



**The Mycetoma Research Centre**

**University of Khartoum**  
*WHO Collaborating Centre on Mycetoma*

# **Annual Report**

# **2022**

*Deliberate, share, and stay connected*

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# Preface

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It is our pleasure to present the 2022 annual report on the activities and achievements of the Mycetoma Research Centre (MRC), University of Khartoum, WHO collaborative centre on Mycetoma. The MRC mission is to promote the continuing discovery and development of scientific knowledge and clinical skills for better care of Mycetoma patients. The MRC is an interdisciplinary centre with a worldwide, rapidly expanding network of mycetoma and NTDs experts.

In this annual report, we are reporting the MRC 2022 activities, events, and achievements, aiming to share

experience and improve the MRC patients' care quality, scientific research, teaching and community activities. These activities were achieved by a proficient and strongly committed and well-trained staff.

The MRC has initiated numerous research projects with collaborators from different institutions and universities both nationally and overseas that have contributed notably to the medical literature.

You will find a short overview of these activities in this annual report.

Together with our many associates

and allies in various parts of the world, we will continue to fight mycetoma, as a life-mutilating disease, through the advancement of medical care, research, education and disease prevention. This annual report, reports on these actions and activities.

On behalf of the Mycetoma Research Centre team, we want to deeply thank all of our collaborators and associates for their commitment, diligence, and passion. By working together, we made further significant progress last year and laid the foundation for a successful future.

**Professor Ahmed Hassan Fahal**

FRCS,FRCSI, FRCS(Gal), MD, MS,  
FRCPATH, FRCP(London)

MRC Director

# Our Vision and Mission



## The Mycetoma Research Centre

In 1991, The Mycetoma Research Centre (MRC) was established under the umbrella of the University of Khartoum. It was set up at Soba University Hospital. The centre is recognised globally as a world leader and an authoritative advisor in mycetoma management and research. It is a WHO Collaborating Centre on Mycetoma.

### MRC Vision

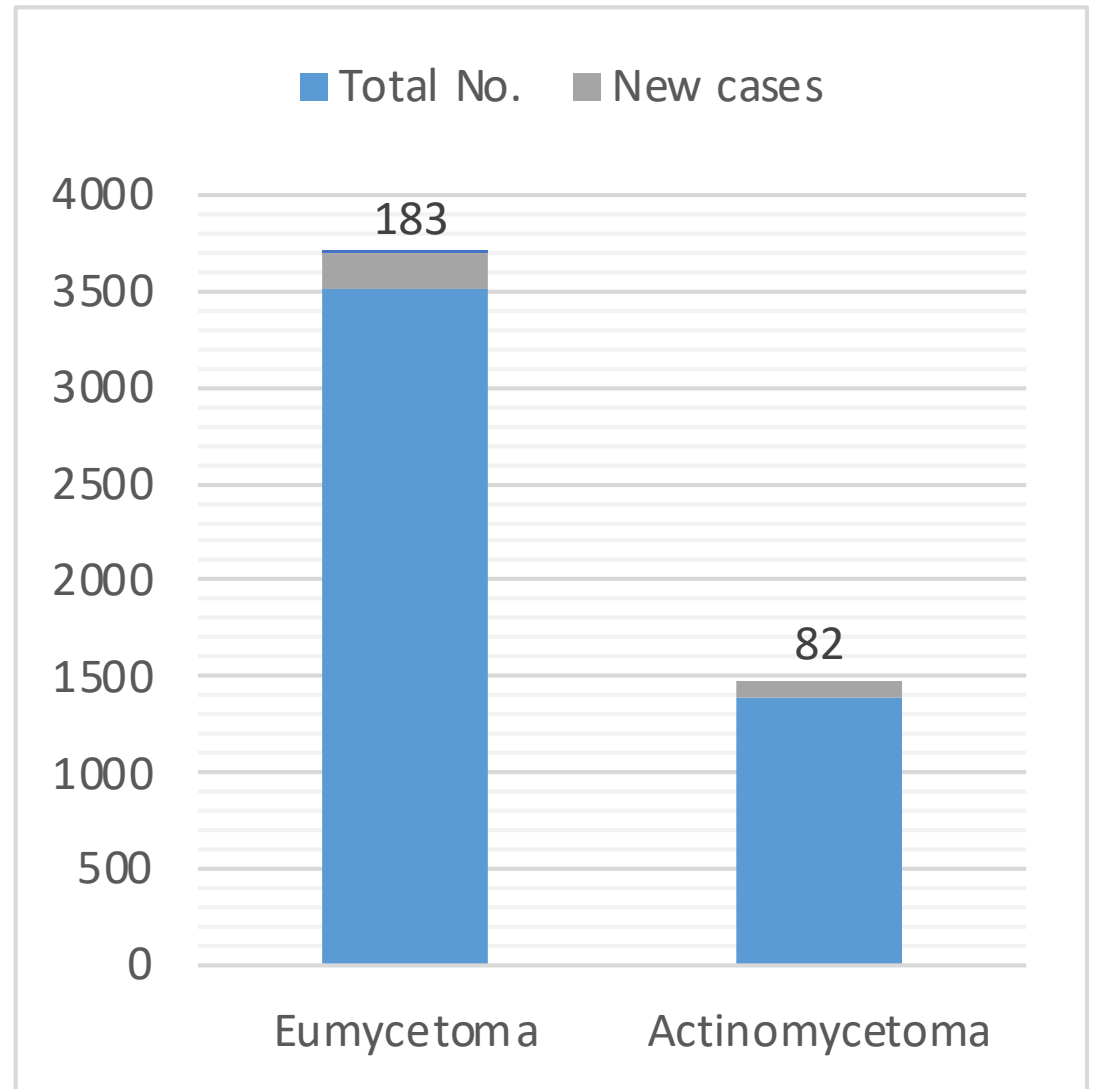
To continue as a world-leading centre to lead the change in the mycetoma patient's quality of life

### MRC Mission

- The centre is dedicated to the continuing discovery and development of scientific knowledge and clinical skills applied to the care of Mycetoma patients.
- To eradicate mycetoma, as a life-mutilating disease, through the advancement of medical care, research, education and disease prevention.
- To ensure evidence-informed mycetoma care and practice. This stems from knowledge and innovation generated from research and track knowledge of mycetoma experts and regular monitoring and evaluation of activities directed to control mycetoma.

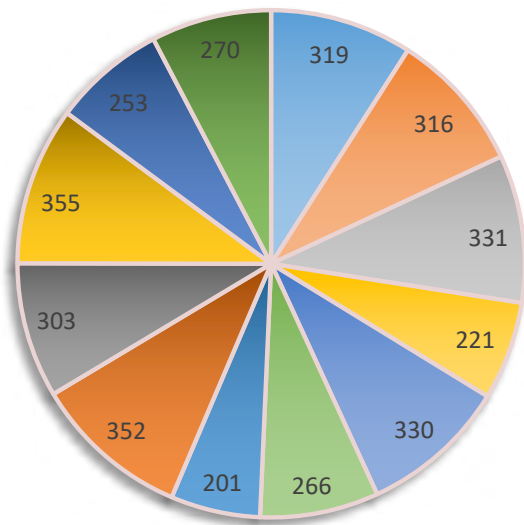
# Clinical Activity

In 2022, a total of 4,907 mycetoma patients were managed at the Mycetoma Research Center.  
A total of 3,517 eumyacetoma patients were managed.  
A total of 1,390 actinomycetoma cases were managed.

