases with TVD had the lowest values of CSBF (297.44 ± 57 ml/min) compared to (290.98 ± 58.1 ml/min) in DVD and (321.31 ± 53.5 ml/min) in SVD. Regarding the site of the CAD lesion; cases with inferior MI (0.65 ± 11.3 cm) had the smallest CS diameter, while the lowest VTI was noticed in cases with anterior MI (11.74 ± 2.1 cm), lowest peak and mean velocity in cases with lateral MI (42.02 ± 7.9 m/s and 22.91 ± 3.7 m/s, respectively), and the lowest CSBF noticed in anterior MI (308.51 ± 43.8 mL/min. cases with anterior MI had the biggest increase in CSBF after successful PCI. In comparison with controls, hypertensive patients without CAD had significantly higher VTI and mean gradient (20.48 ± 1.8 cm and $0.935\pm.108$ mmHg vs 18.63 ± 1.5 cm and 0.53 ± 0.2) they also had significantly higher CSBF (554.653 ± 70 mL/min compared to 501.64 ± 63.8 mL/min, p value <0.05). On the other hand, they had significantly lower global LV perfusion $2.71\pm.7$ mL/min/g compared to 3.04 ± 0.7 mL/min/g in normotensive patients). Among the positive group, those who were hypertensive with CAD had significantly lower CS diameter (0.65 ± 11.3 cm compared to 0.7 ± 12.8 cm), significantly higher VTI and CSBF (13.81 ± 2 cm and 338.57 ± 43.9 ml/min in hypertensive with CAD, compared to 11.28 ± 1.1 cm and 259.42 ± 35.5 ml/min in normotensive ones). LV mass was significantly higher (244.95 ± 36.26 g/m²) than (170 ± 57.7 g/m²) in normotensive patients with CAD. As a result, hypertensive patients with CAD had significantly lower LV perfusion than the normotensive patients (1.042 ± 0.27 mL/minute compared to 1.58 ± 0.53 mL/minute). This study revealed that the coronary sinus blood flow reduced significantly in chronic stable angina. Successful revascularization significantly improves the blood flow in the coronary sinus. On the other hand, hypertension leads to significant increase in the level of the coronary sinus blood flow beyond normal levels. Monitoring these changes can be achieved by Doppler transthoracic echocardiography, a practical and reproducible method for observing the changes in cardiac perfusion before and after percutaneous coronary intervention in patients with chronic stable angina.

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Thesis Title	Impact of COVID-19 on the Non-communicable Diseases Programs Provided in the Primary Healthcare Centers in Baghdad Al-Rusafa Directorate of Health, 2020			
Year	2021		CD: 1360	
Abstract	<p>Background: In recent years, non-communicable diseases have globally shown an increasing impact on health status with disproportionately higher rates in developing countries. During the COVID-19 pandemic, healthcare workers, equipment, and facilities have been reallocated to address the influx of patients with the disease. Restructuring of the health system could result in the closure of some health facilities</p> <p>Objectives: To determine the impact of COVID-19 on the performance of Non-Communicable Diseases programs implemented in the PHCs in Baghdad Al-Rusafa Directorate of Health through comparing the performance indicators of 2019 and 2020 and identify the potential causes of the changes.</p> <p>Methods: The study was conducted in Baghdad Al-Rusafa (eastern side of Baghdad) during the period from April to June 2021. A systematic sample was used to enroll 20 primary healthcare centers having NCDs units. The main services provided by the NCDs units were early detection of Hypertension and diabetes, risk assessment of cardiovascular diseases, screening and primary care of chronic obstructive respiratory diseases, counseling services for physical activity and healthy diet, health services for ophthalmic diseases, hearing health services, health services for the elderly in addition to mental health services and social health support.</p> <p>Results: The 20 primary healthcare centers served around 736,536 inhabitants. There were 92 medical doctors and 212 nurses and paramedics working in NCDs units in these centers. All the provided services were decreased in 2020. Screening and primary care for chronic respiratory disease were the most affected (-100% percent change), followed by ophthalmic health services (-80.6% percent change). Around 34% of the working staff was fully shifted for the pandemic services, and only 5% continued providing NCDs services only. All training services had completely stopped in 2020. Provision of NCDs educational materials had decreased by 45%-100% for various services. Similarly, the awareness campaigns were reduced by 20-100% for various services. The main</p>			

	<p>reasons for the services decline were the closure of outpatient services as per government directive, closure of outpatient disease-specific consultation clinics, and a decrease in outpatient volume due to patients' reluctance to attend the centers. Few centers adopt telemedicine and shifting patients to other centers.</p> <p>Conclusion: COVID-19 pandemic had drastically affected the NCD services in Iraq. Having contingency plans and the adoption of telemedicine can serve to mitigate the collateral damage associating with the pandemic.</p>
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Thesis Title	Therapeutic effectiveness of Etanercept monotherapy in comparison to Etanercept-Methotrexate combined therapy (Clinical, Hematological and Immunological outcomes) in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis in Iraqi patients			
Year	2021		CD: 1361	
Abstract	<p>Background: Rheumatoid Arthritis is a chronic inflammatory, systemic autoimmune disease that can affect more than one joint. It usually affects joints in the hands, wrists and knees, however, extra-articular manifestations involving skin, eyes, lungs, heart and blood vessels are also common. It is twice as common in females compared to males. The risk for development of rheumatoid arthritis is attributable to age, gender, genetics, and environmental (cigarette smoking, air pollutants). There is no cure for RA. Moreover, the goals of treatments for rheumatoid arthritis are to reduce pain and stiffness as well as for improvement in quality of life. Biomarker is a measurable indicator used to measure the presence or progress of disease, or the effects of treatment. For example, Etanercept, which is a tumor necrosis factor blocker, it works by inhibit the binding of TNF-alpha to its receptor. Methotrexate is a disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs) are available to control the clinical activity of rheumatoid arthritis. Methotrexate is an analogue of folic acid that competitively inhibits the enzyme that responsible for nucleotide synthesis including dihydrofolate reductase, hence decreasing inflammations.</p> <p>Objectives: The present study was designed to compare therapeutic effectiveness of Etanercept as a monotherapy or in combination with Methotrexate in Iraqi patients with rheumatoid arthritis, to estimate serum levels of high sensitive C-reactive protein, tumor necrosis factor alpha, interleukin-6 and interleukin-1alpha to indicate which biomarker (s) has a direct relationship with severity of rheumatoid arthritis and to indicate how effectively patients with rheumatoid arthritis did respond to treatment.</p> <p>Methods: A prospective open-label study conducted from last February to last November/ 2020 at Rheumatology Unit, Baghdad Teaching Hospital/ Medical city, Iraq. The study involved 75 patients with rheumatoid arthritis who underwent a 12- week course of treatment with etanercept monotherapy (50mg/week subcutaneously) or combined with methotrexate (10-15mg/week). Assessments of disease activity and immunological</p>			

markers (using Simplified Disease Activity Index and Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay technique, respectively) were performed for the patients after the course of treatment and compared with healthy controls.

Results: The results of current study revealed that, in rheumatoid arthritis patient with moderate to high disease activity, the median of the swollen joint count was significantly lower in the patient received combined treatment (Etanercept and Methotrexate) in comparison to those received Etanercept alone ($P=0.014$) associated with non-significant differences in the median tender joint count, visual analogue scale (by patients), visual analogue scale (by physician) and Simplified Disease Activity Index score ($P>0.05$). Moreover, immunological markers, in the group of patients with moderate to high disease activity, showed that the highly sensitive-CRP and Tumor Necrosis Factor-alpha were significantly lower in patients received combination treatment in comparison to those received monotherapy. However, within this category of patients, serum levels of IL1-alpha and IL-6 did not differ between the two treatment-related subgroups). Furthermore, in patients with low disease activity, there were no significant differences in serum levels of the aforementioned immunological markers between the two treatment-related subgroups.

Conclusion: The study concluded that there are high levels of immunological markers in patients with high to moderate disease activity than in patients with low disease activity. In addition, in patients with moderate to high disease activity, the combined treatment (etanercept-methotrexate) is more effective than etanercept monotherapy in reducing serum levels of immunological markers, especially (hs-CRP, TNF-alpha). On the other hand, in patients with low disease activity, serum levels of the immunological markers were not different between the two treatment-related subgroups.

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Thesis Title	Awareness and Practices among Professional Healthcare workers Towards COVID-19 in Iraq 2021			
Year	2021		CD: 1362	
Abstract	<p>Background: professional healthcare workers, including medical doctors, pharmacists and dentists played essential role as the first line defense against the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of high exposure, professional healthcare workers are at increased risk of contracting the disease and transmitting it to others. Health authorities have already initiated awareness and preparedness activities worldwide. A poor understanding of the disease among professional healthcare workers may result in delayed treatment and result in the rapid spread of the infection.</p> <p>Objective: to assess the level of awareness and practices among professional healthcare workers towards COVID-19 in Iraq.</p> <p>Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted between December 2020-March 2021 and consisted of 520 respondents, utilizing a web-based questionnaire to examine a sample of professional healthcare workers working at different healthcare institutions in Iraq. a questionnaire instrument was developed and distributed randomly to professional healthcare workers using social media and e-mails.</p> <p>Results: the study showed that the source of information about COVID_19 in most of professional healthcare workers were from social media and news media then the official government website. Also, most answers about symptoms of COVID-19 for all professional healthcare workers were true and most of professional healthcare workers had awareness about using personal protective equipment especially wearing masks and gloves but the majority of them didn't receive the formal training to use the personal protective equipment Also, in this study it was found that most of professional healthcare workers had direct contact with COVID-19 patients but the highest percentages among them were the doctors and most of doctors had direct care to the COVID_19 Patients. Finally, the results of the study could provide health authorities with information to enable them to prioritize training and other activities aimed at effectively improving professional healthcare workers wellbeing and hence the quality of their care delivery.</p> <p>Conclusions: As the global threat of COVID-19 continues to emerge, it is</p>			

	critical to improve the knowledge and practices of professional healthcare workers. Educational interventions are urgently needed to reach them in Iraq, and further studies are warranted.
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	Keywords: coronavirus, pandemic, COVID-19, knowledge, awareness, practices, professional healthcare workers.
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Thesis Title	Secular Occupational Injury Trends in Iraq 2008-2020			
Year	2021		CD: 1363	
Abstract	<p>Background: An occupational injury is defined as any personal injury, disease or death resulting from an occupational accident, and energy interaction is a key element in the occurrence of harm. Global estimates by international labor organization (ILO) show that the occupational problems are bigger than earlier believed. Especially figures of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries in developing countries were greatly under estimated. Occupational safety and health policies must be established, such policies must be implemented at both national (governmental) and enterprise levels.</p> <p>Objectives: To describe occupational injury records covering the period from 1st of January 2008 till 31st of December 2020.</p> <p>Materials and Methods: Cross sectional study carried on records of occupational injuries recorded in the National Center for Occupational Safety and Health for the years 2008 – 2020.</p> <p>Results: 3983 case of injured workers (the total) records had been studied showed a higher proportion of cases were young male workers with low education level, most of cases occurred in day shift. Highest fatality / permanent disability rate was caused by slipping injuries (24.6%) followed by transportation and lifting tools (21.1%).</p> <p>Conclusion: Most of occupational injuries could be prevented by following safety roles and providing healthy environment for work. Improving the quality and completeness of data and focused surveys of high-risk groups to supplement recording data.</p> <p>Key words: occupational injuries; injured workers; Baghdad; Iraq.</p>			

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Thesis Title	D-dimer level Correlation with COVID-19 Severity and Prognosis			
Year	2021		CD: 1364	
Abstract	<p>Introduction: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has recently become a public emergency and a worldwide pandemic. The disease stimulates pro-thrombotic changes.</p> <p>Aim of the study: To highlight the correlation between elevated D-dimer (an indirect thrombosis marker) and the increased rate of severity e.g hypoxaemia and poor outcom- associated conditions like respiratory failure.</p> <p>Methods: Clinical, and laboratory data of D-dimer in 109 patients whose COVID-19 diagnosis based on RT-PCR were evaluated retrospectively. According to clinical status (e.g., oxygenation) and laboratory D-dimer level, the severity of COVID-19 was classified as non-complicated or mild, moderate or severe pneumonia. Duration of hospitalization also used in relation to D-dimer, to assess the predictive value of D-dimer.</p> <p>Results: D-dimer elevation (>198 ng/ml) was detected in 78.9% (86/109) of the cases. The mean D-dimer value was calculated as $781.29\text{ng/ml} \pm 510.368$ (205-1737) for in patients with severe pneumonia in the intensive care unit. D-Dimer values showed positive correlations with duration of stay in hospital especially intensive care unit.</p> <p>Conclusion: D-dimer is the sensitive index to predict in-hospital severity and mortality, and patients with D-dimer levels >198 ng/ml had a higher incidence of mortality ($P<0.005$).</p>			

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Thesis Title	Progression free survival of advanced pancreatic cancer in Iraq patients treated with line chemotherapy			
Year	2021		CD: 1365	
Abstract	<p>Background: Pancreatic cancer is a highly aggressive cancer. According to the latest data published by the World Health Organization, the number of new cases in 2020 in Iraq was 674 and represented 2% of all new cancer cases. Most of the pancreatic adenocarcinomas have spread outside the pancreas at the time of diagnosis. Progression free survival is the time between the date of diagnosis to disease progression or death. The objectives of current study were to compare progression free survival between three regimens Gemcitabine, Gemcitabine/ Nab-paclitaxel and FOLFIRINOX chemotherapy of advanced and metastatic pancreatic cancer.</p> <p>Methods: Patient were divided into three groups; patients who will receive Gemcitabine, those who will receive Gemcitabine/ Nab-paclitaxel, and patients who will receive FOLFIRINOX. The patients were observed for disease progression. A computed tomography was performed every three months for the tumor response and progression.</p> <p>Results: In the Gemcitabine, Gemcitabine/Nab-paclitaxel, and FOLFIRINOX groups, the median Progression Free Survivals were (4, 5, 5.7 months, respectively; $P < 0.005$), Where FOLFIRINOX superior to Gemcitabine monotherapy and Gemcitabine/Nab-paclitaxel. On the other hand, Gemcitabine/Nab-paclitaxel showed superiority to Gemcitabine alone. Adverse events in Gemcitabine neutropenia 35%, febrile neutropenia 2% anemia 50% thrombocytopenia 50% hypokalemia 5%, nausea 2%, vomiting 0%, diarrhea 0%, fatigue 5%, neuropathy 5% and dehydration 5%. In Gemcitabine/Nab-paclitaxel neutropenia 40%, febrile neutropenia 3% anemia 50% thrombocytopenia 55% hypokalemia 7%, nausea 15%, vomiting 10%, diarrhea 5%, fatigue 15, neuropathy 10% and dehydration 8%. In FOLFIRINOX neutropenia 45%, febrile neutropenia 5% anemia 40% thrombocytopenia 40% hypokalemia 10%, nausea 35%, vomiting 30%, diarrhea 45%, fatigue 25%, neuropathy 30% and dehydration 25%.</p> <p>Conclusion: The median Progression free survival is better for the Gemcitabine/ Nab-paclitaxel and FOLFIRINOX than Gemcitabine alone. Neutropenia, febrile neutropenia, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, hypokalemia and neuropathy are highly in FOLFIRINOX than both Gemcitabine and Gemcitabine/Nab-paclitaxel. On the other hand, anemia and thrombocytopenia are higher with Gemcitabine and Gemcitabine/Nab-paclitaxel than are with FOLFIRINOX.</p>			

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Thesis Title	The Role of Cold-inducible RNA-Binding Protein as A Diagnostic Test of Acute Myocardial Infarction			
Year	2021		CD: 1366	
Abstract	<p>Background: Cold-inducible RNA binding protein (CIRP) is constitutively express at low levels across various tissues, under lying a general role for CIRP in organic adaptations to pathophysiological conditions. However, the role of CIRP in the heart remains unclear.</p> <p>Objectives: Study the importance of the Cold-inducible RNA binding protein as a diagnostic test of acute myocardial infarction by comparing it with high-sensitivity cardiac troponin test.</p> <p>Patients and Methods: This study was carried out in AL-Zahra Teaching Hospital in Iraq during the period from October 2020 to March 2021. this study was taken analytical cross-section design, included 58 patients with acute myocardial infarction, divided into two groups, the first group consist of (36) patients with acute myocardial infarction (AMI) and positive troponin, while the second group consist of (22) patients with AMI and negative troponin, patients with acute myocardial with age range (35-90 years), in addition to 28 subjects where healthy subjects consider as control group. All patients' samples were tested for CIRP test by Enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) in order to detect antigen, present in samples. Then the same study group (both case and control subjects) was used in estimation of High-sensitivity cardiac troponin by using ELISA.</p> <p>Result: patients with acute myocardial infarction showed significant decrease in serum cold-inducible RNA-binding protein mean\pmSD was 1128.08\pm199.15pg/ml) when compared with healthy subjects (1314.00\pm93.50pg/ml) with $p \leq 0.05$. Acute myocardial patients with negative troponin level showed the least of serum level of cold-inducible RNA-binding protein (1069.62\pm199.35pg/ml) when compared with acute myocardial patients with positive troponin and healthy subjects. Also, serum CIRP showed no significant correlation with the serum highly sensitive troponin with $p > 0.05$.</p> <p>Conclusion: Through the results it was found that there is a decrease in the level of serum CIRP in patient with AMI but cannot say that it is used as a substitute for diagnosis of AMI instead of troponin, and it was showed little benefits when diagnosing AMI patients with negative troponin.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Acute Radiation Effect on the Thyroid Gland After Postoperative Brest Cancer Irradiation			
Year	2021		CD: 1367	
Abstract	<p>Background: It is of interest to explore the relationship between radiation exposure and thyroid function in Breast cancer patients. hypothyroidism in these patients would depend on the volume receiving relatively high radiation doses (≥ 30 Gy). Most of Radiation induced hypothyroidism are subclinical which are asymptomatic and can only be detected by elevated thyroid stimulating hormone level.</p> <p>Aim of the study: evaluating the acute effects of radiation on thyroid function after 3D conformal EBRT in breast cancer patients.</p> <p>Patients and methods: A prospective comparative study conducted in the Oncology Teaching Center/ Radiation Therapy Department at the Medical City Complex, Baghdad, Iraq from (1 st of Nov. 2020 to the end of April. 2021). 40 patients were included in the study, divided into two groups, group A consisted of 15 patients with early breast cancer treated by whole breast radiation, group B consisted of 25 patients who were node positive or with tumor>5cm that requires comprehensive chest wall + regional lymph node radiation, all sent for thyroid function test before and within 6 months from radiotherapy. Dose volume histogram was evaluated for each patient including the mean dose and V30 and comparison of the results was done between the two groups and within the same group.</p> <p>Results: Our results showed that there were no statistically significant differences in hormonal levels before and after RT within group A and within group B. In comparison of the thyroid hormone level after RT between the two groups there was no statistically significant difference, also the incidence of subclinical hypothyroidism between the two groups was not statistically significant. However, within group B (who received SCV RT) 1/25 patient (4% of BC patients receiving SC-RT developed subclinical hypothyroidism (TSH 5.5 MIU\L) in comparison to the patients who did not have irradiation to the neck region, in the dosmetric analysis and comparison of the DVH between the two groups, there was a significant difference in the mean dose (Dmean) $p < 0.001$ and V30 $p < 0.001$ between the two groups. Age, thyroid volume, was not significantly different between the two groups.</p>			

	Conclusion: longer follow up is recommended to confirm that hypothyroidism is a late effect after breast irradiation.
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Thesis Title	Awareness and Knowledge of Osteoporosis among Iraqi Women			
Year	2021		CD: 1368	
Abstract	<p>Background: Osteoporosis is a systemic skeletal disorder characterized by a decreasing in bone density which predisposes to fragility fractures. Osteoporotic fractures affect patients' quality of life and place a huge economic burden on health care system. Knowledge about symptoms and risk factors of the disease may aid in the early detection of the disease.</p> <p>Aim of the study: The aim of this study is to evaluate the awareness, sources of information, and the level of knowledge about osteoporosis in a sample of Iraqi women.</p> <p>Patients and Methods: A cross sectional study conducted among 250 Iraqi women selected through consecutive sample from those attending Rheumatology Unit in Baghdad Teaching Hospital during period from September 2020 to March 2021. Data were collected by questionnaire that administered through doctor and participants interview, which divided into three parts; first part collected information about socio demographic data such as (age, and educational level), lifestyle and risk factors for osteoporosis. Second part included questions about women awareness, sources of their information and certain questions about osteoporosis disease, women who had never heard of osteoporosis disease were thanked and remaining questions in the questionnaire were not asked. However, in the third part the knowledge about osteoporosis was assessed among those were aware that osteoporosis is a disease which subdivided into four sections (general information about osteoporosis, risk factors, prevention, and complication. The data analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 25.</p> <p>Results: A total 250 women studied, mean age was $48,9 \pm 9.01$ years, 51.6% of them postmenopausal. Majority of women 90% were aware that osteoporosis is a medical condition, while 10% had never heard of the disease, and awareness was positively correlated with education ($P < 0.001$). Among 225 who were aware of osteoporosis disease, mean total knowledge score was 12.99 ± 3.77 (51.96). Percent of knowledge score of women showed that 83.1% had fair knowledge which achieved a score between ($> 25\% - \leq 75\%$), 10.7% of women had good knowledge with a</p>			

	score ($>75\%$), and 6.2% of women were with poor knowledge that obtained score ($\leq 25\%$). There were statistically significant association between educational level, previous Dual -energy X-ray absorptiometry scan, previous low trauma fracture, taking calcium and vitamin D supplements with the knowledge score.
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	Conclusion: The study revealed that Iraqi women have fair knowledge about osteoporosis, misperception about specific parts of disease, and deficient information particularly to the risk factors.
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Thesis Title	The Evaluation of Surveillance of Pneumonia and Severe Acute Respiratory Infections Cases during COVID-19 pandemic in Baghdad Al-Russafa Health Directorate -2020			
Year	2021		CD:1369	
Abstract	<p>Background: Clustered atypical pneumonia cases were detected in China at the end of 2019, causing the new COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, which negatively impacted countries' health systems, precisely surveillance systems for pneumonia and Severe Acute Respiratory Infection causing a withdrawal from their evaluation.</p> <p>Objective: The study aimed to evaluate the surveillance for Severe Acute Respiratory Infection, COVID and Non-COVID, and pneumonia cases in Sheikh Zayid and Al- Kindi Teaching Hospital in Baghdad 2020.</p> <p>Methods: Across-sectional of a retrospective review of surveillance data and patient logs from two hospitals, Sheikh Zayid and Al-Kindi Teaching Hospital, from January 1st to December 31st, 2020. This study was conducted at the Iraqi Ministry of Health/Communicable Diseases Control Center/surveillance section and statistics section in the Baghdad Al-Russafa Health Directorate hospitals. We collected data from two sources, 1000 randomized hospital patient records and an excel sheet of complete patient records data from the surveillance section. Fifteen variables were selected from the data and organized into an Excel sheet. Twelve selected quantitative and qualitative indicators evaluated the surveillance system. In addition, a special questionnaire was used to assess qualitative indicators.</p> <p>Result: More than half the of patients in Sheikh Zayid (53.0%) and 46.0% in Al-Kindi were aged 20 to 40 years. Males more than females in both hospitals (64.1% in Sheikh Zayid and 63.6% Al-Kindi), housewives were found in 28.8% among the studied sample in Sheikh Zayid, and 32.5% in Al-Kindi whereas 23.4% in Sheikh Zayid and 27.9% Al-Kindi were employed. The most missing variables were Travel History 100% and history of contact 98.0%. About 85% of the sample is diagnosed as COVID-19, with 15% undiagnosed as respiratory cases as a contact. Saddar City has</p>			

the highest distribution of sample cases, 28.3%. The surveillance sensitivity was 77.9% for Sheikh Zayid and 78.3% for Al-Kindi; specificity was 56.6% for Sheikh Zayid and 54.1% for Al-Kindi, and PPV was 0.75 for Sheikh Zayid and 0.72 for Al-Kindi. The timeliness was 80-90%, Completeness was around 70%, and data quality was 50%. There was 80% for inflexibility, instability, and not simple. The representativeness was 75%, and security was 60%.

