

CURRICULUM VITAE

July 1, 2021



Name: Maher S, Saifo, MD, Post-Doc

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Title: Associate Professor of Medical Oncology
Former Chair, Department of Oncology, Damascus University
Chief of Breast Cancer Dept. Abairouni University Cancer Institute

Nationality: SYRIA

Marital Status: Married

EDUCATION AND POSTGRADUATION

- 1993-1999: Doctor of Medicine (MD) from Damascus University at Damascus, Syria
- 1999-2003: Specialty (Higher Studies) in Medical Oncology, from Damascus University, Syria
- 2007-2010: Oncology Fellowship (Clinical & research Post-Doctorate), Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI). Buffalo, New York, USA

MAJOR INTEREST

Breast and lower gastrointestinal cancers

POSITION AND UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

- 2003-2006: Private Practice and Medical Oncologist at Al Bairouni University Cancer Institute "Affiliated with Damascus University", Damascus, Syria
- 2006- 2007: lecturer, Department of Oncology, Damascus University
- 2007-2010: Delegated physician from Damascus University to RPCI, NY, USA
- 2011-2012: Medical Oncologist at Teshreen Military Hospital (mandatory service), Damascus
- 2012-2017: Assistant Professor of Medical Oncology, Oncology Dept, Damascus University
- 2013-present: Chief of Breast cancer service, Albairouni University Cancer Institute, Damascus
- 2016-2020: Chairman, Department of Oncology, Damascus University
- 2016-present: Medical Consultant, Aga Khan Foundation, Syria.
- 2017- present: Associate Professor of Medical Oncology, Oncology Dept, Damascus University
- 2017- 2018: Associate Professor of Medical Oncology, Internal Dept, Kalamoon University.
- 2018- present: Chair, Scientific committee, the Syrian Association of Oncology
- 2020- present: Associate Professor of Medical Oncology, Al Sham Private University.
- 2020-present: Medical Oncology Consultant, Al-Assad University Hospital, Damascus.
- 2020-present: Medical Oncology Consultant, the Breast Unit, Almouwasat Hospital. Damascus

MEMBERSHIP

- The Syrian Syndicate of physicians.1999 – present
- The Syrian Association of Oncology. 2004 – present
- American Society for Clinical Oncology (ASCO). 2009 - present
- Syrian Society of Senology. 2016 - present

COMMITTEES

- Member, The Syrian Board of Oncology, Ministry of Health. 2016- present
- Member, Cancer therapeutic committee, Ministry of Health. 2013- present
- Member, Highly Therapeutic committee, Albairouni University Hospital. 2013 – present
- Chief, The breast cancer committee, Albairouni University Hospital. 2013-present