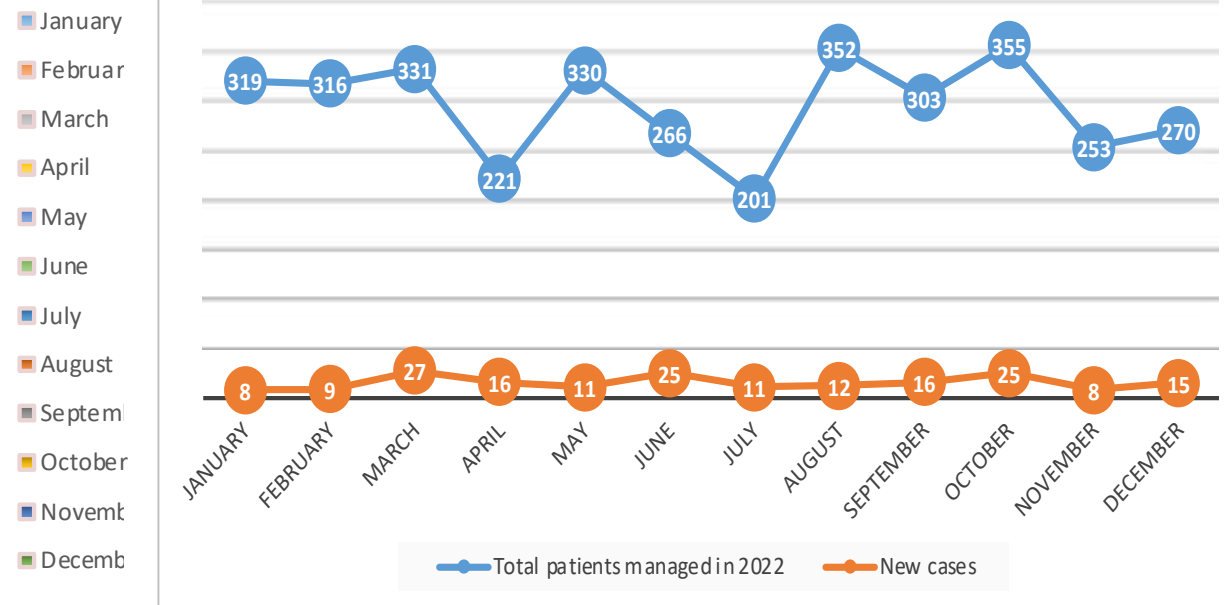


# Clinical Activity: Eumycetoma

## Eumycetoma Patients 2022



## Eumycetoma Patients 2022

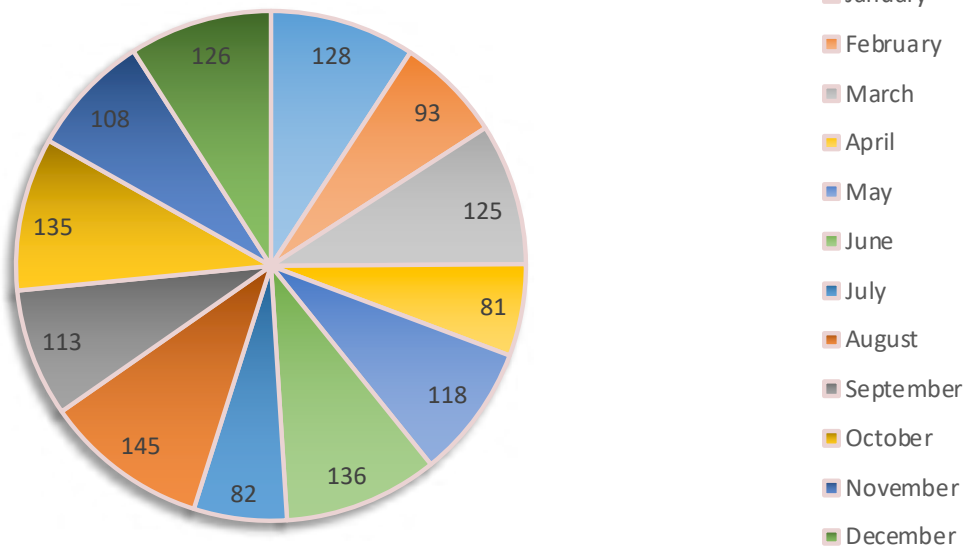


Total cases of eumycetoma seen in 2022: 3,517

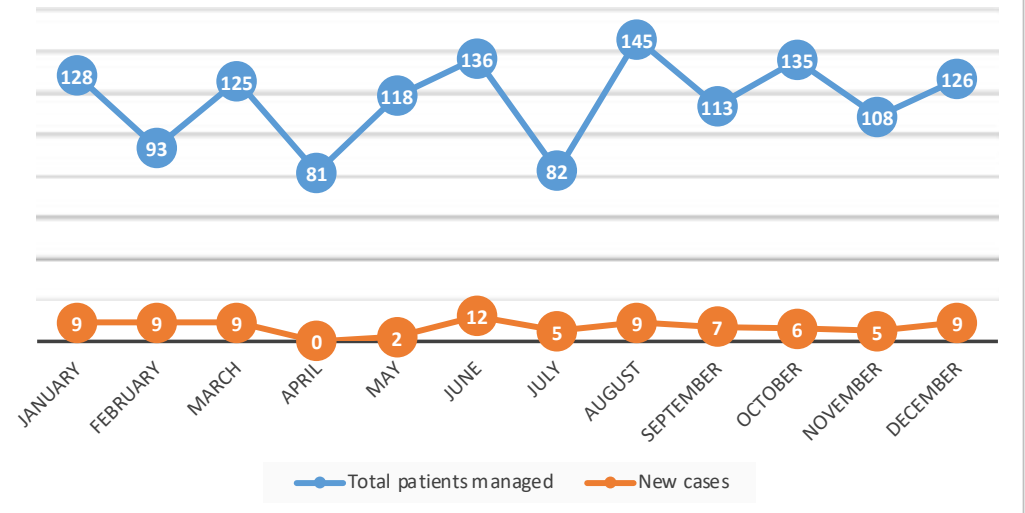
New cases of eumycetoma seen in 2022: 183

# Clinical Activity: Actinomycetoma

## Actinomycetoma Patients 2022



## Actinomycetoma Patients 2022



Total cases of actinomycetoma seen in 2022: 1,390  
 New cases of actinomycetoma seen in 2022: 82

# Global Mycetoma Advocacy

The Mycetoma Research Center advocates and communicates on topics and events relating to mycetoma through its social media palatforms.







# Research and Development

The MRC is currently conducting the following research projects:

## **The first-ever double-blind clinical trial on eumycetoma treatment**

The trial is a randomised, double-blind phase II proof-of-concept superiority trial of fosravuconazole 200 mg or 300 mg weekly dose versus itraconazole 400 mg daily dose, all three arms in combination with surgery, in patients with eumycetoma in Sudan. It is sponsored by the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi), Geneva and Eisai Ltd., Japan Company. The recruitment phase is completed now and the data is under analysis.