Conclusion: The surveillance system of Severe Acute Respiratory Infection and Pneumonia in this study revealed decreased sensitivity and specificity, Incompleteness leading to low data quality. Timeliness was better in comparison to other indicators. The system was not simple, had some degree of flexibility, not stable as expected. Finally, the Security of Data was not 100% confidential.

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Thesis Title	C.M Characteristics of Admitted Covid-19 Patients in Baghdad- a Covid Hospital Study 2020			
Year	2021		CD: 1370	
Abstract	<p>Background: The global impact of Corona virus has been profound; it represented the most serious health threat since the 1918 H1N1 influenza pandemic. globally, as of July 2021 there are about 193 million cases and more than 4 million deaths from which 1.5 million cases in Iraq and more than 18,000 deaths. There is insufficient epidemiological data on Covid in Iraq, so this study was conducted to study the characteristics of the admitted patients, identify the severity profile and assess the outcome.</p> <p>Methods: A retrospective record-based cross-sectional study conducted in Al-Karkh Hospital in Baghdad city-Iraq for the patient who were admitted from May 2020 – to Dec 2020.</p> <p>Results: A study of 374 cases who were tested PCR positive was studied, the mean age as 54.69 years and standard deviation ± 16.36, males were more than females (68.9% versus 31.1%) with male to female ration 2.21:1. Comorbidities were reported among 60% and the most common comorbidity was HT 55.2%, DM 53.1, and IHD 10.5%. The most laboratory findings were leukocytosis and the outcome was significantly associated with SPO2 percentage, length of stay, and RCU admission, mortality rate was 19%.</p> <p>Conclusions: There is a significant association between age, hypertension and DM, Spo2 and length of stay with the outcome of the disease where the mortality was 19%.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Violence against healthcare workers in relation to COVID-19 pandemic in Baghdad, Iraq, 2021			
Year	2021		CD: 1371	
Abstract	<p>Background: Workplace violence is defined as events where employers are exposed to abuse, threats in situations associated with their work. Recently, violence against healthcare workers reaching to peak levels worldwide. In Iraq, healthcare workers are seriously affected. The study aims to estimate the prevalence and identify the profile of workplace violence, perceived causes, and its consequences against a sample of Iraqi healthcare workers in Baghdad during the COVID-19 pandemic year, 2021.</p> <p>Methods: A cross-sectional online study with an analytic element was conducted on a sample of 311 of healthcare workers working in a number of hospitals and primary healthcare centers in Baghdad city from January to April 2021. Data was collected using a self-administered questionnaire to gather data on demographic and job characteristics, exposure to violence, the circumstances, the response of the victims and the institutions as well as the impact of the violence on the victims.</p> <p>Results: The total participants were 311 healthcare workers with a mean age of 30.91 ± 5.33 years, and a mean working years at service of 6.75 ± 5.35 years. There were 215 (69.3%) participants who experienced violence in the year 2020, and 97 (45%) of them related the violence to COVID-19 circumstances. The majority of participants reported verbal violence 152 (71%), while 28 (13%) reported mixed verbal and physical violence, 12 (6%) of study participants were exposed to physical violence. Exposure to violence was significantly higher among doctors (78.4%, 127, $P=0.001$), and for those working in the emergency ward (82.6%, 67, $P=0.04$). About 87 (40.5%) participants did nothing against violence, while 51 (23.7%) reported to the manager, and the majority of participants 155 (71.6%) reported that the health institute did nothing against violence. As a consequence of violence, around 68% (141) of the workers complained of mental issues and a decrease in performance.</p> <p>Conclusion: Violence against HCWs is considerably high, particularly among doctors and in the emergency wards, and distributed significantly higher among doctors and HCWs at the emergency ward. Further work is</p>			

	needed to improve the communication skills of HCWs and to make the workplace safer through changing certain aspects of the institute infrastructure like installing closed-circuit television, restrict the number of relatives inside the hospital wards, improve the doctor-patient ratio, and decrease waiting time.
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Thesis Title	The possible Antiulcer effect of Anchusa strigosa extract and phytosterol and alkaloid fractions on indomethacin-induced ulcer in Rats			
Year	2021		CD:1372	
Abstract	<p>Background: Anchusa strigosa is one of the herbal resources belonging to Boraginaceae family. Some species of this family have been used traditionally in folk medicine for treating stomach disorders. Therefore, the present study was performed to evaluate the gastropreventive effect of aqueous ethanolic extract and sterol and alkaloid fractions of Anchusa strigosa aerial and roots parts on indomethacin induced gastric ulcer.</p> <p>Aims: The objective of this study is to reduce gastric mucosal lesion caused by NSAIDs by using ethanolic crude extract and different fractions of the medicinal plant called Anchusa strigosa by investigate its effect on histological, gastric acid secretion and immunohistochemistry assay of biomarkers tumor necrosis factor alpha and super oxide dismutase outcomes on experimentally induced gastric ulcer. Furthermore, the mechanisms underlying their gastroprotective actions are being investigated.</p> <p>Methods: Fifty-four healthy male albino rats were divided into 9 groups each of six (N=6). A single oral dose of indomethacin (60 mg/kg body weight) was used to induce ulceration for all groups except first. The vehicle 5% of Carboxymethyl cellulose was given to the first group, while indomethacin was given to the second group and to all pretreated group in twenty-one days. The third group pretreated omeprazole (the reference drug) at a dose of 20 mg/kg, while the fourth and fifth groups pretreated ethanolic crude at a dose of 500 mg/kg orally. The sixth and seventh groups pretreated sterol fraction at 250 mg/kg, 125 mg/kg, and eighth and ninth groups pretreated alkaloid fraction at a dose of 250 mg/kg, 125 mg/kg once daily for 21 days prior to ulcer induction by indomethacin. At the end of the experiment, histological examination gastric secretions, antioxidant and anti-inflammatory parameters by immunohistochemistry method were evaluated.</p> <p>Results: Crude ethanolic extract in a dose 500mg/kg, 250mg/kg pretreatment produced a significant reduction (p<0.05) in gastric damage score, ulcer index, gastric volume, free acidity, total acidity, tumor necrosis factor alpha level and a no significant (p>0.05) increase in the SOD levels</p>			

and inhibition rate. At two doses and similar results of the indomethacin group.

Conclusion: These findings show that ethanolic crude extract and sterol fraction at different doses can reduce or improve the harmful effect of indomethacin. Both were equally effective and have similar efficacy to standard drug, with the protective action of both drugs involving a decrease in acid secretion, a decrease in inflammatory cytokine levels, and an increase in antioxidant defense mechanisms and show good effect on histopathological findings. While the alkaloid fraction was ineffective in protecting against indomethacin induced ulcers due to a very weak effect on the study parameters.

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Thesis Title	Phenotype and Genotype of Thiopurine Methyltransferase in A Sample of Iraqi pediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia patients			
Year	2021		CD: 1373	
Abstract	<p>Background: Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL).and is the most common cancer in children under 15 years of age. Thiopurine Methyltransferase enzyme has a molecular mass of 28 kDA and contains 246 amino acid residues. The enzyme is not metal-dependent and is present in most tissues, such as heart, blood cells, placenta, pancreas, and intestine TPMT enzyme activity varies in individual humans, and this variation is genetically determined.</p> <p>Aim: Analyses of Thiopurine S-Methyltransferase activity in the serum of Acute Lymphoblastic leukemia patients to determine chemotherapy before entering Maintenance phase and assess the most common Thiopurine S-Methyltransferase enzyme polymorphism TPMT*3A, TPMT*3B and TPMT*3C in Iraqi pediatric patients with acute lymphoblastic leukemia</p> <p>Methods: A cross-sectional study was performed at which 79 pediatric patients with acute lymphoblastic leukemia were recruited. The Thiopurine S-Methyltransferase enzyme activity level, the White blood cells count, absolute neutrophils ratio, Total Bilirubin (mg/dl), Aspartate Aminotransferase (U/L), and Alanine Aminotransferase (U/L) were measured for each one of patients. Thiopurine S-Methyltransferase gene was genotyped for (TPMT*3A, TPMT*3B, TPMT*3C) detected by allele specific multiplex-PCR analysis.</p> <p>Results: Result was indicated no significant differences between mean enzyme activity levels in both gene types according to sex, as p-value was 0.18 and 0.14. The correlation between gender of patient and gene polymorphism chi-square was calculated result showed that 19 out of 30 girl (63.3%) and 37 of 49 boy (75.5%) have TPMT*1, 10 out of 30 girl (33.3%) and 8 out of 49 (16.3%) have TPMT*3A and 1out of 30 (3.3%) and 4 out of 49 (8.1%) have TPMT*3C. the correlation between gender and the polymorphism was not statically significant as p-value 0.23.</p> <p>Conclusion: Genotype analysis demonstrates that TPMT*3A and TPMT*3C were the only mutant alleles detected in those pediatric ALL patients with the prevalence of TPMT*3A, and there was no TPMT*3B</p>			

	mutant allele detected. Reducing chemotherapy for patients with low enzyme activity.
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University of Baghdad				
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Department	Epidemiology			
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Thesis Title	Knowledge about human papilloma virus among doctors, Baghdad, Al-Rusafa, 2021			
Year	2021		CD: 1374	
Abstract	<p>Background: Benign HPV lesions are common warts, genital warts, and recurrent respiratory papillomatosis (RRP). Genital types of HPV may also predispose to the development of precancerous lesions in the anogenital area, Cervical cancer, the most common cancer affecting women in developing countries, increasing studies about human papilloma virus infection being a risk factor for cervical cancer. The most common oncogenic HPV genotypes are 16 and 18, causing approximately 70% of all cervical cancers. Vaccinating at an age before females are exposed to HPV would have the greatest impact. Since HPV vaccines do not eliminate the risk of cervical cancer, cervical screening will still be required to minimize cancer incidence.</p> <p>Methodology: A cross sectional study carried out in Baghdad Al-Rusafa directorate of health, five hospitals and three districts were included in the study from the first of May to the 10th of August. Data collection was done by a check list questionnaire filled by doctors to estimate their knowledge about HPV and vaccine. Statistical analysis was carried out using statistical package for social sciences SPSS version 22 .</p> <p>Result: The current study found that most doctors working in hospitals 138, 67% HPV infection signs is mucous membrane and genital warts formations, while PHD higher education doctors 68, 33% answer with late manifestations of HPV infection is STD and infertility then developed to invasive cervical cancer squamous cell carcinoma in histology.</p> <p>Conclusion: Doctor's knowledge about human papilloma virus infection, clinical features, prevention was similar to what was reported in global literature. Most doctors concept is that human papilloma virus infection can be diagnosed at dermatologic clinic as genital warts in early stage. Most doctors did not recommend HPV vaccine to pregnant women.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Characterization of the Antibacterial Activity and Genetic Structure of Enterococcus faecalis Extracted Phage Endolysin			
Year	2021		CD: 1375	
Abstract	<p>Multidrug-resistant Enterococcus faecalis have emerged as a major concern in recent years, with rising reports from around the world. Hence, posing a serious threat to human health and limiting the efficacy of antimicrobials in the treatment of infectious diseases. The bacteria Enterococcus faecalis is the third most common cause of hospital-acquired infections in the globe, and its incidence is rising among the elderly. To address the urgent need for new antimicrobial agents, bacteriophages and their lytic enzymes (endolysins), which are naturally occurring agents, are being used. This study investigated the antibacterial and the antibiofilm activities of the extracted endolysin from E. faecalis phage that can be used as an alternative approach for the treatment of MDR enterococci in Iraq, together with its phylogenetic relationship. The endolysin was extracted using a gel filtration chromatography (Sephadex G100) from E. faecalis phage. The elutes with the highest absorbance at 280nm were tested by spot analysis assay on MDR E. faecalis lawns isolated from a patient with urinary tract infection. The endolysin concentration was measured by Bradford protein assay. The microdilution method was used to determine the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC), the lowest concentration at which there was no visible growth after overnight incubation. Accordingly, the minimum bacteriocidal concentration (MBC) of the extracted endolysin was verified which was the lowest concentration of endolysin that killed E. faecalis. The ability of E. faecalis isolate to form a biofilm was evaluated by Congo Red Agar (CRA) method. Furthermore, the microtiter plate method was used to quantify the antibiofilm activity of the extracted endolysin. Phage DNA was extracted for sequencing using the automated Sanger method and further genetic analysis by Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (NCBI-BLAST) program was done. This program can find regions of similarity between biological sequences. BLAST program also used to build a phylogenetic tree to EF13P3 gene in order to compare it with other nearby E. faecalis phage genes. The antibacterial activity of the extracted endolysin was evaluated with a clear decline in the bacterial growth. The endolysin concentration was (256 µg/mL) with (64 µg/ml) MIC and (128 µg/ml) MBC. Black</p>			

	<p>colonies with dry crystalline consistency were developed on (CRA) after overnight incubation which indicated the ability of <i>E. faecalis</i> isolate to form a biofilm. About (90.04%) of the bacterial biofilm was reduced after the incubation of the extracted endolysin with <i>E. faecalis</i> mature biofilm. Sequencing of the endolysin gene obtained from conventional PCR method uncovered (1257) base pairs. The amino acids translation showed a total number of (419). The phylogenetic analysis of the extracted <i>E. faecalis</i> phage endolysin gene revealed a 100% similarity with <i>Enterococcus</i> phage phiEf11 endolysin gene. The current study discovered the promising ability of the extracted <i>E. faecalis</i> phage endolysin to eliminate the growth of MDR <i>E. faecalis</i> and reduce its mature biofilm. The easy and inexpensive method to extract this enzymobiotic agent encourages further studies to use it as alternative antibacterial agent on such MDR bacteria. The phylogenetic study of its genome clarified a complete description of the genetic sequence that could enhance further molecular studies to produce a cloned endolysin.</p>
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University of Baghdad				
College Name	College of Medicine			
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Thesis Title	Prevalence of Contraceptive Use among Women of Reproductive Age in Baghdad 2020-2021			
Year	2021		CD: 1376	
Abstract	<p>Background: Contraception aims to prevent unwanted pregnancy. Contraceptive prevalence is defined by WHO as the percentage of married or in-union women of reproductive age or whose partners, are using any method (traditional or modern) of contraception. Aim of the study: To measure the prevalence of contraceptive methods use among women of reproductive age in Baghdad. To measure the relationship between contraceptive methods and some socio-demographic factors. To measure a relationship between contraceptive methods and knowledge of participants, attitude.</p> <p>Materials and methods: A cross sectional study were carried on in online for the period of 1st of December 2020 till the 1st of April 2021. Three hundred seven women was included in the study. They participated in online survey by filling the questionnaire. The questionnaire was divided into two main sections; part one concerns the participants' socio-demographic information such as age, level of education, duration of marriage, residency and smoking status. It contained past medical condition that could affect using of some types of the contraceptives such as (migraine, hypertension, coagulation disorders, diabetes mellitus, heart disease, stroke and cancer). The second part concerns family planning practice and current use of contraception, types used, history of side-effects, attitudes towards contraceptive methods, knowledge about the correct use of the method and failure rate of the method used.</p> <p>Results: The prevalence of contraceptive use in Baghdad was eighty four percent. The most frequent contraceptive method was coitus interruptus, as 56.4% of participants were practicing it during the sample collection period. While the role of gynecologists was prominent in intrauterine device and oral contraceptive pills in 36(70.6%) and 47(50.5%) respectively, ($\chi^2 = 48.771$, $p=0.001$) and ($\chi^2 = 32.318$, $p=0.001$) respectively. Seventy-five (80.6%) of women using oral contraceptive pills had a knowledge about oral contraceptive pill. There was statistically significant association between knowledge and oral contraceptive pills ($\chi^2 = 104.256$, $p=0.001$). Twenty-nine (56.9%) of those using intrauterine device got adverse events. A</p>			

significant association between intrauterine device and adverse events ($\chi^2 = 11.767$, $p = 0.001$). Participants with primary and secondary education did not use contraceptive injection or emergency contraception at all, while participants with intermediate level of education used mainly coitus interruptus and oral contraceptive pill, forty-eight participants reported that contraceptives cause mood changes, 21.5% weight gain, 16.5% cycle dysregulation, 6.5% intermenstrual bleeding, 6% breast engorgement, and 1.5% nausea or vomiting. There was no statistically significant association between history of failure and type of contraceptive method.

Conclusion: The prevalence of contraceptive methods use among married reproductive aged women (15-49 years) in Baghdad was more than three quarters. The most commonly used method was coitus interruptus. The most common contraceptive method in all period of marriage was coitus interruptus. The most prominent source of advice was not from general physicians or gynecologists but from others. There was statistically significant association between knowledge and oral contraceptive pills the most common side effect reported by participants was mood changes. The methods that were recommended by gynecologists were Intrauterine devices, injectables contraception and oral contraceptive pills. General physicians and gynecologists did not recommend using coitus interruptus nor safe-period. Coitus interruptus was the most commonly used method by primary, secondary, intermediate, university and higher educational levels. There was significant association between intrauterine devices and adverse events.

Key words: prevalence, contraceptive use, reproductive age women.

University of Baghdad				
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Thesis Title	Clinical, radiological and laboratory characteristics of hospitalized patients with severe COVID-19			
Year	2021		CD: 1377	
Abstract	<p>Background: A catastrophic health issue was striking the world that makes the global health services disparate for any hope to find the solution to the problem that threatened the life of millions of universal inhabitants. It was discovered in 2019 in Wuhan-China and this syndrome addressed as Covid-19 caused by Corona virus.</p> <p>Aim of the study: This study was conducted to demonstrate the clinical, radiological, and laboratory features among severe COVID-19 infected patients.</p> <p>Patient and method: A cross-sectional random analytical study was conducted at Nursing Home Private Hospital and Al-Shifaa Teaching Hospital, Covid-19 intensive care unit (ICU), in Baghdad from February to June 2021, on 100 severe cases infected with Covid-19 diagnosed according the WHO (World Health Organization) guideline for COVID-19 diagnosis. Severe cases were all patients had the following criteria: SpO2 30 breaths/min, PaO2/FiO2 50 %. Several Laboratory investigations (hematological tests (complete blood count), coagulation tests (D-Dimer), Biochemical tests (renal function tests (creatinine, urea), liver function tests (ALT, AST), serum ferritin, erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), lactate de hydrogenase (LDH), and C-reactive protein (CRP)) and radiological imaging (chest computed tomography (CT-scan). Data was collected and analyzed using SPSS 25.</p> <p>Results: The present study included 100 patients with a mean age of 57.65± 12.25, about 68% of them were male while 32% were female. Hypertension presented in (67%) followed by ischemic heart disease (51%) and diabetes mellitus (35%) while chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases were the least common (10%). The duration of illness of the enrolled patient was 14.65± 2.13. Among the participants, 50% of the patients had productive cough, 47% had dry cough, and only 3% had hemoptysis. All patients 100% suffered from fatigue and about 99% of them experienced arthralgia. Other symptoms included anorexia (68%), chest pain (44%), vomiting (30%), while diarrhea was present (22%) of the enrolled patients. Moreover, chest exam showed crackles (56%), rhonchi (4%), both crackles and rhonchi (18%) while (22%) had a clear chest exam. Moreover, systolic blood pressure of the study population was 126.70± 13.29 while diastolic blood pressure and SPO2 were (79.79± 11.66, 80.66± 3.55) respectively. Hemoglobin levels were about 12.86± 1.75, leukocytes count including lymphocytes and neutrophils was 0.71± 0.31 and 3.82± 1.37 respectively,</p>			

Neutrophils/ Lymphocytes ratio was 6.18 ± 3.06 , platelets count, serum ferritin, lactate dehydrogenase, and D-dimer were as following (209.90 ± 46.93 , 984.19 ± 231.13 , 604.12 ± 101.67 , and 1022.61 ± 344.31) respectively. Most of the patients showed elevated renal function test (63%) compared to normal 37%. Liver function test however was normal in 63% of the enrolled patients and elevated in only 37% of the patients. Radiological characteristics elicit that most of the severe cases obtained in this study had CT- scan report of bilateral 5 lobes involvement (83%) of the lung, followed by bilateral 4 lobes involvement (9%) and Bilateral 4 lobes involvement and pneumo- mediastinum (5%), Bilateral 5 lobes involvement and pneumo- mediastinum (2%) and Bilateral 3 lobes involvement (1%) respectively.

Conclusion: The clinical, laboratory, and radiological characteristics of severe COVID-19 infection exhibit a trending pattern. Those with hypertension, males, and non-smokers are more likely to be severe case of COVID-19 infection. While lymphocytopenia, increase neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio, LDH, CRP, renal markers, platelets count, and D-Dimer levels are all features of severe COVID-19 outcome. Radiological features of 5 lobes involvement are a radiological characteristic of severe cases. Key words: Corona virus, COVID-19, clinical characteristics, radiological manifestations, laboratory investigation.