PUBLICATIONS

1. Saifo M. Management of early breast cancer patients at the Nuclear Medicine Center. Damascus University Journal of Health Sciences, 2003.Issn 2072-2265.
2. Saifo MS, Rempinski DR Jr, Rustum YM, Azrak RG. Targeting the oncogenic protein beta-catenin to enhance chemotherapy outcome against solid human cancers. Mol Cancer. 2010 Dec 2;9:310. doi: 10.1186/1476-4598-9-310.
3. Sharma N, Saifo M, Tamaskar IR, Bhuvanewari R, Mashtare T, Fakih M. KRAS status and clinical outcome in metastatic colorectal cancer patients treated with first-line FOLFOX chemotherapy.J Gastrointest Oncol. 2010 Dec;1(2):90-6. doi: 10.3978/j.issn.2078-6891.2010.022.
4. Saifo M. Improved Clinical Benefit with Lapatinib plus Capecitabine in HER2+ Metastatic Breast Cancer. Damascus University J of Health Sciences, 2015 Vol 3, pp 131-136 ISSN 2072- 2265.
5. Saifo M. Impact of HER2+ ratio on efficacy of Trastuzumab in Early Breast Cancer. Damascus University J of Health Sciences, 2017 Vol 2, pp 75-82 ISSN 2072- 2265.
6. Rawan Al khudari, Mohannad Homsy, Hasan Al zohaily, Maher S. Saifo, "Primary Stromal Breast Sarcoma with Concomitant Contralateral Carcinoma: A Rare Case from Syria", Case Reports in OncologicalMedicine, vol. 2019, ArticleID 6460847, 4 pages, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2019/6460847>
7. Saifo M. Efficacy of Fulvestrant as third line hormonal treatment in Metastatic Breast Cancer. Accepted for publishing. Damascus University Journal of Health Sciences, 2019. Issn 2072-2265
8. Saifo M. Efficacy of Fentanyl Transdermal Patch in the Management of Chronic Cancer Pain. Accepted for publishing. Damascus University Journal of Health Sciences, 2020. Issn 2072-2265
9. Salamoon M, Saifo M. Hematology/oncology practice in Syria in the era of Covid-19 and war. Journal of Clinical and Translational Oncology,1(1)16-9 .<http://dx.doi.org/10.33702/jcto.2020.1.1.2>
10. Salamoon M, Balti M, Farnault B, Saifo M, et al. The Role of Temozolomide-Irinotecan in Doxorubicin-Resistant Cell Lines of Recurrent Ewing's Sarcoma, in A Patient Derived Orthotopic Xenograft (PDOX) with EWS-ERG Fusion and CDKN2A Loss: What Impact the Combination has in Real Life Practice?. Mathews J Cancer Sci. (5)1:21
11. Ksirri M, Alkhalil W, Saifo M, Yousef L. The Impact of Obesity on Overall Survival of Metastatic Breast Cancer Patients Receiving Palliative Chemotherapy. Accepted for publishing. Damascus University Journal of Health Sciences, 2020. Issn 2072-2265
12. Alhariri L, Refaieh S, Saifo M. Small Lymphoma Skin Infiltration Presenting as an Isolated Breast Mass: A Case Report. Accepted for publication in Journal of the Arab Board of Health Specializations 2021 Jan 31.
13. Saifo M. Efficacy and Safety of Trastuzumab Emtansine in HER2-Positive Metastatic Breast Cancer. Accepted for publishing. Damascus University Journal of Health Sciences, 2021. Issn 2072-2265.

14. Aram J. Abbas, Marah F. Ibrahim, Maher S. Saifo, "Antibody-Drug Conjugates Used in Breast Cancers", Journal of Oncology, vol. 2021, Article ID 9927433, 7 pages, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2021/9927433>

ABSTRACTS

1. M. Saifo, Y. M. Rustum, R. G. Azrak: The effect of selenium on the oncogenic protein β -catenin in human colorectal cancers. ASCO Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. e13553 J Clin Oncol 28, 2010.
2. Sharma, I. R. Tamaskar, M. Saifo, T. Mashtare, M. Fakih: KRAS status and response to first-line FOLFOX chemotherapy in patients with metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC). ASCO Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium, 2010, Orlando, FL. Translational Research 378 N.
3. S. Chintala, K. Toth, T. Najrana, M. Saifo, Y. Rustum: Regulation of hypoxia inducible factor alpha in clear cell renal cell carcinoma. Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research; 2011 Apr 2-6; Orlando, FL. Philadelphia (PA): AACR; Cancer Res 2011;71(8 Suppl):Abstract nr 3512. Doi:10.1158/1538-7445.
4. M Saifo, M Nikoula: Efficacy of short-course adjuvant trastuzumab in early stage breast cancer. Cancer Res February 15 2019 (79) (4 Supplement) P2-13-07; DOI:10.1158/1538-7445.SABCS18-P2-13-07.
5. M Saifo: Nine weeks versus six months of adjuvant Trastuzumab in HER2-positive breast cancer: 3-year disease-free survival results. Accepted for online publication. ASCO annual meeting 2020, e12530.

BOOKS

- SAIFO M; Immune response against cancer; pp 169-177; In Textbook of Immunology; Arabic encyclopedia, Damascus, Syria; 1st edition 2019.