## **Genetic susceptibility of mycetoma**

We are currently studying the different gene expressions in mycetoma patients. The project is in collaboration with the NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Neglected Tropical Diseases at Brighton and Sussex Medical School

## **Molecular diagnosis of mycetoma**

The MRC is currently working on developing different new molecular techniques for identification of mycetoma causative agents. The MRC is collaborating and working with Erasmus Medical Centre, Netherland on this project.

## **Epidemiology of mycetoma in Sudan**

Accurate data on the prevalence of

mycetoma has not been provided yet, so the MRC and in collaboration with NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Neglected Tropical Diseases at Brighton and Sussex Medical School are currently working on the Epidemiology of mycetoma in Sudan.

## **Social aspects of mycetoma**

The MRC is now actively functioning on covering the different aspects of social impacts of mycetoma on patients through doctoral and post- doctoral studies in collaboration with NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Neglected Tropical Diseases at Brighton and Sussex Medical School.

### **Drug repurposing for mycetoma**

We are presently testing drugs against their effectiveness in treating eumycetoma, to enhance better treatment for this disfiguring disease. This task is done in collaboration with Tour University, France.

### **Mathematical Modelling for the diagnosis of mycetoma**

The center is currently working on a project in collaboration with University of Orleans, France for Mathematical Modelling for the Diagnosis of the common organisms causing mycetoma from histopathology images.

### **The Social Sciences for Severe Stigmatising Skin Conditions (5S) Foundation**

5S Foundation at BSMS was established in 2019 and will run until August 2023. The programme is a £3.5 million collaborative research partnership between BSMS and the Mycetoma Research Centre in Sudan, the Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (OSSREA) based at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia,

the University of Rwanda and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

### **International Collaborative Research Program for Tackling the Neglected Tropical Diseases Challenges in African Countries**

Recently the Mycetoma Research Centre, University of Khartoum had joined the International Collaborative Research Program for Tackling the Neglected Tropical Diseases Challenges in African Countries with a project entitled Research on the diagnostics of early or latent eumycetoma: Search for new biomarkers, POC diagnostics, and development of a clinical epidemiology platform. It is sponsored by The Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)

### **Dioraphte Foundation Grant on Skin Neglected Tropical Diseases**

The Mycetoma Research Center, recently was granted the Dioraphte Foundation Grant on Skin Neglected Tropical Diseases for a project entitled: The

development of a point-of-care diagnostic test for mycetoma in Africa. The project has five collaborating centres and these are:

- Erasmus MC, Department of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, University of Rotterdam, The Netherlands, Dr. Wendy W.J. van de Sande.
- Mycetoma Research Centre (MRC), University of Khartoum: Prof. Ahmed Fahal.
- Service de Parasitologie-Mycologie, UFR Sciences de la Santé, Université Gaston Berger, Saint Louis, Senegal, Doudou Sow.
- Centre for Bacterial Cell Biology, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, United Kingdom; Prof. Jeffery Errington.
- The Mycotic Diseases Branch at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USA, Dr. Ana Litvintseva.

# Post-graduate Students

## Graduated PhD students in 2022:

1. Dr. Rowa Fath EL Rahman, Epidemiology of mycetoma in Sudan in collaboration with the NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Neglected Tropical Diseases at Brighton and Sussex Medical School at Brighton and Sussex Medical School, UK supported by the National Institute of Health Research, UK.

2. Dr. Mohamed Nasar, the social aspects of Mycetoma, in collaboration with the NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Neglected Tropical Diseases at Brighton and Sussex Medical School, UK (BSMS) supported by the National Institute of Health Research, UK.

## PhD in progress:

1. Mrs. Rayan Ali, genetics of Mycetoma, in collaboration with the NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Neglected Tropical Diseases at Brighton and Sussex Medical School, UK supported by the National Insti-

tute of Health Research, UK.

2. Miss Hyam Ali, Mathematical modelling for the Diagnosis of Mycetoma, in collaboration with Tours University, France.

3. Dr. Lamis Yahia, Drug repurposing for the treatment of Mycetoma, in collaboration with Tours University, France.

4. Dr. Emmanuel Edwar Siddig, New molecular diagnostics for Mycetoma, in collaboration with the Erasmus Medical Centre, Rotterdam University, The Netherlands.

5. Mr. Mesoud A Bushara, Geographical distribution of mycetoma in Sennar State

6. Mrs. Maha Sahal, the mathematical module to predict the management outcome of the mycetoma patients outcome

7. Mrs. Rihab Ahmed Hassan, Invitro susceptibility pattern of different antimicrobial classes against actinomycetoma and eumycetoma in

collaboration with the Erasmus Medical Centre, Rotterdam University, The Netherlands.

8. Dr. Eiman Siddig Ahmed, in collaboration with the NIHR Global Health Research Unit on Neglected Tropical Diseases at Brighton and Sussex Medical School at Brighton and Sussex Medical School, UK supported by the National Institute of Health Research, UK.

## Master programmes:

1. Miss. Omniya Babiker, Molecular aspects of mycetoma.

2. Miss. Lubna S. Elnour, Secondary bacterial infection among mycetoma patients

3. Dr. Hala Fathi Eltigani Suliman, Master of Public Health

# Research Grants

- The Mycetoma Research Center, recently was granted the Dioraphte Foundation Grant on Skin Neglected Tropical Diseases for a project entitled: The development of a point-of-care diagnostic test for mycetoma in Africa. The project has five collaborating centres and these are:

- Erasmus MC, Department of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, University of Rotterdam, The Netherlands, Dr. Wendy W.J. van de Sande.

- Mycetoma Research Centre (MRC), University of Khartoum, Prof. Ahmed Fahal.

- Service de Parasitologie-Mycologie, UFR Sciences de la Santé, Université Gaston Berger, Saint Louis, Senegal, Doudou Sow.

- Centre for Bacterial Cell Biology, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, United Kingdom; Prof. Jeffery Errington.

- The Mycotic Diseases Branch at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USA, Dr. Ana Litvintseva.

- International Collaborative Research Program for Tackling the Neglected Tropical Diseases Challenges in African Countries: Recently, the Mycetoma Research Centre,

University of Khartoum had joined the International Collaborative Research Program for Tackling the Neglected Tropical Diseases Challenges in African Countries with a project entitled Research on the diagnostics of early or latent eumycetoma: Search for new biomarkers, POC diagnostics, and development of a clinical epidemiology platform. It is sponsored by The Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED).

# Institutional Review Board

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The MRC had established a new Institutional Review Board (IRB), which consists of 12 members with vast experience in ethics, research and clinical practice and they are of medical, health and social backgrounds. The IRB has a chair, two Co-chairs, and it consists of a medical microbiologist, biostatistician, public health/community

medicine physician, ethics specialist, education specialist, sociologist, one community representative, and a WHO technical officer. Additional experts are invited upon need. The board term of office is three years, however, membership can be terminated if a member is transferred, resigned, showed

repeated, unjustified absenteeism, have been accused of proved misconduct, or have passed away. The IRB has clear terms of references, bylaws, and standard operating procedures. The board has regular meetings to review research proposal from the centre and elsewhere.