University of Baghdad				
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Thesis Title	Evaluation of Serum Neuregulin 4, Vitamin D and Vitamin B12 Levels in Type 2 Diabetic Patients with and without Peripheral Neuropathy			
Year	2021		CD: 1378	
Abstract	<p>Background: Type II diabetes is a form of diabetes that is characterized by high blood glucose and insulin resistance. Prolonged uncontrolled high blood glucose damages many body's systems, in particular blood vessels and nerves. It has been reported that Neuregulin 4 has neuroprotective and neurotrophic effects and can promote neurite outgrowth and development of neuronal progenitor stem cells.</p> <p>Objectives: To measure serum Neuregulin 4 level in type II diabetic patients with and without peripheral neuropathy and compare their levels to healthy controls. Also, to investigate the relationship between circulating Neuregulin 4 and diabetic neuropathy parameters and development. Furthermore, evaluation of the correlation between Neuregulin 4 level and Vitamin D and Vitamin B12.</p> <p>Material and Methods: This case control study involved 90 individuals with age range between 40 and 71 years who attended the Diabetic Control Clinic of Al Emamain Al Kadhmain Teaching Hospital and AL-Karamah Teaching Hospital in Baghdad during the period from October 2020 to March 2021. Individuals were divided into three groups: group 1 included 30 type II diabetic patients with peripheral neuropathy, group 2 included 30 type II diabetic patients without peripheral neuropathy and group 3 included 30 healthy controls. Serum Neuregulin 4, fasting blood glucose, insulin, HbA1C, serum lipid profile, vitamin B12 and vitamin D were measured for each patient.</p> <p>Results: The level of Neuregulin 4 was significantly lower in diabetic patients with peripheral neuropathy as compared to diabetic patients without peripheral neuropathy and healthy controls ($P < 0.0001$). Neuregulin 4 was significantly lower in patients with S- score ≥ 7 and E score ≥ 2.5. Vitamin B12 and Vitamin D was significantly lower in patient with peripheral neuropathy who had S-score ≥ 7 and E score ≥ 2.5 ($P= 0.012$, $P=0.009$) respectively. In Receiver operating characteristic curve, the area under the curve was 0.943 with 95% CI of 0.89-0.99. At a level of 0.862 ng/mL, Neuregulin 4 was able to identify patients with peripheral neuropathy at a</p>			

sensitivity of 86.7% and a specificity of 83.3%. Moreover, Neuregulin 4 was inversely correlated with fasting blood glucose, insulin resistance, HbA1c, cholesterol, triglyceride and VLDL. However, Neuregulin 4 showed significant positive correlation with vitamin D.

Conclusion: This study showed that lower serum levels of Neuregulin 4 in diabetic patients with peripheral neuropathy as compared to diabetic patients without peripheral neuropathy and healthy controls, Also Neuregulin 4 could identify diabetic patients with peripheral neuropathy at a cutoff value of 0.862 ng/ml with 86.7% sensitivity and 83.3% specificity. Therefore, it could be used as a potential biomarker for detection of diabetic peripheral neuropathy. Significant reduction of Vitamins B12, D in DPN patients with significant positive correlation of vitamin D with Neuregulin 4 level may suggest an interplay between Neuregulin 4 and these neurotrophic vitamins.

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Thesis Title	Osteoporosis Knowledge Among a Sample of Women in Baghdad 2021			
Year	2021		CD: 1379	
Abstract	<p>Background: Osteoporosis is a chronic progressive disease. It is defined as a systemic skeletal disease characterized by low bone density and micro-architectural deterioration of the bone tissue with a consequent increase in bone fragility and is considered as a major public health problem. Osteoporosis is an under-diagnosed disease, yet prevention is better than treatment and the first step in its prevention is to increase the awareness about the disease.</p> <p>Aims: to assess the knowledge about osteoporosis among a sample woman in Baghdad / Iraq as well as identifying its relation with other variables. Sample Size: 500 online participants.</p> <p>Patients and methods: A cross sectional study were conducted in which a convenient sample of females living in Iraq that received the online survey and agreed to respond were included in the study. The questionnaire included demographic characteristics and sixteen questions were used to assess the respondents' knowledge about osteoporosis; zero was given for wrong response and one was given for correct response. Knowledge score ranged from zero-16; respondents with score ranging (13-16) were considered good knowledge, those scoring (8-12) were considered fair knowledge and those scoring 8 and below were considered with poor knowledge.</p> <p>Results: The mean age of studied women was 40.28± 13.681 years. Nearly all of them (99.4%) reported that they were familiar with osteoporosis. It was found that good knowledge scores were more among both younger age and more than 50 years' age (6.2% for both), among unmarried (11.6%), among females with Institute, College & Higher education (15.8%), among employed women (15.6%) and those living in urban areas (20.2%).</p> <p>Conclusions: The knowledge of osteoporosis among women living in Baghdad could be considered moderate or fair as regards its risk factors, preventive measures and consequences. Controlling the quality of health information provided through the social media as well as motivating health care providers to play a role in providing information regarding osteoporosis is recommended.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Radiation Induced Brachial Plexopathy in Breast Cancer with Axillary Irradiation.			
Year	2021		CD: 1380	
Abstract	<p>Background: Worldwide, breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed life-threatening cancer in women. In many less-developed countries, it is the leading cause of cancer death in women; in developed countries, however, it has been surpassed by lung cancer as a cause of cancer death in women. Many early breast carcinomas are asymptomatic; pain or discomfort is not usually a symptom of breast cancer. Breast cancer is often first detected as an abnormality on a mammogram before the patient or healthcare provider feels it. The general approach to evaluation of breast cancer has become formalized as triple assessment: clinical examination, imaging (usually mammography, ultrasonography, or both), and needle biopsy. Increased public awareness and improved screening have led to earlier diagnosis, at stages amenable to complete surgical resection and curative therapies. Improvements in therapy and screening have led to improved survival rates for women diagnosed with breast cancer. Surgery and radiation therapy, along with adjuvant hormone or chemotherapy when indicated, are now considered primary treatment for breast cancer.</p> <p>Aim of study: To identify the risk of brachial plexopathy in patients receiving axillary irradiation in medical city complex, Baghdad, Iraq.</p> <p>Methods: descriptive observational study conducted in the Radiation Therapy Department at the Medical City Complex, Baghdad, Iraq during a period of six months from (October 2020 to May 2021). It involved 20 patients diagnosed with breast cancer and received radiotherapy for breast and axillary lymph nodes. Dose of External Beam Radiotherapy used for the treatment of different patients was (4005 cGY /15 fractions) (2.67 GY/ FX), (4256 cGY /16 fraction) (2.66GY /FX) for hypo fractionation, (5000 cGY /25 fraction) (2 GY/FX) with a standard fractionation in five fractions per week. The patients were assessed for initial symptoms, location, and severity of brachial plexus injury by electro diagnostic study (nerve conduction study) done on both upper limbs for comparison, this assessment was done by Medtronic key point medical devise</p> <p>Results: In a study a total 20 patients were involved, all of them diagnosed with breast cancer with axillary lymph node involvement and received</p>			

axillary irradiation. Study patients' age was ranging from 26 to 68 years with a mean of 49.15 years. 10% of them were hypertensive and the most common type of surgery performed was modified radical mastectomy with axillary lymph node dissection (70%). The highest proportion of study patients were finished radiotherapy since a period from 6 – 18 months (60%). Regarding tumor and nodal stage, 85% of cases were in T2 stage and 50% were in N1 stage. 45% of cases were treated with irradiation dose of 4005 CGY/15 FX, 35% were treated with irradiation dose of 4256 CGY/16 FX, and 20% were treated with irradiation dose of 5000 CGY/25 FX. Lymphedema was diagnosed in 55% of cases. In our study, 90% of study patients showed normal electro diagnostic study; while 10% of them showed abnormal electro diagnostic study suggestive for brachial plexopathy.

Conclusion: RIBPN is a difficult problem due to its varied presentation and limited management options. The goal of treatment is to reduce the patient's suffering. The radiation oncologist should be aware of this side effect, and patients should be followed up regularly for clinical assessment after radiotherapy. Management should be aimed at alleviating symptoms and at improving function, thus providing a better quality of life. Keyword: Brachial plexopathy, axillary irradiation, breast cancer.

University of Baghdad				
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Thesis Title	Exposure to SARS-CoV2 among healthcare workers in Iraq 2020-2021			
Year	2021		CD: 1381	
Abstract	<p>Background: Severe acute respiratory syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) imposed a major burden on the healthcare systems worldwide. Healthcare workers have a higher risk to acquire the severe acute respiratory syndrome Coronavirus 2 and further spread it to the community. Severe acute respiratory syndrome Coronavirus 2 is still rapidly spreading in Iraq. The aim of the study was to estimate the prevalence of severe acute respiratory syndrome Coronavirus 2 infection among healthcare workers in Iraq and to further gain knowledge regarding the protective health behaviors adapted by the healthcare workers and the severity of their symptoms.</p> <p>Methods: a cross-sectional study was carried out using online based questionnaires. A total of 304 Healthcare workers were asked voluntarily to fill completely anonymous questionnaires through various social media (Facebook, Instagram, What's App) Data were collected between 15th of Feb. to the 28th of May 2021.</p> <p>Results: Out of the total 304, 260 healthcare workers responded to the survey, the mean age was 32.06 years, the female's proportion was 57.3%. Out of the 260 participants, 133 (51.2%) reported that they had a confirmed COVID-19 infection. Presenting during an aerosol generating procedure and providing direct care to suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients were associated with higher rate to acquire the infection as 69.8 % of those who presented during an aerosolizing procedure and 57.8% of those workers who provided direct care for confirmed or suspected patients reported they had a positive infection. Mal hand hygiene practice was significantly associated with higher rate of infection as 80% of those who didn't practice good hand hygiene were tested positive for the novel virus. Among the 133 HCWs who had a positive test 113 (85%) had a mild to moderate infection, 14 (10.5%) required hospital admission, 16 (12%) required oxygen therapy.</p> <p>Conclusion: A moderate to high level of infection of severe acute respiratory syndrome Coronavirus 2 among healthcare workers in Iraq.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Effectiveness and Safety of Melatonin in COVID19 Iraqi patients			
Year	2021		CD: 1382	
Abstract	<p>Background: Corona virus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a zoonotic disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2. While COVID-19 infection continues to spread around the world, numerous therapeutic agents were tested or are under clinical trials. However, these therapeutic agents have not yet been proven effective in treating COVID-19 patients. Melatonin is a promising adjunctive drug for viral infections due to its anti-inflammatory, immunomodulatory, and powerful antioxidant properties.</p> <p>Methods: This single center, prospective, randomized clinical trial carried out in Al-Shifaa hospital at Mosul/Iraq from 1st December 2020 to 1st June 2021 on 158 patients with confirmed COVID-19 by reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction. Inclusion criteria: age ≥ 18, Sever cases and SpO2 $< 90\%$ on room air. Exclusion criteria: age < 18, 80 years, history of known allergy to melatonin, pregnancy, lactating female, liver impairment, renal impairment, autoimmune disease, cancer and terminal medical illness. They divided randomly into two groups melatonin group (given 10 mg melatonin) and control group. C-reactive protein, serum ferritin, D-dimer level and percentage of oxygen saturation were tested, needing of mechanical ventilation, thrombosis, sepsis and death were assessed at days 5, 11, 17 of symptoms.</p> <p>Results: There was no significant difference across the two groups in the clinical characteristics. In the base line (at day 5 of symptoms) there was no significant difference between melatonin group and control group in all parameters except SpO2 which was lower in melatonin group. At day 11 of symptoms the CRP, ferritin, D-dimer and sepsis was significantly lower in melatonin group, while no significant difference was seen between the two groups in the need of mechanical ventilation and thrombosis. At day 17 of symptoms there was significant improvement in all parameters in melatonin group. The mortality rate was significantly higher in control group than melatonin group.</p> <p>Conclusion: This study revealed the efficacy of oral melatonin as an adjuvant therapy added to the standard therapy in patients with severe COVID-19.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Demographical and Clinical Manifestation of the First and Second COVID-19 Wave for Hospitalized patients at Al-Kindy Teaching Hospital Baghdad, Iraq			
Year	2021		CD: 1383	
Abstract	<p>Background: The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) has spread globally. The virus was first identified in Wuhan, China. COVID-19 has infected humans in all age groups, of all ethnicities, both males and females. Many countries around the world saw two or more waves of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) during the 2020 pandemic.</p> <p>Objective: To compare the demographical and clinical features among patients admitted to an Al-kindy teaching hospital due to COVID-19 disease during the first and second wave.</p> <p>Methods: A descriptive cross-sectional study was used, the study was performed at Al Kindy hospital, data gathered from Al Kindy hospital for three months between September 1, 2020, to November 30, 2020, was considered as the first wave of the epidemic, Also, the study was performed at Al-Shifa medical center 13 which was built inside Al Kindy hospital, data gathered from Al-Shifa medical center 13 for three months between February 1, 2021, to April 30, 2021, was considered as the second wave.</p> <p>Results: 1016 patients admitted to hospital (653 during the first period and 363 during the second period). 598(58.85%) patients were male. (23.72%) patients had contact with confirmed cases. More patients admitted to hospital depend on CT scan (15.1%) patients in the first wave (40.3%) patients in the second wave, compared to using RT-PCR test for admission in hospital (84.9%), (59.7%) respectively. The most frequent signs and symptoms in both waves were fever, shortness of breath, and cough. Patients from the second wave more frequently presented with diarrhea. Disease was mild in 11 (1.08%) case, moderate in 442 (43.50%) case, severe in 543 (53.44%) case, and critical in 20 (1.96%) case Mean age of fatality rate in the first waves was (60.7±14.7years) and (62.5±13.5years) in the second waves.</p> <p>Conclusion: More patients admitted to hospital depend on CT scan in the second wave compared to first wave. Patients in the second wave were older and the fatality rate was higher than those in the first wave. Key Words:</p>			

	Pandemics, Computed Tomography, Hospital, Polymerase Chain Reaction, Coronavirus.
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Thesis Title	Estimation the level of serum prostate specific antigen in hyper androgenic and insulin resisting poly cystic ovarian Iraqi women patients			
Year	2021		CD: 1384	
Abstract	<p>Background: Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS) is a common endocrine disorder affecting women reproductive system and because its clinical and biochemical disturbances, its diagnosis and treatment is very important. One of the possible diagnostic markers of PCOS is prostate specific antigen (PSA).</p> <p>Aim of the study: The evaluation of serum prostate specific antigen in the diagnosis of poly cystic ovarian Iraqi women with either insulin resistance or hyperandrogenism.</p> <p>Subjects, material and methods: an analytical cross-sectional study was carried out on eighty female patients newly diagnosed by gynecologist with poly cystic ovarian syndrome. The study was conducted at the Department of Biochemistry, College of Medicine /University of Baghdad, infertility clinic of High Institute of Infertility Diagnosis and Assisted Reproductive Technologies at Al-Nahrain University- Baghdad/ Iraq and AL-Imamein AL-Kadhimaiein Medical City in the period from November 2020 to February 2021. The age ranges from (18- 40) years. Anthropometric parameters were measured for each female. Five ml of fasting blood sample taken from each woman in their follicular phase. The electrochemiluminescence immunoassay —ECLIAI technique is intended for use on Elecsys and Cobas e immunoassay and Mindray cl1200i analyzers to measure serum free testosterone, prostate specific antigen (PSA), Dehydroepiandrosterone and Insulin levels. Data of patients were analyzed using SPSS software version 20 and mini tab 18. Descriptive statistics tabulated as mean and standard error. Paired student t-test for variables levels was done. Level of significance of ≤ 0.05 was considered as significant difference of correlation.</p> <p>Results: Eighty female patients newly diagnosed by gynecologist with PCOS were enrolled in this study, they were divided twice, first according to their HOMA IR level as an indication of insulin resistance. 30 patients their HOMA-IR ≤ 2.9 while 50 their HOMA-IR > 2.9. Significant difference observed in BMI, S. LH. , S. fasting glucose and S. fasting insulin levels No</p>			

significant difference in S. FSH, mFG score, S. free testosterone, S. DHEA and S.PSA levels The second division was according to their serum level of free testosterone (cut-off value 0.85 pg/ml: 42 women had serum free testo. ≤ 0.85 pg/ml, while 38 had S.free testo. Level > 0.85 pg/ml. Significant difference observed in S. LH, mFG score, S. DHEA and S.PSA levels No significant difference in S. FSH, S. fasting glucose and S. fasting insulin. Levels

Conclusion: Serum prostate specific antigen cannot be considered as a diagnostic marker for the two conditions which are insulin resistance and hyperandrogenism in PCOS. Although it showed a decrease in its level in hyperandrogenic patients but the specificity and sensitivity is too low to consider it as a diagnostic marker.

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Thesis Title	Burnout Syndrome among Healthcare Providers in COVID-19 Specialized Hospitals in Baghdad/Iraq			
Year	2021		CD: 1385	
Abstract	<p>Background: Burnout syndrome is a psychosocial syndrome. It involves feelings of emotional exhaustion, depersonalization and low personal accomplishment at work. Burnout syndrome of the healthcare providers is associated with increased rates of medical error and decreased productivity, putting patients at risk and straining an already overstretched medical system. Objectives: To estimate the prevalence and extent of burnout syndrome among health care providers and highlight the factors related to burnout syndrome.</p> <p>Method: A cross-sectional study was conducted in Baghdad/Al-Russafa Health Directorate/Ibn-Alkhateb Hospital, Baghdad/Al-Karkh Health Directorate /Alfurat General Hospital, and Health Directorate of Baghdad / Medical City/Alshifaa Center for COVID-19 during the period from 1st of April 1 to 30th of June, 2021. Convenient sampling was used to enroll participants in this study. A total of 400 participants were enrolled. A P-value of ≤ 0.05 was considered statistically significant</p> <p>Results: Most participants experienced burnout syndrome (89.5%), more than half of the participants had low personal accomplishment (67.5%) and depersonalization (60.0%), while only 32.8% had emotional exhaustion. There was no significant association between emotional exhaustion and socio demographic characteristics. The low personal accomplishment was significantly associated with specialty and the number of work hours per week. Depersonalization was significantly associated with specialty, number of work hours per week and marital status.</p> <p>Conclusion: The level of BOS was high among HCPs in Iraq compared to other countries. Laboratory and x-ray technicians, and those working for 30-47 hours per week had significantly more low personal accomplishment than others. Widow or deforced, nureses, those working for 48-71hours had significantly higher depersonalization than others.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Assessment of Knowledge in Sample of Iraqi Patients with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus			
Year	2021		CD: 1386	
Abstract	<p>Background: Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) is an autoimmune disease in which a person's immune system attacks various organs or cells of the body, causing damage and dysfunction. Patient education is thought to be one way to limit disability in rheumatic diseases and to obtain an improvement in quality of life. Knowledge acquisition is a complex procedure and rely on patient intelligence, level of education, motivation teaching style and content.</p> <p>Aim of study: The aim of a current study is to assess the level of knowledge in sample of Iraqi patients with systemic lupus erythematosus, by answering a questionnaire about disease with doctor interview.</p> <p>Patients and methods: This are a cross sectional study including 150 Iraqi patients with SLE, who have access to the Rheumatology Unit in Baghdad Teaching Hospital. SLE data collection were taking place between September 2020 and February 2021. Socio demographic data were taken including age, name, gender, marital status, with different educational level, occupation and disease duration, number of hospitalizations, organ involvement, SLE information source, medications in use were also reported. Patients had interviewed and answered a questionnaire which was including: general knowledge about SLE, about causes, risk factors and symptoms of SLE, knowledge regarding diagnosis and treatment of SLE, knowledge regarding complication and preventive measures of SLE. The clinical and demographic data analyzed using descriptive statistics.</p> <p>Results: The overall knowledge score was 30.4 ± 6.22 and ranged from 4-39. The study revealed that (72%) of lupus patients had good level of knowledge. There is no significant statistical association between the mean total score and the gender (P value =0.75), age (P value 0.96), marital status (P value 0.27), occupation (P value 0.84), education (P value 0.32), and number of hospitalizations (p value 0.37). While there is a significant statistical association between mean total score and the duration of disease (P value 0.03).</p> <p>Conclusions: The present study disclosed that SLE Iraqi patients have good level of knowledge, and awareness about specific aspects of their disease.</p>			

	Age, gender, educational level, occupation, in addition to count of hospital admissions had no important relations with knowledge or attitude towards SLE.
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Thesis Title	Outcome and determinants of directly observed treatment short course for tuberculosis patients in the National Tuberculosis Center of Babil Governorate, Iraq during 2016-2020			
Year	2021		CD: 1387	
Abstract	<p>Background: Directly observed treatment short course (DOTS) is a proven, cost-effective Tuberculosis treatment strategy that quickly turns the infectious cases into non-infectious and breaks the transmission cycle.</p> <p>Objectives: Measure the treatment outcomes in TB patients during 2016-2020, describe the socio-demographic and clinical profile of TB patients and evaluate the performance of the National TB program in Babil governorate based on WHO indicators</p> <p>Method: A descriptive cross-sectional study was done. All TB patients in the NTP Center of Babil governorate under the DOTS program from 2016 to 2020 were included. A form was developed to compile socio-demographic data, clinical presentation, and treatment outcomes.</p> <p>Results: A total number of cases was 1723. The mean age was 40.0 (\pm 21.0) years. The female constituted 53.8% of cases. The patients aged \geq 65 years had the highest percentage of total cases 279 (16.2%). Pulmonary tuberculosis (PTB) constituted 56.1% of the cases 50.5% of them had smear-positive. The most common site for extrapulmonary tuberculosis (EPTB) was lymph nodes 41.1%. Treatment success was attained in 93.7%, while 3.3% of patients dead. The patients aged \geq 65 years have the lowest success rate and highest treatment unsuccess rate opposite to young age groups (p 0.002).</p> <p>Conclusion: The treatment outcome target planned by WHO was achieved. The case detection rate of all form was low. The age and the site of TB significantly affected the outcome of treatment.</p> <p>Keywords: DOTS, TB, treatment outcome, Babil.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Evaluation of Serum Level of 25- Hydroxyvitamin D, Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGF) and Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms of Vitamin D Receptor and VEGF in Iraqi Women with Breast Cancer			
Year	2021		CD: 1388	
Abstract	<p>Background: Breast cancer is the most frequent cancer among women worldwide. In Iraq, it is the common type of female malignancy and account for one third of the registered women cancers. Breast cancer usually occurred when the genetic mutations were built in certain genes. Vitamin D (VD) status is a modifiable factor that may reduce risk of breast cancer (BC) through modulation of cell proliferation, apoptosis, invasion and metastasis via binding to a specific receptor, the vitamin D receptor (VDR). Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor (VEGF) and its receptor have sparked attention on the occurrence of breast cancer.</p> <p>Objective: To study the association between VDR Apa1(G/T)[rs7975232], Taq1(T/C) (rs731236), (Bsm1G/A) [ra1544410], Fok1(T/C)[rs2228570] and VEGF gene (Bg111C/A)[rs699947] single nucleotide polymorphism SNPs with risk of breast cancer in Iraqi women together with serum levels of 25- hydroxyvitamin D [25- (OH) D], VEGF and CA 15-3 and to compare the results with age and body mass index matched healthy control women in order to be used as predictors for the occurrence and progression of breast cancer.</p> <p>Subjects and Materials: This case -control study women were carried out at the Department of biochemistry, College of Medicine, University of Baghdad, at Oncology Hospital /Medical city of Baghdad and AL- Hussein Hospital - Oncology centre of Kerbala during December 2019 to January 2021. It included 95 women with primary breast cancer, age ranged between 35-65 years and 95 apparently healthy women with age ranged between 35-65 years as controls group. The phenotype analysis included the measurements of serum CA 15-3, VEGF and 25(OH)D by using ELISA Kits. The genotyping analysis comprised of VDR genotyped for the single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) of Fok1 (T/C) [rs2228570], Bsm1 (G/A) [rs1544410], Taq1 (T/C) [rs731236] and Apa1 (G/T) [(rs7975232] and VEGF-BgIII(C/A) [rs6999947] by polymerase chain reaction and restriction fragment length polymorphism (PCR-RFLP) analysis.</p>			

Results: The mean (\pm SD) value of serum 25-(OH) vitamin D levels was significantly ($p < 0.02$) and VEGF levels were significantly ($p < 0.01$) increase in BC women than in control ones. The risk of breast cancer was significantly increased with VEGF-BgIII SNP (rs 699947 C/A) in heterozygous, homozygous and dominant genotypes in patients with BC (OR=2.404, 95% C. I=1. 284..4.505, $P=0.006$), (OR=5.625, 95% C. I=1. 635..19 .35, $P=0.006$ respectively) and CA+AA (OR=2.662, 95% C. I=1. 442..4.917, $P=0.001$) compared with control women genotype. The A allele frequency of BgIII associated risk of breast cancer by comparison allele C/C (OR= 2.846, 95% C. I= 1. 423..5.698, $P = 0.003$). The polymorphism VDR Taq1 (rs731236), heterozygous and dominant (TC+CC) significantly increase the risk of BC (OR= 1.904, 95% C. I= 1. 055..3.437, $X^2 = 4.612$, $P= 0.03$), (OR= 1.895, 95% C. I= 1. 664..3.377, $X^2 = 4.75$, $P= 0.02$). The VDR – BsmI gene heterozygous GA carriers (OR=2.22, 95% C.I= 1.220..4.042, $X^2 = 6.906$, $p=0.009$) and dominant GA+AA (OR=2.068, 95% C.I=1.159..3.692, $X^2 = 6.108$, $P= 0.01$) were also significantly associated with increased risk of BC, while A allele frequency was on borderline significant risk (OR= 1.939, 95% C.I= 0.975..3.856, $X^2 = 3.167$, $p= 0.05$). The results of the other Single Nucleotide Polymorphism VDR (Fok1 rs2228570 T>C) and (Apa1 rs#7579232G>T) showed non-significant differences in genotype and allele frequencies between cases and controls. There was significant difference in serum 25-(OH) vitamin D levels and VDR-Taq1 when considering codominant genotype model (P value= 0.04) and borderline significant differences in serum VEGF levels in codominant genotype (P -value= 0.05). It was also found that there is significant association between genotyping results of the studied SNPs and clinical characteristics of BC women.