JOURNAL REVIEWER

- Damascus University Journal of Medical Sciences
- Arab Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences

SUPERVISED PhD STUDENTS

- | <u>NAME</u> | <u>Period of Supervision</u> |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Mousa Alali, MD | 2017-present |
| Thesis title "The Effect of CYP2D6 Polymorphism on Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor-Induced Toxicities among Patients with Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer" | |
| 2. Mouhamad Mouhamad, MD | 2017-present |
| Thesis title "The Relationship between NUDT15 Gene Polymorphism and 6 Mercaptopurine Intolerance in Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia Patients" | |
| 3. Weam Hasan, Faculty of Pharmacy | 2019-present |
| Thesis title "The immunologic effect of 5FU and the relationship between its toxicity and DPYD*2A Gene polymorphism in Syrian Cancer patients" | |

SUPERVISED HIGHER STUDIES MEDICAL RESIDENTS

- | <u>NAME</u> | <u>Period of Supervision</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Nawras Jaafar, MD | 2010 - 2015 |

- Thesis title “*Evaluation of Progression free survival in high risk group of early breast cancer treated with Trastuzumab*”
2. Moudar Abonbbout, MD 2010 - 2015
Thesis title “*Pazopanib efficacy in the treatment of recurrent or metastatic Clear Cell Renal Carcinoma*”
 3. Ali Mohammad, MD 2010 - 2017
Thesis title “*High risk factors for brain metastases in patients with Non Small Cell Lung Cancer*”
 4. Mousa Alali, MD 2010 – 2017
Thesis title “*Gestational breast cancer at Albairouni University Hospital*”
 5. Ahlam Shella, MD 2010 – 2016
Thesis title “*Relationship between HER2+ and metastatic sites of breast cancer*”
 6. Mwaffak aleter 2011 – 2018
Thesis title “*Prognostic factors in patients with advanced Non Small Cell lung cancer treated at Albairouni University Hospital*”
 7. Mouhamad Mouhamad, MD 2010 – 2017
Thesis title “*Relation between prognostic factors and Time to progression in metastatic breast cancer*”
 8. Fatemah Jojo, MD 2013- 2018
Thesis title “*Impact of Hormonal receptor positivity on efficacy in early breast cancer*”
 9. Nadia Abd Alwahed, MD 2013- 2018
Thesis title “*Efficacy of capecitabine as neoadjuvant chemoradiation for rectal cancer at Al-Bairouni University Hospital*”
 10. Majed Nqola, MD 2013- 2018
Thesis title “*Efficacy of short course adjuvant Trastuzumab in early stage breast cancer at Al-Bairouni University Hospital*”
 11. Houmam Hamadi, MD 2013- 2019
Thesis title “*A single institute study of Prognostic factors in Male Breast Cancer*”
 12. Hazem Ksiri, MD 2013- present
Thesis title “*Relation between α FP level and tumor size in Hepatocellular carcinoma at albairouni University Hospital*”
 13. Mouhamad Turkmani, MD 2013- present
Thesis title “*Comparison between positivity impact of estrogen receptors and progesterone receptors in treatment of early breast cancer patients*”
 14. Ali Ghazzawi, MD 2013- present
Thesis title “*Evaluation of Capecitabine monotherapy as the second line in patients with metastatic breast cancer patients*”
 15. Ali Al-Essa, MD 2015- present
Thesis title “*Impact of Lean Body Mass on the chemotherapy-induced cytotoxicity*”
 16. Mirna Ksery, Faculty of Farmacy 2018- present
Thesis title “*Impact of Obesity on cancer treatment outcome in Breast Cancer Patients*”
 17. Salma Alzahabi, Faculty of Science 2019- present
Thesis title “*Investigation of some mutations in BRCA genes in a sample of women with breast cancer in Syria*”