# Publications

1. Siddig EE, Verbon A, Bakhiet S, Fahal AH, van de Sande WWJ. The developed molecular biological identification tools for mycetoma causative agents: An update. *Acta Trop*. 2022 Jan; 225:106205.
2. Fahal LA, Ahmed ES, Bakhiet SM, Siddig EE, Fahal AH. The Mycetoma Research Centre experience during the COVID-19 pandemic: obstacles and beyond. *Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg*. 2022 Jan 19;116(1):1-3.
3. Hashizume H, Taga S, Sakata MK, Taha MHM, Siddig EE, Minamoto T, Fahal AH, Kaneko S. Detection of multiple mycetoma pathogens using fungal metabarcoding analysis of soil DNA in an endemic area of Sudan. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis*. 2022 Mar 11; 16(3):e0010274.
4. Nyuykonge B, Lim W, van Amelsvoort L, Bonifaz A, Fahal A, Badali H, Abbastabar M, Verbon A, van de Sande W. Eumycetoma Causative Agents are Inhibited in vitro by Lu-liconazole, Lanoconazole and Ravuconazole. *Mycoses*. 2022 Apr 10.
5. Lim W, Konings M, Parel F, Eadie K, Strepis N, Fahal A, Verbon A, van de Sande WWJ. Inhibiting DHN- and DOPA-melanin biosynthesis pathway increased the therapeutic value of itraconazole in *Madurella mycetomatis* infected *Galleria mellonella*. *Med Mycol*. 2022 Feb 2;60(2):myac003.
6. Lim W, Nyuykonge B, Eadie K, Konings M, Smeets J, Fahal A, Bonifaz A, Todd M, Perry B, Samby K, Burrows J, Verbon A, van de Sande W. Screening the pandemic response box identified benzimidazole carbamates, Olorofim and ravuconazole as promising drug candidates for the treatment of eumycetoma. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis*. 2022 Feb 4;16(2):e0010159.
7. Fahal AH, Otieno LA, Ahmed ES, Kashif T, Khalid M, Mahmoud AH, Ododo L, Kyalo T, Bakhiet SM. Visual ethnographic documentation: a novel tool for mycetoma awareness and advocacy. *Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg*. 2022 May 30:trac048.
8. Rawaa Adlan Elhady Ahmed, Alkhair Abd Almahmoud Idris, Nadia Ibrahim Eldawi, Ahmed Hassan Fahal. Role of special stains in the identification of fungi in eumycetoma among Sudanese patients in Soba University Hospital. *Microbes Infectious Dis*. 2022; 3(1): 185-191.
9. Siddig EE, El Had Bakhait O, El Nour Bahar M, Siddig Ahmed E, Bakhiet SM, Motasim Ali M, Babekir Abdallah O, Ahmed Hassan R, Verbon A, van de Sande WWJ, Fahal AH. Ultrasound-guided Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology significantly improved mycetoma diagnosis. *J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol*. 2022 Jun 24.
10. Esraa Musa, Iman Hassan Abdoon, Sahar Mubarak Bakhiet, Bashier Osman, Safa A Abdalla. Mycetoma management and clinical outcomes: The mycetoma research centre experience. *Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg*. 2022 (DOI: trac069)
11. Watson AK, Kepplinger B, Bakhiet SM, Mhmoud NA, Chapman J, Allenby NE, Mickiewicz K, Goodfellow M, Fahal AH, Errington J. Systematic whole-genome sequencing reveals an unexpected diversity among actinomycetoma pathogens and provides insights into their antibacterial susceptibilities. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis*. 2022 Jul 25;16(7):e0010128.
12. Nyuykonge B, Siddig EE, Konings M, Bakhiet S, Verbon A, Klaassen CHW, Fahal AH, van de Sande WWJ. *Madurella mycetomatis* grains within a eumycetoma lesion are clonal. *Med Mycol*. 2022 Jul 14:myac051. doi: 10.1093/mmy/myac051. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35833294.

13. Musa EA, Abdoon IH, Bakhiet SM, Osman B, Abdalla SA, Fahal AH. Mycetoma management and clinical outcomes: the Mycetoma Research Center experience. *Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg.* 2022 Jul 28;trac069. doi: 10.1093/trstmh/trac069. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35903002.
14. Nyuykonge B, Siddig EE, Mhmoud NA, Nyaoke BA, Zijlstra EE, Verbon A, Bakhiet S, Fahal AH, van de Sande WWJ. Epidemiological cut-off values for itraconazole and ravuconazole for *Madurella mycetomatis*, the most common causative agent of mycetoma. *Mycoses.* 2022 Dec;65(12):1170-1178. doi: 10.1111/myc.13509. Epub 2022 Aug 25. PMID: 36005544.
15. Hassan R, Deribe K, Simpson H, Bremner S, Elhadi O, Alnour M, Fahal AH, Newport M, Bakhiet S. Individual Risk Factors of Mycetoma Occurrence in Eastern Sennar Locality, Sennar State, Sudan: A Case-Control Study. *Trop Med Infect Dis.* 2022 Aug 10;7(8):174. doi: 10.3390/tropicalmed7080174. PMID: 36006266; PMCID: PMC9412883.
16. Santana A, Mhmoud NA, Siddig EE, Deligios M, Fiamma M, Paglietti B, Bakhiet SM, Rubino S, Fahal AH. Metagenomic detection of eumycetoma causative agents from households of patients residing in two Sudanese endemic villages in White Nile State. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis.* 2022 Aug 30;16(8):e0010385. doi: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0010385. PMID: 36040926; PMCID: PMC9467367.
17. Nyuykonge B, Siddig E, Mhmoud NA, Bakhiet S, Zijlstra E, Verbon A, Fahal AH, van de Sande WWJ. Wako  $\beta$ -D-glucan assay can be used to measure serum  $\beta$ -D-glucan in Sudanese patients to aid with diagnosis of eumycetoma caused by *Madurella mycetomatis*. *J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol.* 2022 Oct 6. doi: 10.1111/jdv.18642. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 36201367.
18. Hassan R, Cano J, Fronterre C, Bakhiet S, Fahal A, Deribe K, Newport M. Estimating the burden of mycetoma in Sudan for the period 1991-2018 using a model-based geostatistical approach. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis.* 2022 Oct 14;16(10):e0010795. doi: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0010795. PMID: 36240229; PMCID: PMC9604875.
19. Siddig EE, Nyuykonge B, Bakheit OEH, Hassan OB, Ahmed ES, Osman AA, Bakhiet SM, van de Sande WW, Fahal AH. *Staphylococcus aureus* causing primary foot botryomycosis mimicking actinomycetoma: a case report from Sudan. *Int J Infect Dis.* 2022 Nov;124:224-226. doi: 10.1016/j.ijid.2022.10.010. Epub 2022 Oct 12. PMID: 36241164.
20. Hounsou N, Hassan R, Bakhiet SM, Deribe K, Bremner S, Fahal AH, Newport MJ. Role of socioeconomic factors in developing mycetoma: Results from a household survey in Sennar State, Sudan. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis.* 2022 Oct 17;16(10):e0010817. doi: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0010817. PMID: 36251732; PMCID: PMC9624402.
21. Litvintseva AP, Bakhiet S, Gade L, Wagner DD, Bagal UR, Batra D, Norris E, Rishishwar L, Beer KD, Siddig EE, Mhmoud NA, Chow NA, Fahal A. Genomics and metagenomics of *Madurella mycetomatis*, a causative agent of black grain mycetoma in Sudan. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis.* 2022 Nov 2;16(11):e0010787. doi: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0010787. PMID: 36322569; PMCID: PMC9629555.
22. Fongwen N, Asiedu KB, Bakhiet S, Bonifaz A, Cruz I, Argaw D, Estrada-Chavez G, Fahal AH, Litvintseva A, Marks M, Salinas-Carmona MC, Sow D, van de Sande WWJ. Diagnostics to support mycetoma management-Development of two target product profiles. *Trop Med Int Health.* 2022 Dec;27(12):1059-1064. doi: 10.1111/tmi.13828. Epub 2022 Nov 14. PMID: 36329624.
23. Adam SAY, Ahmed ES, Mohammed Adam SI, Abdallah OB, Siddig EE, Fahal AH. Eumycetoma with pulmonary dissemination an unusual complication: Case series and literature review. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis.* 2022 Nov 10;16(11):e0010867. doi: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0010867. PMID: 36355778; PMCID: PMC9648700.
24. Fahal AH, Ahmed KO, Saeed AA, Elkha-