Conclusion: The VEGF SNP BgIII (rs699947) gene variation including heterozygous, homozygous, dominant and allele A frequency were found to be risk of breast cancer development and may be used in screening for this disease in women. The VDR gene SNPs (Taq1 rs731236, Bsm1 rs 1544410) heterozygous and dominant were also found as risk of breast cancer occurrence. The majority of women with breast cancer were vitamin D deficient and insufficient. Low serum Vitamin D and high serum VEGF were associated with genotyping of VDR Taq1 and Bg III respectively.

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Thesis Title	Electrophysiological Findings in Patients with Carpal Tunnel Syndrome: Their Association with Vitamin D3 And Clinical Grading			
Year	2021		CD: 1389	
Abstract	<p>Carpal tunnel syndrome is a neurological disease that is presented with paresthesia, pain and numbness in the hands, it is the most frequent upper extremity entrapment neuropathy, which is happened because of the pressure effect on the median nerve, In the great majority of cases carpal tunnel syndrome is regarded idiopathic, Phalen's and Tinel's signs are the most commonly performed provocative tests, electrophysiological studies including nerve conduction studies and electromyography (EMG) are considered a first-line diagnostic tests that needed for the diagnosis of carpal tunnel syndrome, Vitamin D was assumed to affect both electrophysiological & clinical gradings.</p> <p>The study aimed to assess the association between vitamin D and electrophysiological findings in carpal tunnel syndrome patients, to assess the correlation between vitamin D and clinical grading in these patients, to investigate the association between electrophysiological and clinical gradings in relation to vitamin D levels.</p> <p>This is a case control study that was conducted in Ghazi Alhariri and Baghdad teaching hospitals during the period from the first of November/2020 to the twenty eighth of February/2021, fifty five patients (55pts) were enrolled with age range(28-65)years and mean of (49.30±11.22) years, those were compared to 55 healthy individuals (control) with age range (24-60) years with a mean of(45.2±6.72) years, blood samples were withdrawn from the patients (3ml), centrifuged and kept in freezer (-20°C) until the time of analysis of vitamin D, Sensory and motor nerve conduction studies of median nerve and sensory nerve)conduction. Study of the (ulnar nerve. were done bilaterally, patients were classified elecgtrophysiologically and clinically into two subgroups (mild to moderate) and (severe) groups, vit D was analyzed using AFIAS device and the patients were classified into two groups, low vitamin D (below 30 ng/ml) and normal vitamin D(above30ng/ml).</p> <p>The result revealed that there was no significant difference in the age, gender, body mass index (BMI), and vitamin D of the patients versus the</p>			

	<p>control group ($p > 0.05$), there was a significant difference in the electrophysiological parameters between patients and control group (p value 0.05), on the other hand there was a significant association between vitamin D level and the clinical grading (p value < 0.05), In addition to a significant association between the electrophysiological and clinical gradings that with each increase in the severity of electrophysiological grading there is 12 times probability of being severe clinically (P value = 0.001, Odds ratio = 12.6) In conclusion: vitamin D deficiency does not affect the electrophysiological parameters while the clinical grading becomes worse with the decrease in its level. The electrophysiological grading is associated significantly with the clinical grading, nerve conduction studies (NCS) provide important, objective, additional, evidence in the diagnosis and assessment of severity of carpal tunnel syndrome.</p>
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Thesis Title	Relationship between Periodontal Diseases and Juvenile idiopathic Arthritis			
Year	2021		CD: 1390	
Abstract	<p>Background: Juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) is an arthritis of unknown etiology that begins before the 16 th birthday and persists for at least six weeks with other known conditions excluded. In JIA, there is a destructive inflammatory process in the border between bone and connective tissue of the joint similar to the inflammatory process of the supporting tissue around the tooth in periodontitis.</p> <p>Objective: To emphasize the role of a pedo- dentist in the multidisciplinary management of JIA (to treat this detrimental disease before it becomes irreversible).</p> <p>Patients and Methods: A case-control study was conducted among JIA patients at Baghdad Teaching Hospital, Rheumatology Unit and private rheumatology clinic during the period September 2020 to May 2021. Twenty Iraqi patients diagnosed with JIA by rheumatologist (after fulfilling International League of Associations for Rheumatology (ILAR) criteria), compared with 20 healthy control individuals matched age. All patients were sent to specialized pediatric dental clinic in Baghdad where dental examination was applied. The examinations were conducted by two certified specialist pedo-dentist to indices Dental findings (dmf-s/DMF-S), Gingival inflammation (GI), Plaque index (PI). The surfaces of Ramfjord teeth were examined with diagnostic instruments (mirror and periodontal probe) and scored for all indices.</p> <p>Results: According to joint numbers involved, the polyarticular manner was the most common in 40% of patients, followed by oligoarticular in 35% of patients, and systematic manner in 20% of patients. In addition, one case presented with enthesitis related arthritis. The mean of GI in patients' group (0.88 ± 0.623) was higher than that of control group (0.61 ± 0.53), without any significant difference ($p=0.0545$). However, the PI results showed high statistically significant difference ($p=0.0162$), similarly, the dmfs demonstrated a high significant difference ($p=0.026$) between patient and control groups. The DMFs was statistically significant ($p=0.015$), CRP level in relation to the indices, all indices have a significant high level association level ($\geq 5\text{mg/L}$) over normal level of CRP ($<5\text{mg/L}$), effect of Prednisolone</p>			

was statistically significant for GI ($p=0.0245$), and dmfs ($p=0.0015$). However, it was not significantly different in the value of PI ($p=0.098$), and DMFs ($p=0.0627$). In our study DMARDs (MTX) had a direct effect on GI and PI with a statistically significant difference ($p=0.0164$), and ($p=0.017$), respectively. Finally, the role of MTX on dmfs and DMFs was not significant.

Conclusions: The indices used in this study to evaluate oral health in JIA children were GI has no significant difference compared to healthy children; PI was significantly higher compared to healthy children; the dmfs/DMFS both showed significantly higher compared to healthy children. The high CRP level has a significant association with GI, PI and dmfs, but no significant association with DMFs. Regarding the JIA treatment, Prednisolone has significantly modified all indices (in particular GI and DMFs), NSAIDs has significantly modified PI only, DMARDs (MTX) had direct effect on GI and PI, but no role on dmfs and no significant effect on DMFs.

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ntr	Echocardiographic evaluation of Physiological Changes in Left Ventricular Function Primi Gravida Women			
Year	2021		CD:1391	
Abstract	<p>The process of pregnancy is associated with significant cardiovascular changes. The cause behind these changes is the increased metabolic demands of the mother and fetus so they considered as mechanisms the body has adapted to meet and to ensure adequate uteroplacental circulation for fetal growth and development. maternal inability to adapt to these physiological changes can expose underlying, previously silent, cardiac disease, However, the effect of these alterations on left ventricular (LV) myocardial contractile function has not been fully illustrated. This study was aimed to assess the maternal left ventricular diastolic and systolic function during the last trimester of pregnancy using transthoracic echocardiography and to evaluate left ventricular (LV) contractile function by measuring LV global longitudinal strain (GLS) using 2D speckle tracking echocardiography. This case control study was carried out in Baghdad teaching hospital. A total of 108 women were studied and 100 of them were included, they were classified into two groups: 50 nulliparous women with mean age (24.6 ± 3.80 year) served as control group, and 50 pregnant women with normal singleton pregnancy (30-40 weeks of gestation) with mean age (23.6 ± 2.83 year) served as study group. All women were submitted to a detailed medical history and physical examination, their blood pressure was measured in the left lateral decubitus position and their body weight, height was measured to calculate body mass index and body surface area. In order to assess left ventricle diastolic and systolic function we use transthoracic echocardiography to obtain the conventional parameters in addition, the left ventricular contractile function evaluated by measuring LV global longitudinal strain (GLS) using the modality of 2D speckle tracking echocardiography. The result of this study revealed significant increase in heart rate in the pregnant females with (p value of 0.001), while the systolic blood pressure (SBP) and the diastolic blood pressure (DBP) decreased in pregnant females in comparison to the control with (p value 0.001 and 0.011) respectively. Also, pregnant female had a significant increase in left ventricular internal dimensions during diastole (LVIDd) and interventricular septum thickness (IVS) over control with (P= 0.002, p= 0.001). E wave velocity and E/A ratio was significantly lower in pregnant women than controls with larger LA area, (P= 0.001, p= 0.003, p= 0.001). no significant difference in the ejection fraction (p= 0.214) in the other hand the global longitudinal strain (GLS) shows significant</p>			

	<p>decrease in the pregnant females in their third trimester ($p= 0.001$). In conclusion: the heart undergoes numerous adaptations during normal pregnancy to preserve its diastolic and systolic function within normal physiological limits, left ventricular global longitudinal strain (GLS) shows significant reduction during the third trimester of normal pregnancy, which will help in understanding the functional changes of myocardium during healthy pregnancy. No correlation exists between the left ventricular ejection fraction LVEF and left ventricular global longitudinal strain (LVGLS) and the (LVEF) was within the normal range in spite of the reduction of LVGLS.</p>
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Thesis Title	Assessment of serum ferritin, folate, vitamin B12, C-reactive protein, D-Dimer and homocysteine as predictors of severity in patients with COVID-19 infection			
Year	2021		CD: 1392	
Abstract	<p>Background: Many cases of pneumonia were detected at China in 2019 which were of unknown cause, deep sequencing analysis from lower respiratory tract samples detected a novel virus severe acute respiratory syndrome corona virus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) as causative agent for that pneumonia. The most common mode of transmission is droplets expelled during face-to-face exposure during talking, coughing, or sneezing. Clinical symptoms include fever, dry cough, fatigue and dyspnea. In 10-20% of patients, the disease usually progresses into a serious type, requiring hospital admission or even intensive care unit (ICU).</p> <p>Aim of the study: To evaluate the usefulness of serum ferritin, folate, B12, CRP, D-dimer and homocysteine level as biomarkers for prediction of patients with severe and critical COVID-19 infection.</p> <p>Patients, materials and methods: Serum level of ferritin, folic acid, vitamin B12, homocysteine. CRP and plasma D-dimer were measured in (88) patients with COVID-19 infection (38 non-severe and 50 severe infection). Age of the patients was between (18-59) years old. Infection was documented by PCR. Samples were collected in AL-Kindy hospital from October 2020 to December 2020. Six parameters (serum ferritin, serum folic acid, serum vitamin B12, serum homocysteine, serum C-reactive protein and plasma D-dimer) were measured in patients with non-severe and severe COVID-19 infection and comparison among the results was done in the research. Measurements of parameters were done by Enzyme Linked Fluorescent Assay (ELFA) for ferritin, enzyme linked immune-sorbent assay (ELISA) for folic acid, vitamin B12 and homocysteine, Nycocard CRP is a diagnostic test for quantitative determination of C-reactive protein in human and Fluorescence immune-assay (FIA) was used for quantitative determination of D-dimer</p> <p>Results: The median for serum folic acid in severe group (Median = 4.28 nmol/L) was significantly lower than the median for non-severe (Median = 5.58 nmol/L). The median for serum vitamin B12 in severe group (Median = 463.56 pmol/L) was significantly lower than the median for non-severe</p>			

group (Median = 486.75 pmol/L) both were within normal range. The median for serum homocysteine in severe group (Median = 2.61nmol/ml) was significantly lower than the median for non-severe (Median = 6.65nmol/ml). The median for serum ferritin in females for severe group (Median = 543.50) was significantly higher than the median for non-severe (Median = 68.50), while the median for serum ferritin in male for severe group (Median = 665.00) was significantly larger than the median for non-severe group (Median = 223.50). The median for blood D-dimer in Severe group (Median = 1.38) was significantly larger than the median for non-severe group (Median = 0.22). The median for serum C-reactive protein in Severe group (Median = 51 mg/L) was significantly larger than the median for non-severe group (Median = 5 mg/L).

Conclusions: In this study, serum folic acid was low in patients with COVID-19 who suffered from severe infection and normal serum level of folic acid in non-severe infection, Serum ferritin level in female was higher in severe group than in non-severe group also the ferritin level was higher in male in severe group than non-severe group. Both CRP and D-dimer were higher in patients with severe infection than in non-severe infection.

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Thesis Title	Tamoxifen Versus Letrozole as Ovarian Stimulants in Infertile Iraqi Women			
Year	2021		CD: 1393	
Abstract	<p>Background: Infertility is the inability to become pregnant after one year of intercourse without contraception involving a male and female partner. The most common cause of female infertility is ovulatory problems, which generally manifest themselves by irregular periods (oligomenorrhoea) or an absence of periods (amenorrhoea). Anovulation may be due to problems affecting the ovary, pituitary or hypothalamus. Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome is the most common endocrinal disorder in women of reproductive age and is the primary cause of anovulatory infertility. Letrozole, a potent non-steroidal selective reversible aromatase inhibitor and it is considered an established treatment for ovulation induction. Tamoxifen citrate is a triphenyl ethylene derivative with a structure similar to Clomiphene Citrate has been considered for ovulation dysfunction treatment.</p> <p>Aim of the study: Compare the effectiveness of tamoxifen and letrozole in ovulation induction outcomes in infertile Iraqi women.</p> <p>Patients and Methods: The study was carried out from November 2020 to March 2021 in which 88 infertile women randomly selected to be included in this prospective study in the Infertility center in Alkut hospital for maternity and childhood. Patients were divided into 2 groups: first group (40 patients) received tamoxifen 20mg twice daily on days 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of cycle for three successive cycles and second group (48 patients) received letrozole 2.5mg twice daily from day 3 of cycle for 5 days for three successive cycles. Treatment has been stopped if they become pregnant or failed to concept after three months. Ultrasound examinations were done on day 12 of cycle in order to monitor: number of mature follicles, dominant follicle measurements and endometrial thickness.</p> <p>Results: The mean age \pm Standard deviation of tamoxifen group was 30.7 ± 5.7 years and 28.3 ± 7.1 years of letrozole group. There was no significant difference in body mass index, duration of infertility, type of infertility, number of children, type of delivery, either female polycystic ovary syndrome or non- polycystic ovary syndrome and in hormones profile which included (luteinizing hormone, follicle-stimulating hormone,</p>			

prolactin, thyroid-stimulating hormone). Follicular diameter was comparable in both group, there was no significant difference between tamoxifen and letrozole groups. Endometrial thickness was significantly higher in tamoxifen group than in letrozole. There was no significant difference between both groups in number of mature follicles. Tamoxifen group was higher rate of pregnancy than letrozole (75% versus 60.4%) with no statistically significant difference with P value 0.147. Both tamoxifen and letrozole groups had comparable rates of miscarriage (5% versus 4.2%) with P value 0.852.

Conclusions: Both letrozole and tamoxifen were effective as ovulation induction agents. No significant difference between both agents in follicular diameter, number of mature follicles, rate of miscarriage. Tamoxifen was superior to letrozole in achieving higher endometrial thickness. There was a higher rate of pregnancy, high in tamoxifen group compared to lertozole group.

Key words: Tamoxifen, Letrozole, Ovarian stimulants, Infertile, Iraqi women.

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Thesis Title	Assessment of Knowledge and Practice of Proper Bottle Feeding Technique Among a Sample of Infant'S Mother Attending Primary Health Care Centers/ Baghdad / AL-Rusafa			
Year	2021		CD: 1394	
Abstract	<p>Background: Optimal infant feeding practices are crucial for nutritional status, growth, development, health, and ultimately the survival of infants and young children. Inappropriate infant feeding practices can predispose children to wheezing, obesity, and lifelong health problems. Therefore, optimal feeding practices are critical to provide appropriate nutrition during infancy.</p> <p>Aim of study: To estimate the level of knowledge and practice of proper bottle-feeding method among sample of infant's mother attending primary health care centers in Baghdad Al-Rusafa 2021.</p> <p>Method: This was a cross-sectional study with analytic component conducted in 10 primary health care centers in Al-Rusafa side of Baghdad city during a period of four months from 2nd of January to 1st of May 2021. It included 400 mothers of infants (aged < one year). The data had been collected through distribution of well-designed questionnaire including three parts: (Participants' socio-demographic characteristics, knowledge, and practice parts). Total scale score was used to scoring responses in knowledge and practice parts which is also known as summative scale.</p> <p>Results: In this study, 81% had fair knowledge and 60.5% had fair practice level. There were statistically significant associations between knowledge and practice scores with age, educational level, occupation, number of children, and socioeconomic status.</p> <p>Conclusion: The majority of Iraqi infant's mothers showed fair level of knowledge and practice regarding proper bottle-feeding method. The most important factors that may decrease the level of knowledge and practice were young age, low level of education, having lower number of children, and poor socioeconomic status.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Antenatal Care and Emergency Caesarean Section in Baghdad /Al-Rusafa 2021			
Year	2021		CD: 1395	
Abstract	<p>Background: The importance of antenatal health care is to improve maternal and perinatal outcomes and reduce the risk of preterm birth, cesarean section, intra uterine growth restriction, etc. Several articles in Iraq, documented that increasing rates of cesarean sections were observed in recent years with significant proportion of these operations were done for emergency conditions.</p> <p>Objective: to assess the impact of antenatal health care in reducing the risk of emergency C/S.</p> <p>Methods: A case control study was conducted at Baghdad in Al- Elwia and Fatima Al-Zahra hospitals, a sample consisted of 400 pregnant women were admitted for delivery, first group (cases) 200 women were delivered by emergency cesarean section and the second group (control) 200 women were delivered by normal vaginal birth, the data collected through well-developed questionnaire by means of direct interview.</p> <p>Results: The rate of emergency cesarean section was significantly high in teenage mothers (OR=10). The rate of emergency cesarean section was significantly decline with educational level (OR=32). In rural area, the rate of emergency cesarean section was significantly higher than in urban (OR=4.4). The case group showed significantly higher rates of late antenatal booking, less than recommended number of antenatal visits, laboratory tests, ultrasound exam, blood pressure measurement, and irregular supplementation with in complete tetanus vaccination (OR=4.14,17.5 ,0.09,0.28,0.15,0.16 and 0.05 respectively). The rates of anemia, hypertensive disorder of pregnancy, diabetes mellitus and antepartum hemorrhage were significantly higher in case group than control group (OR=3.9,11,6.8 and 19 respectively).</p> <p>Conclusion: Adequate antenatal care visits might reduce the risk of emergency cesarean section.</p> <p>Keywords: Antenatal health care, emergency cesarean section, normal vaginal birth.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Correlation between Vitamin D3 deficiency, Serum thyroid-stimulating hormone and leptin levels in patients with polycystic ovary syndrome			
Year	2021		CD: 1396	
Abstract	<p>Background: Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) is a common condition that affects how a women's ovaries work, with variable clinical characteristics (i.e., obesity, hirsutism, acne, amenorrhea, sterility, occasional menometrorrhagia) associated with bilateral enlarged polycystic ovaries with thickened capsules. At the same time, androgen excess in PCOS patients will contribute to the ovulatory and menstrual dysfunction of PCOS patients. An elevated level of Luteinizing Hormone (LH) is one of the common reasons for PCOS. Females affected with PCOS have high LH secretion and low follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH) secretion. The ratio used to indicate abnormal gonadotropin secretion is normally 2–3/1. Obesity is the most common cause of insulin resistance, and the global pandemic of obesity promotes PCOS diagnosis and recognition. The study aims to assess the possible association of vitamin D3 with BMI in PCOS and to study the impact of serum levels Thyroid-Stimulating Hormone (TSH), leptin, and vitamin D3 in the causation of PCOS. To shed light on the pathophysiology of PCOS.</p> <p>Subjects, Materials and methods: A case-control study was performed in Al- Batool Teaching Hospital in Baquba city during the period from 1st December 2020 to the end of March 2021. It included 50 PCOS patients and 34 subjects as healthy control. Information was taken from each subject, including age, diseases regarding all patients with metabolic or endocrinology disorders, including diabetes mellitus, hypertension, liver disease, chronic renal disease, patients who do take vitamin D pills, premature ovarian failure, virilizing adrenal or ovarian tumors and history of using contraceptive through the past six months were excluded from this study. The biomarkers studied were: serum Vitamin D3, Leptin, TSH, LH, and FSH, and then Serum Vitamin D3 and Leptin were measured by ELISA technique. But serum TSH, LH, and FSH were measured by Cobas e 411 system.</p> <p>Results: There is a significant decrease in serum Vitamin D3 and FSH in the patients' group compared to the control group. In contrast, for the other</p>			

variables, Leptin, TSH, LH, LH/FSH, waist circumference, and body mass index mean values in the patients' group were higher than the control group. There was a significant positive correlation between Leptin and BMI $P=0.001$, $r=0.976$; and a significant positive correlation between Leptin and Waist circumference $P=0.001$, $r=0.800$. At the same time, there was a significant negative correlation between Vitamin D3 and Leptin $P=0.024$, $r=-0.319$; and a significant negative correlation between Vitamin D3 and BMI $P=0.01$, $r=-0.333$; and another significant negative correlation between Vitamin D3 and Waist circumference $P=0.03$, $r=-0.307$.