SYMPOSIA: Participant/Attendee

1. ASCO annual meeting 2020. OnLine.
2. Amman, Jordan. The 7th Conference of Jordanian Society of Hematology. Feb 27-29, 2020
3. Beirut, Lebanon. Moderator. The “Middle East and North Africa Immuno-Oncology Forum” American University of Beirut AUBMC, Dec 20-21, 2019

4. San Antonio, TX, USA. Participant & Attendee. San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium 2019.
5. Barcelona, Spain. ESMO congress, Sep 27- Oct 2, 2019
6. Beirut, Lebanon. *Panellist*, Saint Joseph Univerity, Forum de Recherche En Oncologie FRON, Sep14, 2019.
7. Damascus, Syria. Syrian Molecular Genetic Assembly, June 15-17, 2019
8. Chicago, IL, USA. ASCO annual meeting 2019.
9. Beirut, Lebanon. *Panellist*. American University of Beirut Breast Cancer Conference-AUBMC, Feb7-9, 2019
10. San Antonio, TX, USA. Participant & Attendee. San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium 2018.
11. Beirut, Lebanon. Panellist, Saint Joseph Univerity, FRON, Sep15, 2018.
12. Chicago, IL, USA. ASCO annual meeting 2018
13. San Antonio, TX, USA. San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium 2017.
14. Beirut, Lebanon. Best of ASCO 2017.
15. Beirut, Lebanon. MERCK workshop of Colorectal Carcinomas. May 5-6, 2017.
16. Chicago, IL, USA. ASCO annual meeting 2016.
17. Beirut, Lebanon. 1st French Lebanese Oncology Meeting FLOM, Oct15, 2016.
18. Chicago, IL, USA. ASCO annual meeting 2015.
19. Beirut, Lebanon. The 15th PAN ARAB Cancer Congress, March 26-28, 2015.
20. Beirut, Lebanon. Best of ASCO 2014.
21. Chicago, IL, USA. ASCO annual meeting 2013.
22. Beirut, Lebanon. American University of Beirut Breast Cancer Conference-AUBMC, Feb8-9, 2013.
23. Beirut, Lebanon. First Middle East Forum on Neuroendocrine Tumors, Nov16&17, 2012.
24. Chicago, IL, USA. Participant&Attendee, ASCO annual meeting 2010.
25. Buffalo, NY, USA. RPCI, Science Decade series, Jan 27-April 7, 2010
26. Orlando, FL. Participant, ASCO Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium, Jan22-24, 2010.
27. Orlando, FL, USA. ASCO annual meeting 2009.
28. Buffalo, NY, USA. RPCI Highlights from ASCO 2009.
29. Buffalo, NY. Personalizing Treatment for NSCLC, December 18-19, 2009
30. San Antonio, TX, USA. San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium 2008.
31. Chicago, IL. ASCO annual meeting 2008.
32. Singapore. 5th Roche Middle East Oncology Conference, February 15-16, 2007.
33. Paris, France. 2th Middle East & Africa Oncology Summit May3-4, 2007.
34. Athens Greece. Lilly's seminar. 2007.
35. Cairo, Egypt, NEMROCK16th Annual Conference 2006.
36. Beirut, Lebanon, The best of ASCO, Nov17&18, 2006.
37. Amman, Jordan. The 5th Conference of Jordanian Society of Oncology, Apr 12-15, 2006.
38. Kuala-lambur Malaysia 4th Roche Middle East Oncology conference, Mar 9-11, 2006.
39. Amman, Jordan. King Hussein cancer Center Symposium of women's cancer, 2005.
40. Beirut, Lebanon. COMO 7 conference, Aug 25-27, 2005.
41. Amman, Jordan. 2nd Pfizer MER Oncology Workshop, April 11, 2005.
42. Dead Sea, Jordan. 3th Middle East Oncology conference 2005.

SYMPOSIA/Invited speaker

24/01/2014 Beirut, Lebanon. The Lebanese and Syrian Associations of Oncology annual meeting

Title: 1) "Updates on Colorectal Cancer" and 2) "Targeting Wnt signaling pathway".