wad AO, Bakhiet SM. Why the mycetoma patients are still neglected. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis*. 2022 Dec 29;16(12):e0010945.

25. Siddig EE, Nyuykonge B, Mhmoud NA, Abdallah OB, El Nour Bahar M, Ahmed ES, Nyaoke B, Zijlstra EE, Verbon A, Bakhiet SM, Fahal AH, van de Sande WWJ. Comparing the performance of the common used eumycetoma diagnostic tests. *Mycoses*. 2022 Dec 29.

26. Fahal AH. The International Research Collaboration: A room for improvement. *Khartoum Medical Journal*. 2022; 15(3): 1987.

27. Ali HO, Fahal AH. Why is mycetoma still

a public health dilemma and a unique neglected tropical disease?. *Khartoum Medical Journal*. 2022; 15(3): 1990 – 1999.

28. Ahmed KO, Osman IA, Abdalnabi AM, Bakhiet SM, Elkhawad A, Fahal AH. Are pharmacists neglecting the neglected mycetoma in the most endemic area in Sudan? An opportunity for improvement. *Khartoum Medical Journal*. 2022; 15(3): 2000-2008.

29. Habeeb AT, Neumayer A, Fahal AH. Congenital venous malformation mimics actinomycetoma foot. *Khartoum Medical Journal*. 2022; 15(3): 2015-2017.

## Sent for publication:

30. Hyam O. Ali, Romain Abraham, Guillaume Desoubeaux, Ahmed H. Fahal, Clovis Tauber. Radiomics Model for Mycetoma Grains Classification from Microscopic Images Using Partial Least Squares Discrimination Analysis (PLS-DA).

31. Afag Ahmed, Ahmed Hassan Fahal. Massive recurrent foot eumycetoma not responding to treatment. Case report.

# MRC Collaborations



The MRC is currently collaborating with 23 international centers, institutes, NGOs, embassies and companies on different mycetozoa aspects and that include patients' management, research and development and community development activities.

In 2022, new collaborations were established:

- Chemical Library Center, Institute of Transformative Bio-Molecules, Nagoya University, Japan
- Department of Eco-Epidemiology, Institute of Tropical Medicine, Nagasaki University, Japan
- German Embassy in Sudan
- The Management Unit of Microbiological Resources, Medical Mycology Research Center, Chiba University, Japan
- Samil Industrial Company
- French Embassy in Sudan
- Graduate School of Human Development and Environment, Kobe University, Japan
- Qatar Charity Foundation
- Mycetozoa Patients Friends Association (MPFA)
- Dermatology Department, University of Karachi, Pakistan.
- Japanese Embassy in Sudan
- Global Mycetozoa Working Group

# Mycetoma Patients Friends Association

The Mycetoma Patients Friends Association (MPFA) is currently working on a project of a Mycetoma Village for Sudanese Cultural Heritage.

The main objectives of this project are:

- Rehabilitate and train the mycetoma amputees and disabled patients on the Sudan handcraft industry.
- Reduce poverty among the affected patients and their families.
- Reduce the social stigma

among the mycetoma patients.

- Generate funds to support the Mycetoma Patients Support Association.

- Improve the community knowledge of Sudan heritage.
- Expose the guests and visitors on Sudan's cultural and social heritage.
- Improve Sudan's cultural and social heritage international visibility.
- Adopt environment-friendly tools and techniques to manage the village.
- Employ the trained patients in running the village's business.



# Conferences and Symposia Presentations

World Health Organization

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## Mycetoma: Training of health workers at national and district levels on skin-NTDs

Course is available

Learnings Discussions Progress Certificates Collab Space Course Details Documents Assessments

Mycetoma is a chronic, progressively destructive infectious disease of the subcutaneous tissues, affecting skin, muscle and bone. Mycetoma occurs in tropical and subtropical environments characterized by short rainy seasons and prolonged dry seasons that favour the growth of fungi. Global burden is not known, but the disease is endemic, it has been reported from countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. This course addresses the epidemiology of mycetoma, clinical features, diagnosis, treatment, and public health interventions.

Photo credit: Ahmed H. Farid

Delivered  
Language: English  
No items

Go back to the course

Mycetoma Presentation: (Mycetoma: Training of health workers at national and district levels on Skin-NTDs) launched as a part of Skin NTDs collection of online courses in collaboration with World health organization (WHO).

<https://openwho.org/courses/NTDs-mycetoma>



## **CPHIA 2022 (14th December)**

Dr. Sahar Bakhiet, Head of the MRC Laboratory, participated in the second International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA 2022).

She discussed the urgent need for innovation in mycetoma treatment and shared methods of achieving that goal, such as developing innovative surveillance tools, new medications, immunotherapy, and improved diagnostic techniques. She also discussed a new model of care for the comprehensive rehabilitation of mycetoma patients.



## **The MRC at the 5S Foundation Annual Meeting (29 January - 5th February)**

The Mycetoma Research Centre participated in the NIHR GHRU 1 & 2, 5S Foundation Annual Meeting in Kigali, Rwanda.

The meeting coincided with the celebration of World Neglected Tropical Disease Day and was an opportunity to build collaborations and opportunities for cooperation between the participants from the three countries, Sudan, Rwanda, and Ethiopia, in their mission to eliminate neglected tropical diseases through scientific research and community service.



## **BU-LABNET Meeting (24-26th October)**

Professor Fahal attended the BU-LABNET meeting in the WHO African region, held in Cameroon, to present an update on mycetoma and discuss the diagnostic options as well.