Conclusion: From the current study, the following conclusion is a significant negative correlation was found between serum 25-hydroxy vitamin D3 levels and BMI in the PCOS group, so obesity is a risk factor for vitamin D deficiency. Higher serum TSH levels were found in the PCOS group, so hypothyroidism is associated with weight gain, and this is one of the signs of PCOS. Serum leptin levels are higher in the PCOS group, especially in overweight and obese patient; because leptin is produced from adipose tissue, it seems that obesity may further intensify hyperleptinemia in PCOS women deteriorating the reproductive function further. On the other hand, the lower vitamin D status in women with PCOS than fertile controls were confirmed but not sufficient to be a diagnostic tool for PCOS.

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Thesis Title	Assessment of Dose Volume Histogram Statistics Using Three-Dimensional Conformal Technique in Breast Cancer Adjuvant Radiotherapy Treatment			
Year	2021		CD: 1397	
Abstract	<p>Background: Breast cancer is the first of the top ten malignancies in Iraq, accounting one-quarter of female cancers worldwide. Adjuvant radiotherapy following surgery reduce the incidence of recurrence and deaths. Dose volume histogram (DVH) is most commonly used as a plan evaluation tool and to compare doses from different plans or to structures.</p> <p>Objectives: 1. Assessment of DVH statistics using 3DCRT in adjuvant setting 2. Analysis of DVH for all organ at risk (OAR) on a per-patient basis. 3. Evaluation of comparative dose distributions for GTV, CTV, PTV, and OAR</p> <p>Methods: A retrospective study reviewed of 70 females which histologically confirmed and diagnosed with breast cancer, whom were consecutively treated at Baghdad Radiation Oncology Center. The study conducted in period between November 2020 and May 2021, where planning for treatment with adjuvant 3DCRT. The following variables were studied: age, tumor, lymph node, and metastasis (TNM) staging, histopathology, side of tumor, address of patient, dose and fractions number of radiotherapy (RT). The treatment plan used for each woman was based on analysis of the volumetric dose, including DVH analysis of the planning target volume (PTV) and critical normal tissues. Dose–volume constraints were established for the protocol and these included limitations in dose to: (1) ipsilateral and contralateral lung, (2) contralateral breast, (3) heart, (4) liver, and (5) spinal cord. For each woman enrolled in this study, Planning target volume (PTV) and clinical target volume (CTV) were measured and recorded. Each organ at risk (OAR) mean and maximum doses of volume % of RT received were estimated and documented.</p> <p>Results: The mean age of studied women was 50.97±11.34 years. The left breast cancer (BC) documented more than right (52.9% versus 47.1%). 58/70 (82.39%) of patients were underwent mastectomy, while 12/70 (17.1%) of patients treated by conservative surgery. Mostly, 51/70 (72.9%) of patient received RT dose of 40.05 Gray. The PTV and CTV coverage for tumor at V85% were better than V90% and V95%, with a high significant difference (p<0.001). The PTV and CTV coverage for lymph nodes at V85% were higher than V90% and V95%, with no significant differences. The overall mean dose received by right lung was 750 centigray (cG), while 15.8%, 19.29%, and 24.68% received 2000, 1000, and 500 cG, respectively.</p>			

In left lung, the mean dose was 786.9 cG, and 17.22% received 2000 cG, 20.9% received 1000 cG, and 26.8% taken 500 cG. In general, 12.43% of heart received 2500 cG during Rt course, and 5.8% of liver received 3000 cG. The results suggest that RT dose of 4005 cG had been better to covering target volumes (PTV, and CTV) and lowest doses receiving by different OAR than doses 5000 cG and 4256 cG, respectively.

Conclusions: DVH is helpful, powerful, easy, informative, and accurate tool to be consider in the planning of breast cancer RT. The RT dose of 40.05Gy/15fx had been better to covering target volumes (PTV, and CTV) and lowest doses receiving by different normal tissues than doses 50Gy/25fx and 42.56Gy/16fx, respectively. Better coverage of chest wall was obtained at V85% and the lowest coverage at V95%. Better coverage of LN was obtained at V85% and the lowest coverage at V95% with no significant. The high coverage of tumor bed and lymphatic is obtained in high RT doses, though the toxicities to normal tissues may be more.

Keywords: Breast cancer;3DCRT; DVH; OAR. Gray= 1000 centiGray

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Thesis Title	Role of vitamin B3 in prevention of kidney impairment after cardiac surgery			
Year	2021		CD: 1398	
Abstract	<p>Background: Acute kidney injury is a risk factor for morbidity and mortality in cardiac surgery patients. NIACIN (Vitamin B3) is a cofactor for numerous enzymes involved in cellular energy metabolism, and for adaptive responses of cells to bioenergetics and oxidative stress and is now a major player in aging and age-related diseases. Serum; cystatin C and creatinine and may be urinary Quinolate phosphoribosyl transferase (QPRT) have an important role in the early diagnosis of renal injury post-cardiac surgery. Aim of the study: Assess the role of vitamin B3 in the prevention of kidney injury after cardiac surgery, at the same time this study will assess the benefit of the new marker urinary Quinolate phosphoribosyl transferase (QPRT) in the early diagnosis of renal injury.</p> <p>Patients, Materials, and Methods: Using cohort - study based on 90 Patients: 48 male & 42 female ages from (30-60) years. All patients subjected to open-heart surgery in Ibn Al-Bitar center for cardiac surgery in Baghdad –Iraq, patients were divided into two groups according to the niacin (vitamin B3) supplementation (first group with niacin supplementation and second group without niacin). serum: Vitamin B3, cystatin C, urea, creatinine, sodium, potassium, and urinary QPRT, albumin /creatinine ratio were measured (4 times) at basal level (seven days before surgery), one day before surgery, one day after surgery and 7 days after surgery.</p> <p>Results: Serum vitamin B3 level was significantly elevated ($p \leq 0.05$) in the first group 24 hr before (mean \pm SE (24.02 \pm 1.06) ng/ml and (20.26 \pm 1.33) ng/ml after surgery compared to non-supplemt group Mean\pmSE values of Serum cystatin C level and Urine Albumin/Creatinine/Ratio significantly elevated (34.64 \pm 0.34), (20.42\pm 1.24) mg/mmol, respectively ($p \leq 0.05$),24 hr after surgery in the second group (control group) (subjects who didn't receive vitamin B3 supplement) compared to niacin (vitamin B3)supplement group show stable serum cystatin C and Urine Albumin/Creatinine/Ratio level(33.12 \pm 0.22), (19.75\pm 0.6 mg/mmol) alternately 24 hr after surgery. Serum cystatin C level (36.74 \pm 0.24) ng/ml, s.Creatinine (0.99 \pm 0.06) mg/dl , s.potassium (3.94 \pm 0.06) mmol/l and Urine Albumin/Creatinine/Ratio (26.39 \pm 1.7) mg/mmol significantly elevated ($p \leq 0.05$),7 days after surgery in the second group (control group) when compared to vitamin B3 supplement group which show stable serum cystatin C (35.52 \pm 0.34) ng/ml , s.Creatinine (0.84 \pm 0.03) mg/dl , s.potassium (3.09 \pm 0.1) mmol/l and Urine</p>			

	<p>Albumin/Creatinine/Ratio level (18.87 ± 0.63) 7 days after surgery. Serum vitamin B3 level significantly elevated ($p \leq 0.05$) in the first group 7 days after surgery.</p> <p>Conclusion: vitamin B3 (niacin) dosing has been shown to prevent open acute kidney injury after cardiac surgery. Urinary Quniolate phosphoribosyl transferase (QPRT) showed inefficiency compared to the known markers (Albumin/Creatinine/Ratio) in the early diagnosis of renal injury.</p>
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Thesis Title	Human epidermal growth factor receptor2 expression in gastric and intestinal adenocarcinomas			
Year	2021		CD: 1299	
Abstract	<p>Background: Gastrointestinal cancer refers to malignant conditions of the gastrointestinal tract (GI tract) and accessory organs of digestion, including the esophagus, stomach, biliary system, pancreas, small intestine, large intestine, rectum and anus. The symptoms relate to the organ affected and can include obstruction (leading to difficulty swallowing or defecating), abnormal bleeding or other associated problems. The diagnosis often requires endoscopy, sigmoidoscopy, followed by biopsy of suspicious tissue. The treatment depends on the location of the tumor, as well as the type of cancer cell and whether it has invaded other tissues or spread elsewhere. These factors also determine the prognosis. Overall, the GI tract and the accessory organs of digestion (pancreas, liver, gall bladder) are responsible for more cancers and more deaths from cancer than any other system in the body. There is significant geographic variation in the rates of different gastrointestinal cancers.</p> <p>Aim of the study: To evaluate the frequency of HER2 protein overexpression in gastric (group A), small bowel (group B), and colorectal (group C) adenocarcinomas in relation to several factors such as gender, age, tumor grade, tumor stage, and others.</p> <p>Patients, materials and Method: A retrospective examination of 106 cases of gastrointestinal adenocarcinoma (stomach, small intestine, and colorectal cancer) was carried out, including 44 cases from group A, 10 cases from group B, and 52 cases from group C. A HER2 IHC analysis was performed on the samples.</p> <p>Results: Expression of the HER2 protein was observed in 37 (34.9 %) of the patients (P =0.025). 21 (56.7 %) of the 37 HER2 positive subjects were from group C, 12 (32.4 %) from group A, and the remaining four (10.8%) from group B. From the 37 HER2 positive cases 15 (14.1%) displayed weak staining (in 10% of tumor cells (score 1+) that was declared negative for HER2 expression, of which 8 (53.3 %) were from group A, 4 (26.6 %) from group C, and 3 (20 %) from group B. Similarly, 13 (18.8%) patients displayed moderate staining (in 10% or more of tumor cells) (score 2+), which was interpreted as equivocal or borderline for HER2 expression; 12</p>			

(92.3%) cases were from group C, 1 (92.3%) from group A, and none from group B strong staining (in 10% or more of tumor cells) (score 3+) was detected in 9 (24.3%) of the cases where HER2 expression was definitely strong, including 5 (55.5%) from group C, 3 (33.3%) from group A, and 1 (11.1%) from group B. Score 0 was assigned when no expression or membrane staining (in less than 10% of tumor cells) was observed, which was observed in 69 (65.1%) of cases and was considered negative for HER2 overexpression. 32 (46.3 percent) of the cases were from group A, 31 (44.6 percent) from group C, and 6 (8.6%) from group C. There was a connection between the research groups and HER2 protein overexpression (positivity) ($P=0.25$).

Conclusion:

- In immunohistochemistry, the HER2 protein is overexpressed in colon, stomach, and small intestine adenocarcinomas, and this is not uncommon (34.9 % of gastrointestinal adenocarcinomas revealed HER2 expression).
- There is a link between tumor grade and expression of the HER2 protein.
- There was no evidence of a link between HER2 expression and clinicopathological parameters (age, gender).

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Thesis Title	Evaluation of Treatment Adherence in a sample of Iraq female patients with systemic lupus erythematosus			
Year	2021		CD: 1400	
Abstract	<p>Background: Currently, there are many drugs which have been approved to have a clinical utility in the treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). Medication non-adherence has been emerged as an important factor in treatment failure among patients with SLE. Factors associated with non-adherence are not identical in different population.</p> <p>Objectives: To identify the determinants of adherence to medication among Iraqi female patients with SLE.</p> <p>Patients and Methods: This cross-sectional study which included a total of 101 consecutive patients diagnosed to have SLE according to criteria of American College of Rheumatology were included in the study. All participants completed three paper questionnaires: sociodemographic, clinical and treatment characteristics survey included the Arabic version of the eight-item Morisky Medication Adherence Scale (MMAS-8). The following data were collected through the questionnaire: age, sex, disease duration, smoking status, body mass index (BMI), disease activity, medications, residence, education level, marital status, fertility status, employment status, duration of SLE, chronic comorbidities, satisfaction with treatment and presence of side effects.</p> <p>Results: The adherence rate was 47.52%. In multivariate analysis, each of younger age ≤ 30 years (OR=0.32, 95%CI=0.12-0.86, p=0.027), illiteracy (OR=3.22, 95%CI=1.22- 21.67, p= 0.038), low socioeconomic status (OR=0.36, 95%CI=0.08-0.84, p=0.015), less than 3years' disease duration (OR= 0.28, 95%CI= 0.23-0.92, p= 0.019), presence of side effects (OR= 25.8, 95%CI=3.75-78.45, p= 0.001), patient's unsatisfaction (OR= 41.2, 95%CI=2.07-83.63, p=0.015) and mild to moderate form of the disease (OR= 0.14, 95%CI=0.03-0.67, p=0.014) were independent risk factors for non-adherence.</p> <p>Conclusions: More than half of Iraqi female patients with SLE are non-adherent for their medications. Younger age ≤ 30 years, illiteracy, low socioeconomic status, short SLE duration less than 3 years, the presence of side effects, patient's unsatisfaction and active form of the disease are independent risk factors for non-adherence.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Evaluation of Serum Endothelin-1 and Myoglobin in the study of Renal Injury in Methamphetamine Abusers			
Year	2021		CD: 1401	
Abstract	<p>Background: Methamphetamine is a type of psychoactive drug; it is a widely abused synthetic stimulant. Both hepatic metabolism and renal excretion extract methamphetamine. Long-term exposure to methamphetamine leads to kidney damage as well as reduce function with a period. Methamphetamine is one of the triggers of creatinine increase after the poisoning of methamphetamine. Myoglobin is absorbed into the blood flow from injured muscle tissues and forms deposits in the renal lumens of the tubules by the kidney. Endothelin-1 was the more powerful recognized renal vasoconstrictor. Estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR) is known to be the most sensitive index to determine kidney function, and it is an important source of early diagnosis, and monitoring treatment of kidney disease as well as to assess drug dosing and kidney failure.</p> <p>Objectives: The aims of this study were designed to 1- investigate the nephrotoxicity of methamphetamine substance in a sample of addicts by measurements of serum urea and creatinine as well as by calculation of estimated glomerular filtration rate (eGFR), 2- evaluate pathophysiology mechanism of such toxicity by measurements of serum myoglobin and endothelin-1.</p> <p>Patients and Methods: This prospective case-control study was carried out at the Department of Biochemistry, College of Medicine, University of Baghdad, and at Ibn Rushd Psychiatric Hospital, Baghdad, during the period from November 2020 to January 2021. It involved 48 methamphetamine addicts' men who were diagnosed by a specialist psychiatric physician. Their age range was (18-40 years) with different addiction duration periods. The patients were sub-classified into two groups: Group 1 (G1): It involved 24 addicts who had a period duration of addiction ≥ 24 months and Group 2 (G2) that included 24 addicts who had a period duration of addiction < 24 months. The control group consisted of 36 healthy subjects, their age ranges between 18-40 years. Investigations included serum measurement of myoglobin and endothelin-1 by using the enzyme-linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) technique as well as creatinine and urea by using spectrophotometric methods. The estimated glomerular filtration rate</p>			

(eGFR) value was calculated using the Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration creatinine (CKD EPI) equation.

Results: The mean (\pm SD) values of serum urea and creatinine levels of addict subjects were significantly higher than those of healthy subjects (for both, $p < 0.0001$). The mean(\pm SD) value of eGFR of addict individuals was significantly decreased when compared with that of control group ($p < 0.0001$). In addition, addict subjects observed significant increase in mean values of serum levels of endothelin1 ($p < 0.015$) and myoglobin ($p < 0.0001$) in comparison with those of control subjects. Significant negative correlations between eGFR and duration of methamphetamine addiction ($p < 0.0002$) as well as significant positive correlation between serum creatinine levels and duration of methamphetamine addiction ($p < 0.0004$) were noted in addicts' group. Moreover, there was significant positive correlation between serum myoglobin concentrations and endothelin1 levels ($p < 0.0001$).

Conclusion: 1- Addicts of methamphetamine substance had a significant increase in serum creatinine and a significant decrease in eGFR than healthy controls and these changes become more evident with a prolonged period of addiction. 2- Addiction to methamphetamine was accompanied by a significant increase in serum endothelin1 and myoglobin.

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Thesis Title	Rational Use and Prescribing Pattern of Drugs in Primary Health Care Centers, Baghdad 2019			
Year	2021		CD: 1402	
Abstract	<p>Background: The World health organization approximates that more than fifty percent of all medications are incorrectly prescribed, distributed, or sold. Moreover, around half of patients are unable to take their medications acceptably. Medications make a significant part in healthcare provision, and if suitably used, can assist cure illnesses, relieve symptoms, and ease patient anguish. Nonetheless, irrational use of medicines is still a huge concern facing most of the worlds health systems. In Iraq, several serious issues and challenges arise in this matter, including minimal professional categorization of drug prescription, inept patient counseling, and finally high proportion of remedies being misused.</p> <p>Objective: To estimate the rate and percentage of drug among the prescriptions of the PHCs, comparison of the current drug prescription pattern in PHC with drug prescribing indicators of the WHO standards and to analyze the patterns according to the age and gender among the physician's drug prescriptions.</p> <p>Methodology: A cross sectional study was conducted on prescriptions from 1st of January to last of December 2019 in 20 primary health care centers in Baghdad, Iraq. A sample of 1200 prescriptions that met the inclusion criteria were included in this study. Data collection was done by prescriptions review and prescribing indicators were measured in a special form.</p> <p>Results: Drug rate per prescription was 2.33 items, antibiotics were prescribed in 76.3% of the 1200 reviewed prescriptions, while the percentage of injections was 8.9%, prescribing was in generic names in 24.3% and 100% from essential medicine list. The main antibiotic prescribed was amoxicillin. and injectable diclofenac for adult age group.</p> <p>Conclusions: Prescribing indicators were below optimal (polypharmacy, antibiotic percentage and generic name) except for encounters with injections prescribed and prescribing from essential medicine list.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Diagnostic usefulness of different biomarkers in differentiating epileptic from non-epileptic seizures using video EEG as a guide			
Year	2021		CD: 1403	
Abstract	<p>Epileptic seizure and psychogenic non-epileptic seizures are can be extremely similar and difficult to be differentiated in clinical practice. Since in most cases symptoms and signs can be very similar, moreover; some epileptic patients may experience non-epileptic as well as epileptic seizures. psychogenic non-epileptic seizure patients that are misdiagnosed to have epilepsy, do not respond to conventional antiepileptic drugs, therefore some of them will be labeled as drug resistant epileptic patients. Till now video electroencephalogram is considered as the corner stone in differentiating psychogenic non-epileptic seizures from epileptic seizures, however many researches have been trying to expand the arsenal of diagnostic measures among these measures' serological tests for biomarker changes in response to seizure were widely researched. This study aims to assess the potential changes in serum markers (IL 6, CRP and neuron specific enolase) in patients with drug resistant seizure presented to the video EEG monitoring unit for 24-hour recording. Some of these patients are suspected to have PNES. Using the guidance provided by the video EEG patients were grouped into epileptic and psychogenic non-epileptic seizures, then their serum markers were measured before and six and twelve hours after seizure were statistically assessed. The study involved 128 (66 female/ 62 male) patients with drug resistant epilepsy admitted to the video EEG monitoring unit. All patients underwent continuous video EEG monitoring for 24 hours. At the start of the video EEG monitoring a blood sample was taken from the patient and considered as a baseline sample, a second and a third blood sample were taken after 6 and 12 hours respectively after the first index seizure. According to the seizure semiology and concomitant EEG changes the patients were divided into four groups; temporal, extra-temporal, generalized epilepsy and psychogenic non epileptic seizure group. Psychogenic non-epileptic seizures were 20% of the total cases. In generalized, extratemporal, and temporal lobe epilepsy groups; means of IL6, CRP and NSE biomarker 6 and 12 hours were significantly increased ($P < 0.05$) compared to that at 0 hour. In psychogenic non-epileptic seizures group; mean of IL6 biomarker 12 hours were significantly increased ($P =$</p>			

0.031) compared to that at 0 hour, also mean of NSE biomarker 6 hours after seizure was significantly increased ($P = 0.006$) compared to that at 0 hour. Comparing the percentage of change in IL6, CRP, and NSE biomarkers between study groups after seizure were significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) in TLE group than that in other study groups. The comparison between patients with epilepsy and psychogenic non-epileptic seizures by biomarkers showed that the mean of IL6 and CRP at 0, 6 and 12 hours and mean of NSE 12 hours were significantly ($P < 0.05$) higher in epilepsy patients than that in psychogenic non-epileptic seizure patients. The overall trend of results shows a significant raise in the biomarkers under study after epileptic seizures and they were still in raise after 12 hours while there was less significant raise in these biomarkers in psychogenic non-epileptic seizures, the baseline reading was higher in epileptic patients is suggestive of continuous proinflammatory state in epileptic patients compared to PNES. The temporal lobe epilepsy showed the highest percentage of raise of these markers among other epilepsy groups this probably explains the higher percentage of brain lesions seen in imaging in these patients. This study is suggesting these markers can be used in the clinical workup of seizure patients especially if EEG and video EEG were not available.