12/05/2014 Damascus, Syria. The biotechnology meeting, Damascus University

Title: *"Targeting the oncogenic pathway Wnt/b-catenin to enhance chemotherapy outcome against solid human cancers"*

17/04/2015 Yafour, Syria. Syrian Association of Oncology annual meeting (2 presentations)

Title: 1) *"Updates in metastatic Breast Cancer, SABCS2014"*
and 2) *"Targeting the Oncogenic pathway Wnt in colon cancer"*

06/08/2015 Damascus, Syria. Syrian Association of Oncology meeting

Title: *"Her2-Positive Breast Cancer, Beyond Trastuzumab"*

09/05/2015 Damascus, Syria. Damascus Doctors Syndicate annual meeting

Title: *"Targeting the Oncogenic pathway Wnt to enhance Chemotherapy"*

22/10/2015 Damascus, Syria. AstraZeneca workshop

Title: *"Endocrine Therapy for Metastatic Breast Cancer"*

04/12/2015 Yafour, Syria. Syrian Association of Oncology

Title: *"Breast Cancer-Hormonal therapy in MBC Highlight ESMO 2015"*

04/02/2016 Damascus, Syria. Ministry of higher education World Cancer Day

Title: *"Education and Cancer"*

03/03/2016 Alasad University Hospital, Damascus, Syria. Syrian Syndicate meeting

Title: *"Molecular insight of Cancer"*

26/04/2016 Damascus, Syria. World Health Organization.

Title: *"Colorectal Cancer"*

19/05/2016 Damascus, Syria. Syrian Association of Oncology

Title: *"Targeted therapy and beyond progression in MCRC"*

11/08/2016 Damascus, Syria. Syrian Association of Oncology meeting.

Title: *"Updates on Head and Neck cancers". Organizer.*

02/03/2017 Alasad University Hospital, Damascus, Syria. Syrian Syndicate meeting

Title: *"Treating HER2-Positive Breast Cancer"*

10/08/2017 Damascus, Syria. AstraZeneca workshop

Title: *"Endocrine Therapy for Metastatic Breast Cancer"*

29/12/2017 Bireut, Lebanon. Bayer Advisory Board Meeting.

Title: *"The Role of Multi-kinase Inhibitors in unresectable HCC"*

25/04/2018 Damascus University, Syria. Department of Oncology annual meeting.

Title: *"Overtreatment of Adjuvant Breast Cancer"*

28/06/2018 Bireut, Lebanon. Pierre Fabre Oncology Advisory Board Meeting.

Title: *"Unresectable or Metastatic Melanoma"*

04/07/2018 Bireut, Lebanon. AstraZeneca Advisory Board Meeting.

Title: *"Advanced Breast Cancer"*

09/08/2018 Damascus, Syria. AstraZeneca Meeting

Title: *"Updates in Breast and Lung Cancer"*

27/09/2018 Damascus, Syria. Syrian Association of Oncology meeting

Title: *"Advances in metastatic breast cancer"*

10/05/2019 Bireut, Lebanon. Bayer Advisory Board Meeting.

Title: *"The Role of Regorafenib in MCRC"*

20/06/2019 Damascus, Syria. AstraZeneca Meeting.

Title: *"Updates in Breast cancer, Faslodex in Advanced Breast Cancer"*

19/07/2019 Hama, Syria. The meeting of Syrian Society of Obst.& Gyne.

Title: *"Gestational Breast Cancer"*

05/12/2019 Damascus, Syria. Syrian Association of Oncology annual meeting

Title: *"Updates in Early Breast Cancer, ASCO2019"*

05/03/2020 Damascus, Syria. Syrian Association of Oncology meeting

Title: *"Incorporating checkpoints inhibitors in the management of HNSCC"*

23/05/2020 Damascus, Syria. Roche meeting.

Title: *"Updates on the role of Perjeta in HER2-positive Breast Cancer"*. Virtual

02/07/2020 Damascus, Syria. Roche meeting.