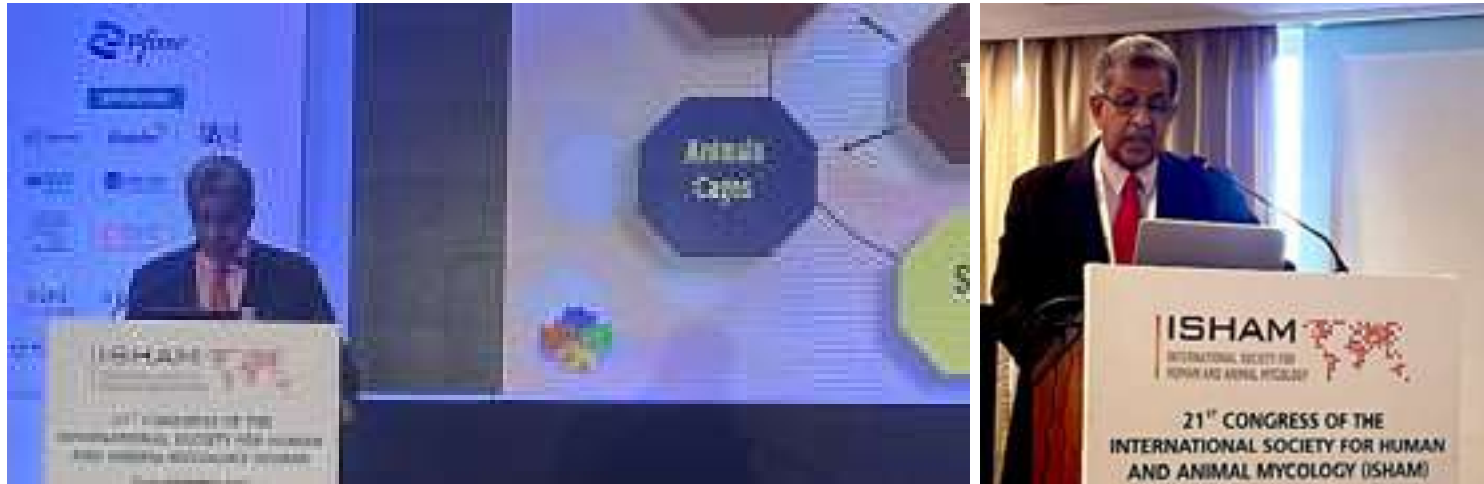
## **21st Congress of ISHAM (20-24th September)**

Director of the MRC, Professor Ahmed Fahal, Dr. Eiman Siddig and Dr. Emanuel Siddig attended the 21st Congress of the International Society for Human and Animal Mycology (ISHAM) held in India.

The MRC delegation met with Professor Arunaloke Chakrabarti, ISHAM President.







## 21st Congress of ISHAM (20-24th September)

During the conference, Professor Fahal presented an update on mycetoma control, he also presented the top-line results of the first ever clinical trial on mycetoma, comparing fosravuconazole against the standard treatment, itraconazole.

## ISNTD Connect Webinar (23rd November)

Professor Fahal participated in the #ISNTDConnect webinar on the global threat of fungal pathogens. His focus was on eumycetoma and its recent addition to the WHO's Priority Fungal Pathogens List.





## **Ain Shams University, Egypt (11<sup>th</sup> December)**

Professor Fahal, Director of the MRC, shared his expertise on the challenges and solutions of managing mycetoma in Sudan and globally at the University of Ain Shams, Egypt. The presentation was organised as part of the esteemed university's effort to share updates on scientific research and healthcare.

The objective of the conference was to share the knowledge and experience of the centre in addressing mycetoma, its spread, and the efforts made to address it in Sudan and around the world.

## National and international presentations by Professor Ahmed Hassan Fahal in 2022:

1.The Mycetoma Research Center experience. Center for Clinical Science, National Center for Global Health and Medicine, Tokyo, Japan.

2.The Mycetoma Research Center Experience, Leicester School of Allied Health Sciences, Global Health Programme, Faculty of Health & Life Sciences, De Montfort University, Leicester, UK.

3.Mycetoma: A global problem, Dakar Mycetoma International Seminar, Dakar, Senegal.

4.The Mycetoma Community Engagement, The Third Sudanese Medical Doctors Union, Dublin, Ireland.

5.Mycetoma early case detection and surveillance, WHO CC, Sudan: 20th meeting of The Regional Programme Review Group and National Neglected

Tropical Diseases Programme Managers' Meeting, Cairo.

6.The access of the NTDs patients to treatment, WHO Skin NTDs framework Meeting, WHO, Geneva.

7.Mycetoma and the Environment, Skin Neglected Tropical Diseases, International Union of Microbiological Societies, The Netherlands.

8.Mycetoma, Dioraphte Annual Meeting, Dakar, Senegal.

9.Integrated Mycetoma and Skin NTDs, The Mycetoma Update conference, Khartoum, Sudan.

10.Mycetoma what is new, The Mycetoma Update Conference, Khartoum, Sudan.

11.Mycetoma Update, Laboratory Network for Skin Neglected Tropical Disease in Africa, Yaoundé, Cameroon.

12.Mycetoma diagnosis, the challenges and opportunities, Laboratory Network for Skin Neglected Tropical Disease in Africa, Yaoundé, Cameroon.

13.Mycetoma early case detection and surveillance, WHO CC, Sudan: 20th meeting of The Regional Programme Review Group and National Neglected Tropical Diseases Programme Managers' Meeting, Cairo.

14.The access of the NTDs patients to treatment, WHO Skin NTDs framework Meeting, WHO, Geneva.

15.The Mycetoma Research Center Experience, Leicester School of Allied Health Sciences, Global Health Programme, Faculty of Health & Life Sciences, De Montfort University, Leicester, UK.

# Training Workshops



## The First Baking Workshop (15th January)

The MRC welcomed family members of the late Atikah Abdul-Rahman who visited the MRC and SAA'ID to learn about the center's activities and launch the first training course in the bakery department held in the Atikah Pavilion, which was presented by food industry expert Mrs. Manal Al-Baron.



## The Second Baking Workshop (12th February)

The second advanced baking workshop was held in the Atika Pavilion at the SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub. Six participants from the MRC and SAA'ID were tutored by Dr. Manal Qabbani to lead future courses for mycetoma patients.



## The Third Baking Workshop (23rd February)

The third advanced baking workshop held in the SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub included 11 participants who were trained by Dr. Manal Qabbani.



## School Bag Manufacturing Workshop (15th March)

The MRC held a training course on manufacturing school bags at SAA'ID. The course was organised with the help of Dr. Abdullah Ali, Director of the Social and Economic Research Bureau at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research; Ms. Sarah Abu Saqra, a specialist in the field of entrepreneurship; and Mrs. Alia Karim, owner of Falcon Integrated Business and Training Company.



### **3rd Baking Workshop in SAA'ID (14th March)**

In preparation for Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr 2022, another baking workshop was held in the Atika Pavilion, which was expertly led by Dr. Manal Al Qabbani.



## 1st September

A training workshop on HINARI Access to Research for Health in particular and Research for Life programmes in general was held at the MRC in collaboration with WHO EMRO, represented by Ms. Gehane Al Garayal, technical assistant at WHO EMRO.