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Thesis Title	Awareness of Symptoms, Risk factors and Common Screening Tests of Colorectal Cancer among Patients Attending Primary Health Care Centers, Baghdad city, 2020			
Year	2021		CD: 1404	
Abstract	<p>Background: Colorectal cancer is the third most common malignancy in the world. Colorectal cancer is easily preventable through screening which can detect the disease in its early stages and improve survival rates.</p> <p>Objectives: This study aims to assess the level of awareness of colorectal cancer with regards to risk factors, symptoms and screening procedures among patients attending primary health care centers in Baghdad city.</p> <p>Method: A cross sectional study was conducted including patients attending 5 primary health care centers in Baghdad city, from the first of April till the end of September 2020. A convenient sample of 375 Iraqi adult patients agreed to join in the study. Data were collected through direct interview with each included person using a modified validated questionnaire. The collected data were introduced in to Microsoft excel sheet (2016), and loaded into SPSS_V24 statistical program.</p> <p>Results: None of respondents had undergone previous colorectal cancer screening. Ten percent and 26% of respondents had a good awareness level of colorectal cancer symptoms and risk factors respectively. Significant association was found between good awareness of colorectal cancer symptoms / risk factors and excellent socioeconomic status. Majority of our study respondents (72.7%) didn't hear about colorectal cancer screening and 38.7% of studied subjects considered that (Not recommended by physicians) is the main barrier of colorectal cancer screening. Sixty-four percent of the studied subjects agreed to participate in colorectal cancer screening in future even if they have no symptoms.</p> <p>Conclusion: Inadequate awareness of colorectal cancer symptoms, risk factor and screening tests were detected among patients attending primary health care centers.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Echocardiographic profile in pregnancy related hypertension and preeclampsia			
Year	2021		CD: 1405	
Abstract	<p>Background: Pregnancy is considered as a challenge to the maternal cardiovascular system to undergo several cardiovascular adaptations. At the same time, it may reveal some hidden cardiac diseases. Furthermore, maladaptation of the mother's cardiovascular system to these challenges can leads to several obstetric complications, more commonly, gestational hypertension which is one of the main causes of maternal death.</p> <p>Objectives: To study and comparison the echocardiographic profile in pregnant woman with chronic hypertension, gestational hypertension and preeclampsia</p> <p>Patients and method: This cross-sectional study was carried out in Baghdad Teaching Hospital. A pregnant were included, they were classified into three groups: pregnant women with chronic hypertension, gestational hypertension and pregnant with pre-eclampsia</p> <p>All women were submitted to a detailed medical history and physical examination focusing on hypertension risk factors. Their body weight, height were measured to calculate body mass index. The left ventricle structure and function were evaluated using transthoracic echocardiography and strain analysis</p> <p>Results: The current study was performed on 60 pregnant the mean age was (32.7 ± 5.8) years, classified to: 15(25%) with chronic hypertension ,20 (33%) with gestational hypertension and 25 (42%) with preeclampsia</p> <p>The mean of systolic blood pressure was (130.1 ± 10.8) mmHg, and diastolic Bp was (79 ± 7.9) mmHg, there was no relation between sociodemographic characteristic and types of</p>			

hypertensions in pregnancy. According to the relation of Echo parameters with the type of hypertension, the current study showed that LV mass was significant in chronic and gestational hypertension, while (E/A, E/e' and GLS) were statistically highly significant in preeclampsia. While there was no relation between the other echo parameters with the type of hypertension.

Conclusion: Echocardiography is a valuable tool in diagnosis of LVH and diastolic dysfunction in all types of hypertension related pregnancy. Sub clinical cardiac dysfunction in pregnancy related hypertension and preeclampsia can early detected by impaired global longitudinal strain and that help for early intervention to prevent progression of the condition and save mothers from severe morbidity of acute heart failure.

University of Baghdad				
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Thesis Title	Effects of Levofloxacin and Amikacin on male reproductive system in rats			
Year	2021		CD: 1406	
Abstract	<p>Background: Drugs can affect men's fertility in a variety of ways. Drugs can cause sexual dysfunction and spermatogenesis impairment as well as influence epididymal maturation directly or indirectly by modifying hormones in the hypothalamic–pituitary–gonadal axis, non-hormonal mechanisms, or oxidative stress mechanisms.</p> <p>Aim of the study: To evaluate the effect of Levofloxacin and Amikacin on the fertility of rats' male by the studying of its effects on sperm parameters, histopathological changes as well as related fertility hormones.</p> <p>Methods: Forty healthy male adult albino rats (weight: 230-310g and age: 8-11 weeks) were gathered from the animal house of the Iraqi center of cancer and genetic research / AL-Mustansiriyah University. Rats were housed in polypropylene cages and environmentally controlled ($25 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$, relative humidity of $50 \pm 5\%$) with a 12 h light/dark cycle and allowed free access to food (commercial rat pellets) and water. They were divided into five groups of eight rats. Group I: 8 rats (without any treatment) used as a control given IP normal saline. Group II: 8 Rats were given Amikacin therapeutic dose (54.75 mg/kg/day). Group III: 8 Rats were given Amikacin double dose (109.5 mg/kg/day). Group IV: 8 Rats were given Levofloxacin therapeutic dose (37.5 mg/kg/day). Group V: 8 Rats were given Levofloxacin double dose (75 mg/kg/day). After fourteen days, the rats were euthanized by chloroform then were sacrificed by cervical dislocation. All efforts were made to minimize animal suffering and decrease the number of animals used in the experiments—the present study period from January 2021 to February 2021.</p> <p>Results: There was significant decrease in sperm count and sperm motility for amikacin and levofloxacin groups relative to control ($p \leq 0.05$); also revealed increase in the percentage of dead sperms and abnormal sperms for amikacin and levofloxacin groups relative to control ($p \leq 0.05$). There was significant increase of follicle-stimulating hormone and luteinizing hormone homogenate levels in both levofloxacin treated groups ($p \leq 0.05$). Also showed significant increase in luteinizing hormone serum levels in the groups of the double dose of the both drugs ($p \leq 0.05$). levofloxacin double</p>			

	<p>dose showed significant increase in testosterone serum levels ($p \leq 0.05$), while only amikacin double dose group showed decreased testosterone homogenate levels ($p \leq 0.05$). A significant decrease in prostate relative weight in amikacin double dose and levofloxacin therapeutic dose was seen ($p \leq 0.05$). All treated groups showed significant increase in epididymis weight relative to control group ($p \leq 0.05$). amikacin double dose group showed significant increase in seminal vesicle weight ($p \leq 0.05$). Levofloxacin therapeutic and double dose groups showed significant increase in seminal vesicle weight ($p \leq 0.05$). The histopathological effect of Amikacin and Levofloxacin on testes tissue showed significant changes ($p \leq 0.05$).</p>
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	<p>Conclusion: Levofloxacin and Amikacin cause negative impact on male fertility.</p>
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Thesis Title	Clinical and laboratory profile of childhood epilepsy			
Year	2021		CD: 1407	
Abstract	<p>Background: Seizure is defined as a transient occurrence of signs and symptoms due to the abnormal, excessive, or synchronous neuronal activity in the brain. Seizure onset, especially in the child population, is related to specific risk factors like positive family history, fever, infections, neurological comorbidity, premature birth, mother's alcohol abuse, and smoking in pregnancy. Epilepsy affects 1-2% of children. In childhood, epilepsy is more common in the first year of life, and its incidence decreases progressively with increasing age. All the studies have reported a higher prevalence in males. The prevalence is approximately 2-fold higher in children and young adults, compared to the rates in middle age. Primary generalized seizures are reported in 28–97% of cases, partial seizures in 3–43.8%, and unclassified seizures in 18–51%. Idiopathic epilepsy represents 73.5– 82.6% of cases. Early childhood brain damage such as in cerebral palsy and mental retardation represented a major cause of symptomatic epilepsy.</p> <p>Subject and methods: This cross-sectional study was conducted in pediatric department of Albatool teaching hospital in Diyala province, Iraq. The target population was the children attending the pediatric neurology clinic of Albatool hospital. A total of 100 children were included in the study from 1st February 2020 to 30th May 2020. All children diagnosed with epilepsy included in the study, while children whose parents refuse to participate were omitted. Data were collected from medical records and interviewing parents 'or the caregivers of children directly using a questionnaire that was used for study of epilepsy. Statistical analysis: software SPSS (Version 24) and Microsoft Excel (2016) were used to carry out the statistical analysis of data.</p> <p>Results: One hundred children with epilepsy, their mean age was 5.96 ± 3.33 years (range 1-14 years), participated in this study, 52(52%) of them aged 5 years and below, 37(37%) of them aged 5-10 years and 11(11%) aged more than 10 years. 48(48%) of the children were male and 52(52%) patients were female, M: F ratio was 0.92. Of the total patients, 79% was free from seizure on AED, 21% of them was refractory to treatment. Patients without developmental delay constitute (88.7%, $p=0.012$) were</p>			

controlled by AED. However, other patients' characteristics have no effect on the control of epilepsy. Patients who had idiopathic seizure (87.5%, $p=0.04$) can be controlled by AED, patients who had few times seizure attack can be controlled by AED more than patients who had weekly or monthly seizure attack (97.4%) ($p<0.001$). Patients' family history, fathers and mothers' occupation, and history of parental consanguinity do not affect the control of epilepsy. Patients who had treated by monotherapy (94.7%, $p=0.012$) can be controlled more than patients who treated by multidrug therapy. However, type of monotherapy does not affect the control of epilepsy. normal EEG results can be detected more in patients with controlled epilepsy (93%, $p=0.003$) than patients with refractory epilepsy who had abnormal EEG results. However, MRI and CT scan results not affect the control of epilepsy. Affected social interaction and need more supervision were factors that detected more in patients with refractory epilepsy, $p=0.04$, 0.01 respectively. While there was no association between frightening other people and epilepsy control.

Conclusion and recommendation: Most of the patients characterized by monotherapy treatment approach, had normal EEG, less affected by social interaction and need less supervision. Whereas Patients with refractory epilepsy had opposite factors. Patients controlled by AED are: those who had idiopathic seizure, normal development, and get infrequent seizure. Early detection and assortment of the patients according to treatment response allows their referral to specialized neuropsychiatric or neurosurgical centers.

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Thesis Title	Health – related Quality of Life of Knee Osteoarthritis patients			
Year	2021		CD: 1408	
Abstract	<p>Background: Osteoarthritis (OA) is by far the most common form of arthritis and is a major cause of pain and disability in older people. Knee OA as a disabling disease affecting all aspects of patients' life. Health – related quality of life (HRQOL) is increasingly being acknowledged as a valid health indicator in many diseases especially chronic processes.</p> <p>Study objective: to assess the impact of Knee OA on HRQOL of Knee OA patients. Patients and Methods A cross sectional descriptive study assessed HRQOL of 100 knee OA patients without significant comorbidity, were interviewed at Rheumatology Consultant Clinic of Baghdad Teaching Hospital by using 14 questions of CDC Health Related Quality of Life Questionnaire between September 2020 to March 2021.</p> <p>Results: From 100 participants (21% male, 79% female), 96% of them said that knee pain made usual things hard to do with mean of 19 days according to the last 30 days before the interview. 89% of them said that they were limited in any way in any activities because of knee OA. The overall results of this study reflect the negative impact of knee OA on HRQOL of the patients and, the higher body mass index, age, disease duration and bilateral involvement, the lower the quality of life.</p> <p>Conclusion: HRQOL of knee OA patients is considerably impacted by this disease.</p>			

University of Baghdad				
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Thesis Title	Assessment the optimal planning target volume using Three-dimensional conformal radiotherapy in pelvic gastrointestinal and gynecological malignancies			
Year	2021		CD: 1329	
Abstract	<p>Background: Recently, pelvic radiation therapy for treatment rectal and gynecological malignancies had been increasingly used. The use of portal images has been shown to have a positive impact on treatment, and common practice is to obtain portal images at the beginning of treatment and throughout after.</p> <p>Objectives: The study aimed to defining the optimal planning target volume using three-dimensional conformal radiotherapy in pelvic malignancies.</p> <p>Methods: A retrospective study of 94 patients (40 rectal cancer; 38 endometrial carcinomas; 14 cervical cancers; and 2 vulvar carcinoma) treated with 3DCRT were included. The study conducted in Baghdad Radiotherapy and Nuclear Medicine Center, Baghdad Medical City Complex, Baghdad, Iraq, in period between December 2020 and May 2021.</p> <p>Results: In rectal cancer, the lateral verification including right and left, and posterior portals were significantly influenced by PI, whereas superior, inferior and anterior direction were unchangeable by portal verification. Four directions (superior, inferior, up and down) were unaffected by PI verification during RT courses in endometrial cancer, whereas the laterals side were significantly modifying by portals. In cervical cancer, only two portals can led to changeable in PI, which were superior and left lateral side, with a high significant differences ($p=0.001$; $p=0.039$), respectively among others. S-I, R-L, and A-P mean errors in this study were [$(\sim 2.6 - 3.18$ and $\sim 3.64 - 5.51)$; $(\sim 3.77 - 4.11$ and $\sim 2.98 - 3.46)$; $(\sim 2.29 - 2.33$ and $\sim 2.22 - 2.5)$], respectively. The highest mean set-up error was 2.18 mm for S-I in Portal 1#. The systematic set-up error for S-I, R-L and A-P were 0.56, 0.53 and 0.34 mm, respectively. The population random errors for S-I, R-L and A-P were 0.33, 0.29 and 0.18 mm, respectively. As a results, the CTV PTV margins were 7 mm for S-I, 4.7 mm for R-L and 1 mm for A-P.</p> <p>Conclusions: CTV-PTV margins were range from 0.9 mm to 7 mm.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Epidemiological characteristic of breast fibroadenoma in women attending early detection clinical of breast diseases in Baghdad 2021			
Year	2021		CD:1409	
Abstract	<p>Background: Among benign masses observed in the breast; fibro adenomas found to be commonest one and it comprise of the term fibroma. It reported for about 95 % of all benign breast lesions. It is estimated that approximately 10% of the world's female population suffers from fibroadenoma once in a lifetime. Transformation of fibroadenoma to a malignant lesion is rare occurrence (5%), with lobular cancer in situ rises frequently from these lesions.</p> <p>Aim of study: To identify the main characteristic features of breast fibroadenoma in women attending the Early Detection of Breast Disease Center in Al-Elwiya Maternity Teaching hospital & Early Detection of Breast Disease unit in Oncology Hospital in Baghdad teaching Hospital.</p> <p>Methods: This was a cross-sectional study with analytic component conducted in the Early Detection of Breast Disease Center in Al-Elwiya Maternity Teaching Hospital and early detection clinic in Medical City Campus in Baghdad city during a period of five months from 2nd of January to 1st of June 2021, a convenient sample. It included 133 female individuals aged between 12 - 60 years (or at the onset of menarche) diagnosed with fibroadenoma by the radiologist. The data had been collected through distribution of well-designed questionnaire including socio-demographic, medical, lifestyle, clinical examination, and investigation data.</p> <p>Results: In this study, 45.1% of patients had solitary fibroadenoma. The most common presentation was painless lump</p>			

(36.1%). The majority were presented with regular boundaries (96.2%) and hypoechoic echogenicity (91%). The proportion of multiple fibroadenoma was significantly higher among females used ovulation inducer

Conclusion: The fibroadenomas that developed in study sample had a tendency to be solitary, hypoechoic echogenicity, regular in boundaries, and presented most commonly as painless lump. The proportion of multiple fibroadenoma was significantly higher among females used ovulation inducer.

Keywords: Fibroadenoma, solitary, characteristics, breast, Iraq.

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Thesis Title	Inositol versus N-Acetyl Cysteine as Additional Treatment to Metformin in Iraqi Women with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome			
Year	2021		CD: 1410	
Abstract	<p>Background: Polycystic ovary syndrome is the most common hormonal abnormality in reproductive age women. The reproductive features include increased androgen production and disordered gonadotropin secretion leading to menstrual irregularity, skin problems, and infertility. In addition to these important reproductive manifestations, PCOS has metabolic characteristics that include prominent defects in insulin action and β-cell function. Treatment should be individualized based on the patient's presentation. There are few medications that have been approved for the most common symptoms of PCOS, leading to the off label use of medications that were approved for other indications. One of the most common medications being used off label is Metformin. Dietary supplementation such as Myo-Inositol and N-acetyl cysteine have recommended for polycystic ovary syndrome therapy because each has at least one functional property in polycystic ovary syndrome -induced pathway.</p> <p>Aim of the study: To compare between Inositol and N-acetyl cysteine as additional treatments to Metformin for their efficacy and safety in Iraqi women with polycystic ovary syndrome.</p> <p>Methods: This prospective comparative study conducted at gynecology outpatient clinic in Baghdad Teaching Hospital /Medical City, Baghdad/ Iraq. Seventy-four women, diagnosed with polycystic ovary syndrome according to Rotterdam criteria, were randomly assigned into three treatment groups, group 1 received Myo-Inositol (2000mg/day) plus Metformin (1500mg/day), group 2 received N Acetyl Cysteine (1800mg/day) plus Metformin (1500mg/day) and group 3 received Metformin (1500mg/day). Body mass index, menstrual regularity, clinical signs of hyperandrogenism, serum levels of various hormones (Follicular stimulating hormone, luteinizing hormone and testosterone), in addition to the clinical outcome assessed by ultrasonography were evaluated before and after 3 months of treatment.</p> <p>Results: After three months and compared to pretreatment values, significant difference in pregnancy rate, body mass index, menstrual</p>			

regularity, clinical hyperandrogenism manifestations (only hirsutism), hormonal profile and ultrasound features (only the percentage of mature follicle above 9 mm in size) found in Myo-Inositol plus Metformin and N-Acetyl Cysteine plus Metformin groups; while in Metformin group only significant effect on serum testosterone level observed. All three treatment groups had no significant effect on acne, androgenic alopecia and ovary volume. When the effects of all treatment approaches compared, no significant difference was observed in body mass index, clinical hyperandrogenism manifestations, side effects, serum testosterone and serum Follicular stimulating hormone level. Adjunctly used Myo-Inositol showed significantly higher effects on pregnancy rate and Follicular stimulating hormone/Luteinizing hormone ratio compared to Metformin alone; while adjunctly used N-Acetyl Cysteine showed significantly higher effects on menstrual cyclicity, serum Luteinizing hormone level and mature follicle compared to Metformin alone.

Conclusions: Both Myo-inositol and N-acetylcysteine produce a significant synergistic effect on clinical and hormonal features of polycystic ovary syndrome women when used in combination with Metformin than Metformin alone and due to lack of side effect, Myo-inositol and N-acetylcysteine can be regarded as appropriate substitute for insulin reducing medication in polycystic ovary syndrome PCOS treatment.

Key words: Metformin, Myo-inositol, N-acetylcysteine, Polycystic ovary syndrome.

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Thesis Title	A comparative Study of Nebivolol Versus Bisoprolol Effects in Patients with Left Ventricular Systolic Dysfunction			
Year	2021		CD: 1411	
Abstract	<p>Background: Heart failure (HF) is a complex and progressive clinical syndrome induced by any cardiac abnormalities, characterized by the inability of the heart for maintaining a cardiac out to meet metabolic requirements. B blockers improve the condition of patients with HF and they vary with regard to several pharmacologic properties.</p> <p>Aim of study: To compare the effects of Nebivolol and Bisoprolol in Iraqi patients with left ventricular systolic dysfunction.</p> <p>Methods: Between the September/ 2020 to the end of March/ 2021, the study randomized the patients with left ventricular systolic dysfunction into two groups in 1:1 manner, one group received bisoprolol and the other group received nebivolol, recording in every patient a base-line history, symptoms, signs and risk factors for cardiovascular disease and cause (s) of left ventricular systolic dysfunction. Both B-blockers used were initiated in small doses (1.25mg/day) after clinical stabilization of the patients and ensuring stable hemodynamic status. The doses of these drugs were increased gradually every 2 weeks according to written instructions for every patient and checked at follow-up visits.</p> <p>Results: In the current study, there was a significant improvement in the primary signs and symptoms outcome measure in the patients that receiving bisoprolol and nebivolol, that were assessed for 6 months. However, nebivolol was produced better improvement and statistically significant in most of signs and symptoms, in the current study there were improvements in echocardiograph findings following treatment with (nebivolol and bisoprolol), In this study the incidence of adverse effects was significantly lower with nebivolol when compared with the second drug (bisoprolol) especially the Impotence, disturbances of sexual desire and erectile dysfunction.</p> <p>Conclusion: The study shows benefit with the use of (Nebivolol and bisoprolol), they provided, unequivocal benefits in comparison with placebo or standard treatment, nebivolol was produced better improvement and statistically significant in most of signs and symptoms, it provided better improvement in echocardiographic findings of the patient and also the</p>			

	incidence of adverse effects was significantly lower with nebivolol when compared with the improvement that was obtained from the use of bisoprolol.
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	Key words: Heart failure, Bisoprolol, Nebivolol, Systolic dysfunction.
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Thesis Title	Vitamin D Status in Pregnant and Lactating Women Versus Non-Pregnant Non-Lactating Women In AL- Najaf Governorate			
Year	2021		CD:1412	
Abstract	<p>Background: Vitamin D is necessary for metabolism and a variety of health consequences, including immune function and bone mineralization. Despite growing awareness of the negative health consequences of vitamin D deficiency; just a few studies have examined the status of vitamin D in Iraqi pregnant and lactating women.</p> <p>Aim: Determine the status of vitamin D in pregnant and lactating women in the governorate of Al Najaf.</p> <p>Study Design: Comparative cross-sectional study. From February 2020 to March 2021, a study was performed at four primary health care centers (PHCCs) in urban and rural areas.</p> <p>Methodology: There were 90 women in total, divided into: pregnant (n = 30), lactating (n = 30), and non- pregnant non lactating NPNL (n = 30). A self-designed questionnaire was used to gather data on age, BMI, educational level, season sampling, history of lactation, skin type, and exposure to sunlight. Enzyme linked immunofluorescent assay ELFA was used to determine the vitamin D level in the blood. SPSS (version 22) was used for statistical analysis. The results were regarded significant, if p value < 0.05.</p> <p>Result: The 25 hydroxy vitamin D deficiencies was found in (45.9%) of the pregnant and (44.26%) of the lactating women which was higher than that in NPNL women (9.83%). The median of 25(OH) D level of pregnant and breastfeeding women (8.00ng/ml) was significantly lower than that of NPNL women (16.00ng/ml), (P=0.012).</p> <p>Conclusion: Pregnant and lactating women are highly prevalent with vitamin deficiency and insufficiency in comparison to non -pregnant non-lactating women. Low educational levels, age groups above 25 years, obesity, and urban residences are all important risk factors for vitamin D deficiency.</p>			