Title: *"Multidisciplinary Care in HER2-positive EBC"*. Virtual

30/07/2020 Damascus, Syria. AstraZeneca Meeting.

Title: *"Faslodex, Institutional perspective"* Virtual

06/08/2020 Damascus, Syria. AstraZeneca Meeting.

Title: *"Tagrisso, Advisory Board"*

27/08/2020 Bireut, Lebanon. 2020 abc Oncology Educational Course, Arab Medical Association against Cancer (AMAAC). Webinar. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xcdFF5uiylc>

Title: *"Challenges in Managing Cancer during the COVID-19 Pandemic"*

21/9/2020 Damascus, Syria. Mylan and ATC pharma.

Title: *"Meet the Experts- Trastuzumab & Bevacizumab New prospects"*

26/11/2020 Damascus, Syria. AstraZeneca Meeting.

Title: *"Breast Cancer management"*

04/12/2020 Damascus, Syria. Peirre Fabre.

Title: *"Neratinib, Virtual Advisory Board"*

12/12/2020 Damascus, Syria. Syrian Association of Oncology meeting. Roche Symposium.

Title: *"Immunotherapy in mTNBC treatment"*

26/03/2021 Damascus, Syria. Peirre Fabre.

Title: *"Navelbine oral in MBC and NSCLC, Virtual Advisory Board"*

08/04/2021 Damascus, Syria. AstraZeneca.

Title: *"FASLODEX Institutional perspective"*

31/05/2021 Damascus, Syria. Peirre Fabre.

Title: *"The Value of Using Navelbine Oral in Patients with MBC - A HER2 + MBC Case Review"*

17/06/2021 Damascus, Syria. Syrian Association of Oncology meeting. Roche Symposium

Title: *"HER2 positive eBC: Paradigm Shift"*

22/06/2021 Bireut, Lebanon. 2020 abc Oncology Educational Course, Arab Medical Association against Cancer (AMAAC).Panel discussion. Webinar

Title: *"Precision Medicine"*

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND WORKSHOP

- Leading at the Speed of Trust. FranklinCovey Co. Beirut, Lebanon Nov 2013. Damascus, Syria.
- SPSS statistics17. 2013, Damascus, Syria.
- Workshop, 3-D Drug Discovery and Development, RPCI, Buffalo, New York September, 2009
- Microsoft: Word 2003, PowerPoint 2003, Access 2003, Excel 2003, 2007, RPCI, Buffalo, NY, 2010
- Introduction Outlook 2003. Niagara County Community College Corporate Training, Buffalo, NY, Dec12, 2007.
- Leadership for Success, The 7 principles. STARMANSHIP&Associates (affiliated with FranklinCovey Co & EAGLE'S FLIGHT). May 2007, Damascus, Syria.
- ICDL 2012

Awards:

- 3^{em} Prix, Forum de RECHERCHE EN ONCOLOGIE, Saint-Joseph University, Bierut, Lebanon, 2019
- 1^{er} Prix, Forum de RECHERCHE EN ONCOLOGIE, Saint-Joseph University, Bierut, Lebanon, 2018
- 3^{em} Prix, Forum de RECHERCHE EN ONCOLOGIE, Saint-Joseph University, Bierut, Lebanon, 2017

ASCO Connection

- <https://connection.asco.org/blogs/syrian-war-and-its-impact-cancer-care-observations-syrian-oncologist-practicing-damascus>
- <https://connection.asco.org/blogs/facing-cancer-time-war-lamas-story>
- <https://www.cancer.net/blog/2016-12/facing-cancer-time-war-lamas-story>
- <https://www.unocha.org/story/four-health-worker-accounts-working-war-zone>

REFERENCE:

Youcef M. Rustum, PhD

Professor of Oncology
Former Senior Vice president For Scientific Research &
Chair, Dept. of Cancer Biology, Roswell Park Cancer Institute
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Alex A. Adjei, MD, PhD

Professor and Chair, Department of Medicine
Katherine Anne Gioia Chair in Cancer Medicine
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Mouhamad A, Souman, MD

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