## 2nd August

Mrs. Rihab Ahmed, Ms. Lubna Sulayman, and Ms. Nema Alfaki from the MRC attended a “Training of Trainers” workshop organised by the Federal Ministry of Health in Sudan and WHO EMRO to access and improve utilisation of Hinari Access to Research for Health.





## 20th September

A two-day First Aid workshop was held in collaboration with the Red Crescent Society for the MRC staff as part of their continuous development.

## The Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Day (21st October)

On Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Day, the MRC hosted the Spina Bifida Federal Association in Sudan. Led by Dr. Aziza Elnaeema, the association collaborated with the International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus to organise the side event for the African region on the theme of "Rehabilitation for a Creative Life."



## 5th July

A collaborative workshop was held at the MRC and organised by the Mycetoma Patients' Friends Association, AAR Japan- Sudan, and Eisai to share knowledge on mycetoma between the Sudanese and Japanese counterparts.



## 29th December

Dr. Khalid Suliman, Assistant Professor at Kumamoto University in Japan, discussed the potentials of using traditional Sudanese medicinal plants in the management of HIV and SARS-CoV-2.

## Clinical Trials Training Workshop (1-9th November)

The first event of the Mycetoma National Campaign was the Clinical Trials Training Workshop, organised in collaboration with the Department of International Trials, Center for Clinical Sciences, and National Center for Global Health and Medicine (DIT NCGM) of Japan.

It was a distinctive occasion to get an overview of the different aspects of the clinical trial process. The workshop was facilitated by pioneering researchers and scientists in the field, both national and international, who shared their knowledge and experience with participants.

Participants gained knowledge of the different types of clinical trials as well as the principles of good clinical, laboratory, documentation, and financial practice and standard operational procedures. In addition, they were educated about the ethical considerations in clinical research, the process of data monitoring, trial governance and approvals, quality management, and methods of obtaining research funding. Participants also learned about writing and critiquing clinical trial reports through an interactive exercise on critical appraisals.





### **Mycetoma Ultrasound Training Workshop (13th November)**

This workshop was held at the Mycetoma Research Center and was attended by 15 participants. It consisted of a theoretical and a practical portion. Dr. Mustafa Elnour explained the history and basic principles of ultrasound technology, the different types of ultrasound probes, as well as the appropriate machine settings to obtain a clear image that is effective in diagnosis. After the theoretical portion of the workshop, the instructors took turns performing ultrasound examinations on over 20 volunteer patients. They demonstrated the steps of a proper ultrasound examination, from the correct handling of the ultrasound machine, positioning of the probe, identifying the mycetoma lesion, and finally completing the ultrasound report.

## **Mycetoma Laboratory Diagnosis Workshop (15-17th November)**

As the third activity of the Mycetoma National Campaign, this workshop was designed to educate the participants on the existing diagnostic approaches and their limitations, as well as provide instructions and practical sessions on the steps of culture, PCR, and histopathological techniques in the diagnosis of mycetoma. The workshop included presentations on the challenges of diagnosing mycetoma as well as culture-based and histopathological techniques. The participants were taken on tours of the MRC laboratory and El Hassan Center. They also had the opportunity to practice culturing techniques as well as molecular techniques, including DNA extraction, amplification, and histopathological identification of mycetoma.





## Lymphatic Filariasis Workshop (18-21st December)

The Lymphatic Filariasis Training of Trainers workshop was held at the MRC in collaboration with WHO Sudan and the Federal Ministry of Health in Sudan.

The workshop included presentations on the clinical picture and complications of lymphatic filariasis, clinical examination, investigations, and management of various conditions that cause scrotal swellings.

The workshop also included talks on the psychosocial impact and management of patients with lymphatic filariasis, MMDP, referral process for patients with lymphatic filariasis, and case reporting.

The practical part of the workshop involved participants learning and practising the proper cleaning and dressing techniques for skin NTD wounds.



## Workshop on Grants (6th December)

A workshop on grants was organised in collaboration with the French Embassy in Sudan and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

It included presentations by Dr Sakina Yagi, Professor of Botany at the University of Khartoum; Dr Lamis Yahia, Research Assistant at the MRC and PhD candidate at the University of Tours; and Dr Francois Pradal, Head of the Research and Promotion Division at Campus France, who discussed Campus France and the opportunities available to Sudanese researchers and students, including NAPATA, MOPGA, and EIFFEL.



# Community Outreach Activities



## MRC Treatment Campaign in Sennar (17th February)

The MRC organised a campaign in Banat Allahweiin in the Sinjah locality of Sennar State. 500 patients were examined and treated during the campaign, and 48 confirmed cases of mycetoma were scheduled for surgery.



## **MRC Treatment Campaign in Al Jazirah (3-5th August)**

A 3-day mission to Al Managil, Al Jazirah state, where 60 free surgeries were performed by Professor Fahal and his team in collaboration with surgeons from Al Managil University and Al Managil Hospital.

This mission was a joint effort between the MRC, Association for Aid and Relief, Japan (AAR Japan) - Sudan, the Ministry of Health in Al Jazirah, and the University of Al Managil.

The visit included awareness campaigns as well as free medications provided to over 100 mycetoma patients in that area.





## **MRC Treatment Campaign at Sennar State (28-29th November)**

Delegates from the Mycetoma Research Center, including Professor Melanie Newport and Ms. Hope Simpson from Brighton and Sussex Medical School, as well as Dr. Wendy van de Sande from Erasmus Medical Center, went to Wad Onsa, Sennar, for a medical field trip as part of the Mycetoma Campaign to see patients, interact with the community, and identify new cases of mycetoma.



During the field trip, clinical services were offered to 135 mycetoma patients; 88 ultrasounds were done; 47 patients were booked for surgery; and 6 new mycetoma cases were identified. Additionally, medications were offered free of charge to the patients.

# MRC Events

## Mycetoma Young Researchers Association Event (19th November)

The Mycetoma Young Researchers Association (MYRA) was established through a full-day event held in the Research and Development Arcade. The event was attended by several reputable guests, including Professor Melanie Newport, Professor in Infectious Diseases and Global Health at Brighton and Sussex Medical School, WHO Representatives Dr. Augustin Kadima Ebeja and Dr. Junerlyn Farah Agua, and Professor Abdulla El-Mansoury from the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils.

The event included presentations by the organisers and participants from outside the medical field, covering topics such as:

- An overview of mycetoma and knowledge gaps
- An overview of MYRA
- Current medical management and knowledge gaps
- NAYLA Prosthetics and their work on prostheses for mycetoma amputees
- New brick-making technology to reduce the exposure to mycetoma pathogens.

It concluded with encouraging statements from the participants and the guests.





## **Mycetoma Alliance Meeting (23rd November)**

The Mycetoma Alliance Meeting was attended by many highly reputable guests, including representatives from the Association of Aid and Relief Japan, Hikma Pharmaceutical Company, WHO Geneva, the

National Council for People with Disabilities, the General Authority of Prosthetics, Mazaq Khas, and NAYLA prosthetics, representing both national and international stakeholders, coming together to ideate and collaborate to combat mycetoma and achieve the goal of “together for zero mycetoma.” The meeting included presentations by Professor

Fahal, Ms. Amaiem Mohanna, Dr. Eiman Siddig, Ms. Yoshie Osawa, and Mr. Abdulrazig Osman. It concluded with the signing of a partnership between the Mycetoma Research Center and Mazaq-Khas, a media platform and magazine, where they agreed to collaborate with the Mycetoma Research Center to increase awareness about mycetoma.