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Thesis Title	A Modified therapeutic Trail of oral fluconazole in Iraqi tinea versicolor patients clinical and immunological glamps.			
Year	2021		CD:1413	
Abstract	<p>Background: Tinea versicolor is a common dermatological problem, worldwide distribution, caused by a dimorphic fungus called Malassezia furfur, it lives normally on skin as a commensal, but recurrent nature requires repeated topical therapy which is expensive and time consuming. Many factors play a role in the etiology of TV among these could be the disturbed immune system which may be related to the ability of TV alter the immune system by a process called Immunomodulation leading to subsequent infection. Immuno-inflammatory activity mediated by different cytokines could have a role in the etiology of TV.</p> <p>Aim of the study:</p> <p>*To study the response to oral fluconazole therapy given in two weekly doses.</p> <p>* To evaluate the serum level of the inflammatory cytokines, IL-4andIL-8, in patients with TV as compared to immunocompromised patients and healthy groups.</p> <p>Patients and methods: This study enrolled 50 total patients,40 of them who were diagnosed by the dermatologist clinically and microscopically and given oral fluconazole therapy. 15 of them were as patients control group who were immunocompromised with evident skin lesion, to be compared serologically with 15 patients who had TV and normal immunity, the control group composed of 20 healthy volunteers. Using ELISA test technique, the following tests were done: detection of IL-4 and IL-8 in the sera of all groups.</p>			

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Thesis Title	April mRNA Expression and B cell maturation antigen Plasma Level: Predictors of Response to Induction Therapy in Adult Acute Myeloid Leukemia			
Year	2021		CD:1414	
Abstract	<p>Background: Proliferation-inducing ligand (APRIL) is a member of the tumor necrosis factor (TNF) ligand superfamily of cytokines. APRIL, is expressed at low levels by normal cells, but up regulated on B-cell malignancies, including non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia, and multiple myeloma and is strongly up-regulated in many autoimmune disorders. B-cell maturation antigen (BCMA) plays a critical role in regulating B-cell proliferation and survival, as well as differentiation into plasma cells. TNF receptor family related ligands were linked to pathogenesis of hematological malignancies, including AML. BCMA activation increases proliferation of acute myeloid leukemia (AML) cells what in turn may be associated with their increased sensitivity to chemotherapeutic drug.</p> <p>Aims of the study: To measure APRIL mRNA level in peripheral blood blast cells and plasma soluble BCMA level at diagnosis in de novo AML patients, and to determine whether baseline quantification of APRIL mRNA blast cells expression and plasma level of BCMA in AML could predict response to induction remission therapy or not and the associations of these two markers with hematological parameters.</p> <p>Patients and methods: Fifty de novo AML patients together with 20 healthy controls were investigated before induction treatment for the expression of APRIL mRNA level using a real-time quantitative reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction. Also, the plasma level of soluble BCMA was tested using enzyme linked immunosorbent assay method.</p> <p>Results: APRIL mRNA expression level was insignificantly higher in AML patients than in controls (p=0.765). APRIL mRNA expression shows strong positive correlation with WBC count (p=0.000) and insignificant correlation with hemoglobin level, and platelet and neutrophil counts and bone marrow blast percentage (p= 0.265, 0.485, 0.881, and 0.658, respectively). No statistically significant difference (p=0.898) was found in the mean of APRIL mRNA expression between monocytic (2.20±4.4) and non-monocytic AML (2.07±2.8) subtypes. The comparison of APRIL mRNA</p>			

expression level between incomplete and complete remission response to induction remission therapy in AML patients showed statistically insignificant difference ($p= 0.898$). The prevalence of incomplete remission was significantly increasing with increasing age ($p= 0.019$) while no statistically significant association between complete and incomplete response to treatment and AML subtypes ($p= 0.189$). No statistically significant difference ($p= 0.525$) was found in the mean of plasma soluble BCMA between patients (3098.85 ± 260.2 pg/mL) and control (3046.5 ± 325.4 pg/mL) groups and in between monocytic and non-monocytic AML subtypes ($p \geq 0.05$). The comparison of BCMA between incomplete and complete remission response to induction remission therapy in AML patients showed statistically insignificant difference ($p= 0.765$). BCMA showed highly significant negative correlation with bone marrow blast percentage ($p=0.006$), but there were no significant correlations with hemoglobin level, and WBC, platelet, and absolute neutrophil counts ($p= 0.996, 0.493, 0.253$ and 0.506 , respectively).

Conclusion: APRIL mRNA expression and plasma BCMA levels before treatment were not found to be useful in predicting patients' response to AML induction remission. A strong positive correlation was found between APRIL mRNA expression and WBC count. Low BCMA level showed a significant correlation with high percentage of marrow blast cell, however, no correlations were shown with hemoglobin level, and platelet and neutrophil counts.

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Thesis Title	Study The Association of Hepatitis B Viral Core Mutations and Genotypes with Different Stages of Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Infections			
Year	2021		CD:1415	
Abstract	<p>Chronic Hepatitis B (CHB) is a serious consequence of post hepatitis B virus infection, although the chronic rate inverses with the age but might be linked to a significant percentage of deaths associated to cirrhosis and liver cancer. Hepatitis B virus (HBV) serology and measurement of hepatocytic enzymes with the viral load can expect disease prognosis and response to medications. HBV genotyping is vital for extra epidemiological studies. During HBV persistent infection, the absence of a proofreading role leads to a higher rate of mutation. The most common mutations are in the basal core promoter (BCP) and precore (PC) regions, which reduce and abolish Hepatitis B e antigen (HBeAg), respectively. HBeAg states to an active viral replicative event and pointed to more infectivity to others. As a result, the virus may be able to evade the immune system, enhancing the persistence of HBV infection. The current study aimed to determine the correlation of hepatitis B viral core mutations in relation to genotypes in different stages of chronic Hepatitis B viral infections and to determine the impact of HBeAg status in chronically infected patients on various baseline tests. A cross sectional study including 90 patients (48 males and 42 females) who were recruited from Gastroenterology and Hepatology Teaching Hospital, Baghdad, Iraq. The study was carried out at the department of Microbiology, College of Medicine, University of Baghdad during the period between January 2020 and March 2021. Five to ten ml of blood sample was collected and then plasma was obtained and stored at -20°C/-80°C till used. Studied group had positive HBsAg for more than six months and were not on antiviral treatments. Other routine investigations were done for each participant such as liver function test, serological tests for HBV markers. HBV viral load and genotypes detection using Real time PCR, finally isolates of core gene that were sent for sequencing</p> <p>In this study, HBeAg was positive in 9 (10%) out of 90 and negative in 81 (90%) out of 90 patients. There was significant association between HBeAg serostatus and HBV-DNA viral load (p value =0.042), as more than half of the cases (55.6%) had high levels of HBV serum DNA (≥ 2000 IU/ml) and</p>			

positive HBeAg compared to 24.7% of cases with negative HBeAg. No statistically significant differences were observed regarding HBeAg status with demographic and other baseline characteristics. In the present study, genotype D was the most predominant in 64 out of 90 (71.1%) of samples while mixed D and A were (2.2%). There was highly significant association between HBV genotypes and HBV DNA load ($p=0.001$) but not with other studied characteristics. The percentage of HBeAg negativity in genotype D patients was higher in comparison to positive HBeAg. HBV genotype D is associated with elevated ALT and AST (20.3% and 23.4%) respectively. Out of 66 HBsAg positive cases with detected HBV-DNA viral load there were only 35 samples positive for PCR amplification of HBV core gene with strong positive bands that were sent for sequencing. All nucleotide sequences reported in this study have been discovered for core gene partial sequencing specifically for D genotype were further aligned and only ten sequences showed 97-100% similarity and 4 newly registered sequences that were deposited in the National Center for Biotechnology Information GenBank database with definition numbers of (Ay149881, Ay149882, Ay149883, Ay149884) and accession numbers of (LC610896, LC610897, LC610898, LC610899) respectively. In this study, one isolate from a newly registered sequences (Ay149883,sr=LC610898) of precore mutation was identified out of 35 isolates (2.86%). Nucleotide mutations in genotype D, including precore stop codon variant for HBeAg were G1839A, A1901G, C1980A, T2015A and T2094A. Phylogenetic tree of HBV precore/core - gene partial sequence constructed using 4 isolates from this study along with 19 Genbank reference sequences.

In conclusion, the findings of the current study suggest that most of studied CHB patients are HBeAg negative with the predominance of D genotype suggesting long term monitoring for disease progression are needed. Five unique mutations in the precoe region were identified in one sample with HBeAg negative, co-infected with HDV ,associated with high viral load and elevated liver enzymes, indicating the existence of precore stop codon variant aided in the absence of HBeAg and the disease was in reactive phase.

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Thesis Title	Vitamin D Status among a sample of Iraqi Adults: Geographic and Demographic effects			
Year	2021		CD:1416	
Abstract	<p>Background: Vitamin D status is currently assessed by measuring circulating 25(OH)D, which exists either free in the circulation or bound to albumin or the vitamin D binding protein, serum 25OHVD is the main circulating vitamin D metabolite that is considered to best indicate overall vitamin D status. Many factors affect the level of vitamin D like latitude, seasonal variation, skin color, pollution, age, gender, food type, physical activity, BMI, WC and others, also deficiencies of vitamin D are related with many disease states like Hypertension, Diabetes Mellitus, Multiple Sclerosis, obesity, auto immune diseases and others.</p> <p>Objectives: To determine the normal range of serum levels of total 25 hydroxyvitamin D (25OHVD) in Iraqi adult healthy subjects and to relate its level with demographic profile and socioeconomic status. In addition, to investigate the relationship between total 25OHVD and its free fraction, albumin, calcium, inorganic phosphate and alkaline phosphatase.</p> <p>Subjects, Materials and Methods: This cross-sectional control study was carried out at Department of Biochemistry, College of Medicine, University of Baghdad and the samples were collected from three governorates (Baghdad, Al-Anbar and Al-Basrah), Iraq, during the period from August 2019 to January 2020. It included 819 adult subjects apparently healthy, of them 87 subjects were taken vitamin D supplement and 83 were pregnant women. Investigations included serum measurement of total 25OHVD in all 819 included individuals and after excluding supplemented and pregnant ones (n=649). Age, gender, marital state, sunshine exposure (%), hours of exposure/day, percentage of body surface area exposed, body mass index (BMI) subgroups, waist circumference (WC) subgroups, educational degree, season variation through monthly sample collection, sport type (A: one type of sport, B: two type, C: three or more types, D: no exercise), sport time (A<30 minute, B=30m and C>30m), diet type (A: meat, egg and dairy products, B: meat and egg and C: others), blood pressure, geographic factor (governorate) were measured and / or calculated and the levels of 25OHVD were studied according to each of these factors. In addition, Free 25(OH)D, albumin, total calcium, inorganic phosphate and alkaline phosphatase were</p>			

measured in a random sample (n=88) of studied individuals (n=649). Total and free 25OHVD were measured by using the Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay technique, while the other parameters by spectrophotometer.

Results: The mean \pm SD level of 25OHVD in total (n=819) studied Iraqi subjects was (17.58 ± 8.29 ng/ml). The mean value of 25OHVD after excluded subjects (n=649; 16.29 ± 8.22 ng/ml), with women were significantly deficient than men (15.76 ± 6.89 ng/ml, 17.14 ± 6.85 ng/ml; $p < 0.01$ respectively). However, there was no significant differences in mean values of serum 25OHVD levels among studied governorates, subgroups of BMI, WC, marital status, smokers and nonsmoker and subgroups of age. The mean value of serum 25OHVD levels of individuals who elevated blood pressure was significantly deficient that of normotensive ones ($p < 0.001$), also in January ($p=0.001$), October ($p=0.01$) and November ($p<0.001$) were significantly lower than that of August as well as that of January and November were significantly lower than that of September ($p =0.02$). The mean value of T25OHVD levels in diet type of group B ($p=0.001$) and group C ($p<0.001$) were significantly less than group A, sport type of group A ($P<0.001$), C ($P<0.001$) and D ($P<0.001$) were significantly lower than group B, sport duration\day of group A ($P=0.001$) and C ($P<0.001$) were significantly lower than group B. There was significant positive correlation between total 25OHVD and sun exposed surface area ($r= 0.14$, $P= 0.001$), sun exposure duration ($r= 0.12$, $P= 0.001$) and with sun exposure area % ($r= 0.14$, $P= 0.001$). There were no significant differences in mean (\pm SD) values of serum T25OHVD levels and sun exposure area % between pregnant women and non-pregnant ones. The mean of serum 25OHVD levels of non-supplemented subjects was significantly lower than that of supplemented ones ($p < 0.0008$). The mean (\pm SD) values of serum total and free 25OHVD of subjects (n=88) were (18.12 ± 8.44 ng/ml) and (7.25 ± 5.50 pg/ml, respectively). There was weak positive correlation between T25OHVD and F25OHVD but did not reach significant level ($r= 0.19$, $P= 0.08$).

Conclusion: The mean (\pm SD) of seum total 25OHVD in Iraqi healthy subjects was $16.29 (\pm 8.22)$ ng/ml reflecting the actual body status of this vitamin with lower concentration in women (15.76 ± 6.89 ng\ml) than in men (17.14 ± 6.85 ng/ml). Type and time of sport and diet type were the major vitamin D dependent factors. Supplementation of vitamin D was superior to sun exposure in providing the daily requirement of vitamin D in Iraq. Measurement of free 25OHVD which is coasty has no advantage over that of total one in healthy subjects.

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Thesis Title	The Role of D.glucan Antigen and Antifungal Multidrug Resistant Genes (CDR1 and MDR1) in Patients with Candidiasis			
Year	2021		CD:1417	
Abstract	<p>Background: Invasive candidiasis, has been increasing in incidence in immunocompromised patients in recent years. Despite our increased antifungal arsenal, fungal strains that are less sensitive and resistant to broad-spectrum antifungals emerge as a result of their overuse and long-term immunosuppressive therapy. These opportunistic fungal infection risk factors result in a significant amount of morbidity and mortality.</p> <p>Aims of the study: Determination of the level of serum beta D. glucan by ELISA test in the samples of leukemia patients who recumbent in hematology oncology department, Identification of <i>Candida</i> species and determination of the <i>Candida</i> species susceptibility to Fluconazole, Voriconazole, Caspofungin, Micafungin, Amphotericine B, Flucytosine by VITEK 2 system and Detection of CDR1 and MDR1 genes that responsible for some of the antifungal resistance.</p> <p>Materials and methods: This case control study included one hundred fifty immunocompromised patients divided into two groups , sixty from the Hematology Oncology Center (HOC patients) , and thirty eight out of ninety from various floors of Baghdad Teaching Hospital (Mycological wards patients) , the majority of which were with respiratory infections symptoms. The duration of work was between November 2019 to March 2021. The place of work was in the Clinical Communicable disease unit in the College of Medicine University of Baghdad. Ninety samples were sent to the medical Mycology Unit at Baghdad teaching hospital. The samples taken then transported to the laboratory to be processed and cultured before being examined. The serum samples were frozen for immunological analyses, while the remainder were examined using traditional methods.</p> <p>Results: Out of sixty samples (sera) were collected from Hematology Oncology Center patients with respiratory symptoms showed that 49 (81.7%) of D-glucan cases were positive.</p> <p>In mycological wards patients the VITEK Identification showed that <i>C. albicans</i> represents 10(27.78%), <i>C. ciferrii</i> 6(16.67%), <i>C. dubliniensis</i> 5(13.89%), <i>C. parapsilosis</i> 4(11.11%), <i>C. tropicalis</i> 3(8.33%), <i>C. lipolytica</i> , <i>C. famata</i> and <i>C. lusitaniae</i> 2(5.56%) , 1 isolate for <i>C. rugosa</i> and <i>C.</i></p>			

krusei. While the antifungal susceptibility test was *C. albicans*, *C. ciferrii*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. tropicalis* and *C. famata* isolates were sensitive to Fluconazole, Voriconazole, Caspofungin, Micafungin, Amphotericin B and Flucytosine. *C. dublinensis* was resistant to flucytosine, *C. lusitaniae* was resistant to Amphotericin B and *C. krusei* isolate was resistant to Caspofungin, Amphotericine B, Flucytosine. *C. lipolytica* and *C. rugosa* isolates were intermediate to Flucytosine.

The molecular detection was done for 20 samples out of 38 which were positive culture for *Candida spp.* only reported that MDR1 gene was detected in all *Candida albicans* 5 (100%), *C. ciferrii* 3 (100%), and *C. dublinensis* 4 (100%), *C. krusei* 1 (100%), *C. lusitaniae* 1 (100%), otherwise it was not detected in *C. famata* and *C. lipolytica*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. rugosa* and *C. tropicalis*. While, the frequency of CDR1 positive in *Candida spp.* was 4/5 (80%) were positive in *C. albicans*, 2/3 (66.67%) in *C. ciferrii* and 3/4 (75%) in *C. dubliniensis* otherwise all were negative for this gene.

Conclusions: Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay test was the more sensitive and a good reliable test used to detect the beta D- glucan antigen in the HOC patients. In the Mycological ward's patients, the VITEK identification test showed that the most common species was *C. albicans*, *C. ciferrii*, *C. dublinensis*, and some other rare type of yeasts responsible of respiratory infection were seen in immunocompromised patients. Flucytosine was the most resisted drug then Amphotericin B and Caspofungin. The most resistant species were *C. krusei*, *C. lusitaniae* and *C. dublinensis*.

The molecular detection reported that MDR1 gene was detected in all *Candida albicans*, *C. Ciferri*, and *C. dubliniensis*, *C. krusei*, *C. lusitaniae*, otherwise it was not detected in *C. famata* and *C. lipolytica*, *C. parapsilosis*, *C. rugosa* and *C. tropicalis*. While, CDR1 was positive in *C. albicans*, *C. ciferrii* and *C. dubliniensis* otherwise all were negative for this gene in this study.

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Thesis Title	Assessment of carpal tunnel syndrome severity by ultrasound and electrodiagnostic study			
Year	2021		CD:1418	
Abstract	<p>Carpal tunnel syndrome is a common peripheral entrapment neuropathy. Nerve conduction study is the gold standard for diagnosis. However, nerve conduction study is not always abnormal in carpal tunnel syndrome. Besides its relatively high cost, which requires searching for alternative modalities, such as ultrasonic examination, it is helpful as a diagnostic method for carpal tunnel syndrome. The main advantages of ultrasonography are simple, quick, non-invasive, and economical. The study aims to investigate the role of ultrasound and electrodiagnostic study in diagnosing of carpal tunnel syndrome and determining disease severity. This is a case-control study that was conducted in Al-Shaheed Ghazi Al-Hariri teaching hospital, Iraq, Baghdad in period from January/2021 to July/2021. , which included 50 CTS patients (hands) and 50 healthy subjects (50 hands). Nerve conduction studies were performed for all included hands, and ultrasound was used to measure the cross-sectional area of the median nerve. The association of the cross-sectional area with the disease severity was calculated, while the receiver operating characteristic curve was used to find out the diagnostic value of ultrasound in discrimination between patients and controls and in discrimination between different severities of the disease. The results were classified into mild (sensory fibers affected), moderate (sensory and motor fibers affected), and severe (severe motor fiber affected) according to the local severity scale of neurophysiological reference values, out of 65 affected hands, 40 (61.15%) hands mild disease, 19 hands (29.23%) demonstrated a moderate disease and 6 hands (9.23%) had severe disease. The mean cross-sectional area of the median nerve in mild, moderate, and severe cases was 11.21 ± 1.22 mm², $15.09 \pm 0.1.14$ mm², and $17.88 \pm 0.2.1$ mm² , respectively, with highly significant differences between the three categories. Furthermore, all three categories had a higher cross-sectional area than control (8.73 ± 0.45 mm²) with highly significant differences. In patients, the cross- sectional area demonstrated a significant positive correlation with each median nerve. sensory distal latency ($r= 0.718$, $p<0.00$), median nerve motor distal latency ($r= 0.818$, $p<0.001$) and age ($r= 0.316$, $p= 0.01$) and a negative significant correlation with median nerve conduction velocity ($r= -0.837$, $p<0.001$). The sensitivity and specificity of ultrasound in the context of discrimination between patients and controls at a cut-off value of cross-sectional area= 10 mm² were 92% and 100%, respectively.</p>			

	<p>The cross-sectional area of the median nerve is enlarged in patients with carpal tunnel syndrome, and the degree of enlargement significantly correlates with the nerve conduction study parameters of disease severity. However, ultrasound of carpal tunnel syndrome of the median nerve has an excellent diagnostic value in the discrimination between patients and controls, with a sensitivity and specificity of 92% and 99%, respectively. The optimum cut-off value is 10 mm² . Also, ultrasound can effectively discriminate between mild, moderate, and severe cases of carpal tunnel syndrome with sensitivity ranges between 83%- 100% and specificity 94%-100%. The optimal cut off values of the cross-sectional area ranges between 13.2-16.2 mm²</p>
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Thesis Title	Frequency of Hepatitis C Viral Infection In relation with Interleukin 12 and 18 among thalassemia Major patients in Baghdad			
Year	2021		CD:1419	
Abstract	<p>Background: Hepatitis C virus (HCV) is responsible for nearly 80 - 90% of post transfusion hepatitis in beta-thalassemia patients. This study aimed to evaluate the rate of HCV infection in a set of beta-thalassemia patients in Baghdad and to assess the serum levels of IL-12, IL-18, and serum liver enzymes levels among β-thalassemic patients infected with HCV.</p> <p>Methodology: A total of patient samples 150 sample included in this study, 70 males; 70 females in Baghdad, 140 beta-thalassemia patients, and 10 healthy control group (9 male ;1 female) who were attended Al Karama teaching hospital and Ibn AL-baladi hospital maternity & children's hospital; aged 4-46 years, from January to September, 2020. Blood samples collected from the study groups and sera were separated and then tested for anti-HCV Ab by ELISA and confirmed by western blot technique, IL-12 concentration, IL-18 concentration, liver enzymes AST, ALT, and ALP.</p> <p>Results: Twenty five out of 140 of the major thalassemic patients were (% 17.9) positive for HCV antibodies. More than half of HCV- positive thalassemic patients were in age group 21-30 yrs old (56%, n=14/25) and females are more frequently infected with HCV (56%, 14/25) than males (44%, 11/25). The median of serum concentrations for IL-12 in HCV- positive thalassemic patients were (0.41) pg/ml was lower than the corresponding median of control group while the median concentration of IL-18 in sera of HCV- positive thalassemia major patients (17.07) pg/ml, was significantly higher than the corresponding median in control group (p0.001). The median concentration of AST in sera of HCV- positive thalassemic patients (71.0 U/L) was significantly higher than the equivalent median in HCV- negative thalassemic group and control group respectively while the median ALT for HCV- positive thalassemic, HCV- negative thalassemic, and control groups were 32.0 U/L, 24.0 U/L, and 30.0 U/L, respectively. The medians of ALP concentrations for the same groups were 84 U/L, 121 U/L, and 85 U/L, respectively. The correlation coefficient for anti-HCV Abs concentrations and their corresponding IL-12 concentrations was 0.084; while for the anti HCV antibodies with IL-18 was 0.0979.</p>			

	<p>Conclusion: The prevalence of HCV infections was high among β-thalassemia major patients in Baghdad, especially among young adult patients. ELISA technique is a perfect choice of detection anti-HCV Abs with very high sensitivity. The infected patients have decreased IL-12 concentration, elevated IL-18 concentration, elevated serum relatively normal Serum ALT.</p>
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Thesis Title	Availability and utilization of emergency health services in Baghdad hospitals			
Year	2021		CD:1420	
Abstract	<p>Background: Emergency care is a critical part of universal health care, and with sound planning and organization, has the ability to address conditions causing over half of deaths and a third of disability suffered annually in low- and middle-income countries.</p> <p>Objectives: To assess the availability of emergency department structure, essential equipment and medicines, and to identify the rate and quality of utilization of the emergency department services.</p> <p>Methods: this cross-sectional study was conducted during the period from March through June 2021 in the Emergency Departments of 14 general and teaching hospitals. The checklist was borrowed from World Health Organization guidelines, Australasian College for Emergency Medicine emergency department Design Guidelines, and previous studies.</p> <p>Results: Triage, resuscitation room and waiting room are unavailable in most of the hospitals. Blood gas machine and infusion pumps were not available in some of the hospitals. There is an obvious shortage in medicines and vaccines, Staff room for doctors and nurse and nurse staff workstations were unavailable in most of the hospitals, coronary care unit and intensive care unit are not close to the emergency department in half of the hospitals. Liaison psychiatry and social work link are not available in all the surveyed hospitals. The main problems faced by the medical and nursing staff were the overload of work, cold cases, and inactive referral system. Most of the patients reported that the medical and nursing staff gave them enough privacy, listened to them and well explained their problems.</p> <p>Conclusion: The emergency departments in most of the surveyed hospitals had many deficiencies. Triage, waiting room, and resuscitation units were not available in most of the surveyed hospitals. There is an obvious shortage in most of the equipment and medicines.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Brainstem Auditory Evoked Potential in evaluation of patients with posterior circulation ischemic stroke			
Year	2021		CD:1421	
Abstract	<p>Background: Approximately 20% of ischemic strokes affecting the posterior circulation of brain structures (including the brainstem, cerebellum, thalamus, and areas of temporal and occipital lobes), which are supplied by paired vertebral arteries, the basilar artery, and their branches: the posterior inferior cerebellar, anterior inferior cerebellar, superior cerebellar, and posterior cerebral arteries. Mortality and risk of recurrent stroke in posterior circulation stroke is high, also it is more likely to be misdiagnosed. Therefore, an effective means of examination is essential for the early diagnosis and delayed or incorrect diagnosis may have devastating consequences. Brainstem auditory evoked potentials (BAEPs) are obtained by activation of the auditory pathway, these waveforms, elicited by auditory stimulation, are generated by specific structures in the auditory pathway. The auditory nerve, cochlear nucleus, superior olivary nuclei, lateral lemniscus and inferior colliculus are physiological generators of wave I V BAEP can sensitively reflect the degree of brain stem ischemia and blood flow changes of brain stem nerve nuclei. Blood supply to the inner ear labyrinth and brainstem that is precisely the representative region of waves I, III, and V of BAEPs, all comes from the PCS.</p> <p>Objective:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Study BAEPs in PCIS and compare it with BAEPs in control subjects. 2) Explore the clinical diagnostic value of BAEP in the evaluation of patients with PCIS. 3) Looking for the site of abnormality within the BAEPs pathway. 4) Evaluate the sensitivity and specificity of different waves of BAEPs in PCIS. <p>Methods: A case control study of 20 patients (8 females and 12 males) with clinical sign and symptom of posterior circulation ischemic stroke with an age range between 40-70 years and mean of (52.2 ±7.31 years). The duration from stroke onset to neurophysiological study was in range of (2 - 30 days). Another 20 aged-matched apparently healthy volunteers (10 females and 10 males) with mean age of (58.0±8.1) years serves as the control group. Both groups were submitted to medical history, clinical</p>			

neurological examination, and brainstem auditory evoked potentials testing.

Result: Waves IV and V latencies, and III-V IPL were significantly prolonged in patients with stroke as compared to the controls ($p < 0.001$). On the reverse, wave V amplitude was significantly lower in patients with stroke as compared to the control group ($p < 0.001$). Accordingly, 15 (75%) patients with stroke shows central dysfunction abnormality. With Receiver Operating Curve test, wave V latency and amplitude showed highest estimated specificity and sensitivity with 80 % and 90%, respectively. Significant negative correlation was demonstrated between wave V latency and duration from onset of stroke to neurophysiological examination. The shorter the duration, the more abnormal wave V latency.

Conclusion: The following can be concluded:

- 1) Brainstem auditory evoked potentials are a useful tool as a biomarker for clinical evaluation of posterior circulation ischemic stroke.
- 2) Wave V latency and amplitude is most specific and sensitive among brainstem auditory evoked potentials parameter in the diagnosis of posterior circulation ischemic stroke.
- 3) The topographic distribution of lost brainstem auditory evoked potentials waves according to diffusion weighted MRI finding may be closely linked to lost generators of individual waves. This suggests regional diagnostic validity of brainstem auditory evoked potentials.
- 4) Early post-stroke brainstem auditory evoked potentials examination is better in detecting the abnormality and can provide reference values for further evaluation.

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Thesis Title	Impact of war on mental health of women			
Year	2021		CD:1422	
Abstract	<p>Background: Women are the silent sufferers of war where it impacts them differently. For every man who suffers, there is a related woman that will takes care of him and faces difficulties with him. Women's mental health situation is affected by multiple psychological and social factors and is associated with rapid social changes, gender discrimination and stressful conditions.</p> <p>Objectives: is to explore the prevalence of anxiety, depression and suicidal thoughts / attempts among Iraqi women post war.</p> <p>Methodology: we conducted a cross sectional study in Baghdad city among 1000 women from January to September 2020. Mental condition was addressed through assessing anxiety and depression on symptomatic basis using standard questions from the Diagnostic and Statistical manual of Mental disorder (DSM-5) scale.</p> <p>Results: of 1,000 women, 911 (91.1%) have experienced war-related trauma since 2003, either personally or as a family member. Anxiety symptoms were reported in 397 (39.7%) women while depressive symptoms were reported by 342 (34.2%) women. Suicidal thoughts / suicide attempts were detected by 358 (35.8%) women. About 30.3% of the studied women had working children while 38.7% of them had an early married girl in their households. There was a clear impact of the general stress related to the war on the social relationships of the participants. More than two-thirds of the respondents experienced difficulties in their social life and their relationship with the environment. The majority of the studied women had negative expectations regarding their future in Iraq, and as a result, more than half of the respondents expressed their intention to emigrate outside the country.</p> <p>Conclusion: Anxiety and depression are prevalent among Iraqi women in post war period. Suicide thoughts/ suicidal attempts are increasing compared to the previous era. Community support plays an important role in alleviating war-related trauma and stress on a woman's mental health.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Awareness of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus and its Risk Factors among Pregnant Women in Al-Najaf Al- Ashraf city			
Year	2021		CD:1423	
Abstract	<p>Background: One of the most common problems in pregnancy is gestational diabetes mellitus. The prevention of gestational diabetes mellitus can be maintained by educating women of childbearing age about gestational diabetes mellitus, its predisposing factors and future risks.</p> <p>Aims of the study: To assess the current level of awareness of gestational diabetes mellitus, its risk factors and its relation to sociodemographic characteristics among pregnant women in Al-Najaf AL-Ashraf city.</p> <p>Methods: A cross sectional study, a randomly selected sample of 380 pregnant women who attended primary health care centers for routine antenatal care visits or health problems and agree to participate in this study. Data collection time was done from 27th Sept.2020 to 20th Jan.2021 through a direct interview using a special questionnaire prepared for the purpose of the study. Levels of awareness were classified into three groups: poor awareness: 0 - 49%, fair awareness: 50 - 69% and good awareness: 70 - 100%. Data was analyzed using SPSS program version 24, and p value considered significant if it is less than 0.05.</p> <p>Results: About one fifth of the subjects (20.3%) of the participants had a good level of awareness about gestational diabetes mellitus, while 39.5% of them had a fair level and 40.3% of them had poor level. Good awareness was attributed to factors such as older age, higher levels of education, working, multi-parity, 3rd trimester of pregnancy, previous birth complications, past history of gestational diabetes mellitus or diabetes mellitus, and to those with family history of diabetes mellitus or gestational diabetes mellitus.</p> <p>Conclusions: A small proportion of women had good level of awareness about gestational diabetes mellitus that indicates the need to increase public health awareness about gestational diabetes mellitus through mass media and health education brochures and implicate for future planning of health promotion about gestational diabetes mellitus in primary health care services.</p> <p>Most of the participants were unaware about the appropriate diagnostic test and time for GDM was through friends / relative rather than health care</p>			

	provider and media.
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Thesis Title	Assessment of Knowledge Regarding Prediabetes among a sample of Family Physicians in (Baghdad City)			
Year	2021		CD:1424	
Abstract	<p>Background: prediabetes is an important health problem which leads to serious medical complications and economic consequences, thus early identification and management are important. Objectives: to assess the level of knowledge of family physicians regarding prediabetes and to study the influence of some demographic and qualification characteristics of family physicians upon their level of knowledge. Method: cross-sectional study was conducted in Baghdad city on a convenient sample of family physicians. The data were collected from the 1st of March to the end of June 2020. A structured electronic questionnaire was used for collecting data about sociodemographic characteristics, information about qualification and prediabetes knowledge which explored four domains: definition of prediabetes, risk factors for prediabetes, diagnosis and management. The questionnaire also contains physician's suggestion about preventive measures. Results: The results showed that 113 family physicians enrolled in the study out of 145 invited, 52.2% of them had good level of knowledge regarding prediabetes. The majority of the respondents had good knowledge about the definition of prediabetes and correctly identified most of the risk factors, gap was noticed in the knowledge of prediabetes progression. More than half of the respondents believed that dietary counselling and physical activity are the corner stone for managing prediabetes and metformin is the second choice and 52.2% of them suggested screening program as a preventive measure. Having diabetes or family member with diabetes was significantly associated with good level of knowledge (58.7%) and attending training courses was significantly associated with good level knowledge (79.3%), also working more than ten years in practice was significantly associated with good level knowledge (71.4%).</p> <p>Conclusion: Approximately half of the study respondents have a good level of knowledge. Gaps of knowledge were found in some questions. Despite this good level of knowledge, there is a need to improve the knowledge of physicians about prediabetes since only about half of them had a good level of knowledge.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Assessment of cognitive functions in patients with multiple sclerosis: Clinico-neurophysiologic study			
Year	2021		CD:1425	
Abstract	<p>Background: Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a progressive, inflammatory, demyelinating disease caused by the destruction of the myelin sheath by autoantibodies and immune cells resulting in a broad range of symptoms, which include motor, cognitive, and neuropsychiatric problems. Cognitive electrophysiology plays an important role because it is not limited by existence of a physical disability which includes the reduction of visual acuity and fine motor limit which are the main limitation of neuropsychological testing in patients with MS.</p> <p>Objective: This study aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Assess the cognitive function by measuring P300 event-related potential in patients with MS and compare it to the control group. 2) Investigate the relationship of P300 abnormality with the severity of physical disability, disease subtypes, and Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) score. 3) Investigate whether the P300 can be used to identify cognitive deficits during the early stage of MS. <p>Methods: Fifty patients who met the Mc Donald Criteria of the disease were studied comprised of 28 females and 22 males with an age range from 20- 54 years. Their duration of illness ranging from one year to more than 20 years. The studied patients were those with relapsing –remitting and secondary progressive MS type. Fifty healthy subjects comprised of 21 females and 29 males aged 18 to 50 years serves as the control group. Medical history, clinical neurological examination, cognitive functions assessed by MoCA scale and by P300 event-related potentials as a neurophysiological tool.</p> <p>Results: In this study, 48% of patients with MS presented with CI. Total MoCA score was significantly lower in patients with MS than in the control group. Similarly, the score of all cognitive domains was significantly less in the patients versus the controls. The duration of illness and the Expanded Disability Status Scale (EDSS) were significantly higher in those with impaired cognition. On the contrary, the education level was significantly higher in those with intact cognition. Total MoCA score ranges 14 to 25 in</p>			

those with impaired cognition and 27 to 30 in those with intact cognition. MoCA score was significantly lower in those with impaired cognition. Likewise, all cognitive domains were significantly lower in those with impaired as compared to the those with intact cognition apart from the language domain which is indifferent within the two subgroups. The domains most frequently failed by the patients were memory (42, 84%), attention (32, 64%), visuospatial learning (26, 52%), language (20, 40%), naming (9, 18%), abstract (8, 16%), and orientation (6, 12%). The P300 event related potential latency was significantly prolonged and the amplitude significantly reduced in patients with MS as compared to the controls. The EDSS was positively correlated with P300 latency and disease duration while negatively with P300 amplitude and total MoCA score. P300 wave latency was negatively correlated with the total MoCA score and the education level and positively with the disease duration. The P300 amplitude was positively correlated with total MoCA score and education level but negatively with disease duration. Moreover, MoCA was positively correlated with education level but negatively with disease duration.

Conclusion: The study concludes the following: 1) MoCA scale has optimal psychometric properties for routine clinical use in patients with MS, even in those with mild functional disability (EDSS). 2) P300 as a non-invasive test is useful for detecting cognitive impairment in MS patients and may be used in daily practice for screening. 3) P300 and MoCA scale are significantly correlated with the duration of illness, disease subtype, education level, and EDSS. 4) As for the profile of cognitive dysfunction in patients with MS, the domains most frequently failed by the patients were memory, attention, visuospatial learning, and language.

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Thesis Title	Self-monitoring of blood Glucose, Practices and Determinants in Type 2 Diabetics in Al-Najaf City			
Year	2021		CD:1426	
Abstract	<p>Background: Self-Monitoring of Blood Glucose is an approach whereby people with diabetes measure their blood sugar (glycemia) themselves using a glycemic reader (glucose meter). Based on the reading, they can adjust or check the effect of their management (diet, exercise, insulin, antidiabetics, stress management).</p> <p>Objectives of the study: To assess the practice and determinants of self-monitoring of blood glucose of type2 Diabetic patients by glucometer.</p> <p>Patients and method: A cross sectional study, carried at the endocrine and diabetes center in Al-Sadr Hospital in Al-Najaf governorate at the period from the 1st of July to the end of Dec 2020. A convenient sample include type 2 diabetes mellitus patients from 18 years old and above by direct interview using questionnaire that divided into 3 parts and included, Part I(sociodemographic data of the patients), Part II about the diabetes history of the patient, and Part III about the self-monitoring of the blood glucose.</p> <p>Results: (73.8%) were currently using a glucometer, (79.4%) said they changed their device, only 170 (44.3%) calibrate the device with laboratory, on the other hand, majority of the glucometer users, (89.9%), changed the lancet at each test but unfortunately 39 (10.2%) did not. the mean practice score of for self-monitoring of blood glucose was 10.2 ± 3.3, and level of for self-monitoring of blood glucose of participants, 262 (61.2%) patients had good and 166 (38.8%) had poor self-monitoring of blood glucose.</p> <p>Conclusion: A significant association was found between self-monitoring of blood glucose and age, marital state, occupation, education, and disease duration. (p. value < 0.005).</p>			

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Thesis Title	Blink reflex study in patients with migraine			
Year	2021		CD:1427	
Abstract	<p>Background: Migraine is a recurring headache disorder affecting 11% of the population throughout the developmental and most productive stages of their lives. The underlying pathology including the trigeminovascular system as one of the basic parts in the expression of migraine headache. It consists of peripheral axons from the trigeminal ganglion that reach the meninges and intracranial arteries and converge centrally in the trigeminocervical complex.</p> <p>Methods: This is a case-control study of 80 subjects. Forty patients comprised of 28 females and 12 males diagnosed as having migraine, with or without aura with mean age range of 35.5 ± 7.82 years and disease duration ranges between 2-82 months. Another 40 matched healthy volunteer (14 males and 25 female) with mean age of 39.31 ± 9.77 years serves as the control group. Both groups were submitted to medical history, clinical neurological examination and electrophysiological tests of blink reflex for both eyes.</p> <p>Results: The right cR2 latency and the left iR2 were significantly prolonged in the patients versus the controls ($P < 0.001$). No difference was observed between those with and without aura. The right iR2 and cR2 latency values recorded within 2 days after the attack (interictally) were significantly longer than those obtained during the headache attack (ictally) ($P = 0.002$; $P < 0.001$, respectively). No association was demonstrated between pain location side and stimulation side. In addition, no significant difference between male and female patients. A positive correlation was found between iR1 and duration of illness ($r = 0.305$, $P = 0.021$); iR2 and duration of illness ($r = 0.267$, $P = 0.034$); and cR2 and duration of illness ($r = 0.288$, $P = 0.028$).</p> <p>Conclusion: The study concludes the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Electrophysiological evidence that intraneuronal brainstem pathways can be altered in patients with episodic and chronic migraine. 2. An interictal changes in BR components suggests trigeminovascular dysfunction in migrainerus patients is not a transient phenomenon. 3. An abnormal synaptic transmission in the brainstem with intraneuronal excitability presented as dysfunctional connections between 			

	brainstem and trigeminovascular system in patients with migraine headache.
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Thesis Title	Barriers to Immunization among (1-5) Years Children Attending the Primary Health Care Centers /Al Nasiriyah City 2021			
Year	2021		CD:1428	
Abstract	<p>Background: Immunization is most effective, safest way to protect children from dangerous communicable diseases. By knowing the obstacles for completing the vaccine and studying them, the coverage of childhood immunization will increase.</p> <p>Objectives: To identify the barriers to immunization among children 1-5 years old attending the primary health care centers in Al-Nasiriyah city, to assess the caregiver's knowledge about child immunization and to finding out if this is associated with incomplete immunization, find the coverage rate of childhood immunization in the study area and identify the source of caregiver's information.</p> <p>Methodology: A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted in 10 primary health care centers, data collection was carried out from 1st of April to 30th of June 2021, on a sample of five hundred participants. Data was collected by using researcher-administered questionnaire distributed to caregiver and from vaccination card of children. Descriptive statistics were presented as frequencies and percentages. Continuous variables were presented as (Means \pm SD). Chi – Square test was used to find out significance of related variables. P – Value < 0.05 was considered as statistically significant.</p> <p>Results: This study results demonstrated that 54.4% of children were fully vaccinated, 41.2% partially and 4.4% non-vaccinated. There was significant association between caregiver knowledge about childhood immunization and educational level, occupation, immunization status and male gender (p value<0.05). The main barrier to immunization is negligence 18.60%. Regarding information about immunization, 51.8% were from health care providers.</p> <p>Conclusion: the coverage rate of vaccines was low in comparison with World Health Organization recommended rate, the majority of caregiver had good knowledge about child immunization, the primary source of caregiver's information was taken from the health care providers and friends, and the main barrier to immunization was the negligence and forgetfulness.</p>			

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Thesis Title	Elderly patients' adherence to medications in primary healthcare centers			
Year	2021		CD:1430	
Abstract	<p>Background: currently the Elderly population is rapidly increasing and with this increment comes more challenges for the healthcare system, non-adherence to medications especially in elderly can lead to economic and human lost that is avoidable by improving patients' compliance and address the related issues leading to the non-adherence.</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determination of the adherence level among elderly patients in Baghdad city. • Determination of the association of the levels of adherence with sociodemographic factors and other medical conditions. • Exploration some of the difficulties elderly patients face that hinder proper adherence. <p>Methodology: A cross sectional study was conducted in primary healthcare centers in Baghdad Iraq from 1st of April 2020 to 30th of November 2020 targeting geriatric age group both genders attending the primary healthcare centers and having at least one diagnosed chronic disease, the study enrolled 10 healthcare centers from both sides of Baghdad. Patients were directly interviewed and data was collected using a questionnaire.</p> <p>Results: The current study showed that (83.4%) of the sample (n=385) had low adherence level, this rate tend to increase as the age increases, no significant association was found with gender, and a significant association was found with the age.</p> <p>Conclusions: Elderly patients attending the primary healthcare centers in Baghdad during the period of this study have low level of adherence. Patients who scored low level of adherence tend to pay more visits to the healthcare centers</p>			

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Thesis Title	Correlation of inter-ictal EEG localization with semiology and MRI in symptomatic focal epilepsies			
Year	2021		CD:1431	
Abstract	<p>Background: Symptomatic epilepsy is that of an acquired or genetic cause, associated with anatomic or pathologic abnormalities, and / or clinical features. The inter-ictal EEG findings of a Partial symptomatic epilepsy may include background EEG abnormalities, focal slowing in addition to EDs which may localize to the site of cerebral lesion. Seizure semiology may provide a valuable information on the seizure onset zone and thereby seizure localization.</p> <p>Objectives: To determine how accurate that the routine interictal EEG can reveal epileptiform changes in correlation with that of MRI and semiology localization to recognize the utility of this mean for localization of epileptogenic lesions in less time and cost.</p> <p>Methods: Seventy patients with the diagnosis of symptomatic focal epilepsy were enrolled in the study. Basic but prolonged (60 minutes) inter-ictal EEG was performed according to American Clinical Neurophysiology Society standards. Partial sleep deprivation was requested for all of the patients as one of provocation method in addition to hyperventilation and intermittent photic stimulation. EEG was reviewed using rules of phase reversal and dipole modeling for the purpose of localization. Semiology was analyzed by revising history that is sometimes aided by home videos. Then assorted according to seizure types to perform localization also.</p> <p>Results: There was a statistically significant association between interictal EEG and sites of epileptogenic lesion, and most frontal and temporal lobe lesions were localized to the lesional lobe, 10 (50.0%) and 16 (57.1%) respectively, while Parieto-occipital lesions had interictal EEG with extralesional abnormalities 8(66.7%) and the majority of multilobar lesion had their EEG abnormalities lateralized to the same side of the lesions 9 (90.0%). Lesions that were showed to be localized by interictal EEG were also localized in semiology in 24 (58.5%). but there were 10 (24.4%) and 7 (17.1%) extralesional and generalized, respectively on interictal EEG. There was mild correlation and agreement between the two tests, but it was statistically significant.</p> <p>Conclusion: Inter-ictal sleep deprivation EEG can have an important role in</p>			

	localization and tracking of epileptogenic pathways and the concept of being discordant from semiology should have a crucial attention.
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