### **The Mycetoma National Campaign Opening Ceremony (23rd November)**

The Opening Ceremony was an opportunity to reflect on the past achievements of the MRC and the successful collaborations between the centre and both national and

international institutions and organisations. The ceremony opened with a moving tribute to the late Professor El-Hassan and also included speeches by Professor Imadeldin E. Aradib, Professor Melanie Newport, and Dr. Nima Saeed.

The evening ended with the recognition of the

impactful contributions of the Mycetoma Ambassadors of 2022. Dr. Nima Saeed Abid, WHO Country representative in Sudan, Dr. Abdallah Ali, from the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, and Ms. Israa Abdellatif, from the CTC Group, were recognised as Mycetoma Ambassadors of the year 2022.



## SAA'ID Bazaar (25th November)

On November 25th, an open bazaar took place at SAA'ID, the vocational and training hub. a large number of visitors came, and a variety of activities were held. A bakery session was held by a chef from Sayga DAL Group, the biggest wheat company in Sudan. The session provided the attendees with the essential skills for baking. Children were trained on pottery and were enjoying their time. An art gallery was held, where people interested in art were fascinated by the talent. A Sudanese folk group performed traditional dances during the event as well.





## Mycetoma Update Symposium (26th November)

The Mycetoma Update Symposium was held at the Ibrahim Abdel Hamid Hall as part of the Mycetoma National Campaign. The first session provided details on the clinical trial that took place at the MRC. It included presentations on the top-line results of the trial, the pharmacokinetic results, and the therapeutic outcomes during azole treatment.

The second session was presented by a number of research fellows and PhD students from the MRC, who discussed their research on mycetoma. It included presentations

on drug discovery, a new computational diagnostic method for causative agents using histopathological microscopic images, comparison of a new diagnostic tool to the current standard, host genetic susceptibility to mycetoma, and the epidemiological mapping of mycetoma in Sudan. During the third session, international researchers gave talks on the development of a point-of-care diagnostic test for mycetoma in Africa, the NIHR Global Health Research and their work on mycetoma, specialty pharmacy services, MycEXomics (a field-friendly POC diagnostic test currently under development), and the global scientific research progress on mycetoma.





**Mycetoma and Skin NTDs  
Integrated Management  
Symposium  
(27<sup>th</sup> November)**

The Mycetoma and Skin NTDs Integrated Management Symposium took place at the Ibrahim Abdel Hamid Hall. It was an opportunity for experts on NTDs to share their experience in tackling these diseases and express

the rationale for integrating their management both in Sudan and abroad.

The event ended with the signing of the Khartoum Call for Action. Professionals from various fields pledged to work towards the integration of skin NTDs management in the region.

This call for action comes in line with the World Health Organization Framework for Integrated Control

and Management of skin-related NTDs and offers an approach to the holistic management and services of skin NTDs. The strategy calls for six fundamental components of providing health services: clinical diagnosis, laboratory confirmation, treatment, complications management, and prevention. The aim is to bring together decision-makers and multidisciplinary teams while maximising the use of resources.



# MRC Visitors



**1 March** 📅

A delegation from the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Council visited the MRC to get acquainted with the center's various therapeutic, research, and community services. The delegation expressed its great admiration for the goals and mission of the center.



**8 March** 📅

A visit from Professor Satoshi Kaneko, Department of Eco-Epidemiology, Institute of Tropical Medicine, Nagasaki University, Japan, and a delegation from the Japanese Embassy in Khartoum.





## 22 March 📅

A visit from a WHO delegation to get acquainted with the MRC's activities and discuss future collaborations between the MRC, the Federal Ministry of Health, and the WHO.

The delegation included:

Dr. Supriya Warusavithana, WHO Regional Adviser - Neglected Tropical Diseases.

Dr. Sara Sir Elkhatim, WHO - NTDs officer.

Dr. Khalid Mohammed Zain, NTD Program Director.

Dr. Elrofaay Abdelkarim, NTD, Head M&E.



**19 May** 📅

American Charge d'Affaires Lucy Tamlyn visited the Mycetoma Research Center. Tamlyn also toured SAA'ID vocational training hub. She appreciated the work of Prof. Ahmed Fahal and his team in combating this disease.



**9 June** 📅

Dr. Borna Nyaoke, DNDi, during her close-out visit of the first-ever double-blind clinical trial for mycetoma.



**15 June** 📅

Justine King, economic officer at the United States Embassy in Khartoum visited the MRC and the new media center.



**16 June** 📅

Dr. Jorge Naranjo, the Chairman of the board of trustees of Comboni College of Science and Technology (CCST), Geraldine Damanhuri, head of the department of nursing at CCST, and Debora Barone, country representative of AISPO visited the MRC.





**18 June** 📅

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Khartoum, along with senior staff members from the university and Soba University Hospital, visited the MRC, they toured its various departments and the SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub.





**18 July** 📅

Professor Satoshi Kaneko and Mr. Hiroki Hashizume visited the MRC as part of the collaboration between the MRC and Nagasaki University in the AMED project to search for new biomarkers, point-of-care diagnostics, and the development of a clinical epidemiology platform.



**20 July** 📅

Secretary General of the Federation of Arab Scientific Research Councils, Professor Abdel Majid bin Emara, visited the different departments of the MRC as well as the SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub.



21 July 📅

Senior officials from Giad Industrial Group visited the MRC to discuss collaboration opportunities.



21 July 📅

Ms. Gehane Al Garrayal, technical assistant at WHO EMRO, and Dr. Naeema El Fahal, director of the research directorate at the Federal Ministry of Health in Sudan, visited the MRC and SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub.



**24 July** 📅

Professor Intisar Soghayroun, Professor of Archeology, University of Khartoum, previous Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, and secretary general of the Union of Afro-Asian Universities, visited SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub, the MRC Media Centre.



**28 July** 📅

A team from two French agencies, Expertise France, which implements the Education Quality Improvement (EQUIP2) project, and their technical partner, France Éducation Internationale, visited the MRC to learn about the landscape of scientific research in Sudan as well as scientific research in the field of education.



**2 August** 📅

His Excellency Mr. Takashi Hattori, Ambassador of Japan to Sudan, Mr. Minoru Yamaguchi, First Secretary, and Miss Rasha Abu Sin, Japan Embassy in Sudan, visited the SAA'ID vocational training hub as well as the MRC's various departments.

**10 August** 📅

Dr. Hanan Tahir, Dean of Graduate College at the University of Medical Sciences and Technology (UMST), and Dr. Maisa Elfadul, Coordinator of Scientific Research, Graduate College, UMST, visited the different departments of the centre.



**14 August** 📅

Delegates from the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research visited the MRC's various departments and learned about the SAA'ID incubators.





**15 August** 📅

Madame Norma Kfoury, the Mycetoma Friends Association's lifelong president, visited the centre to see the new Mycetoma Media Center.



**15 August** 📅

Tropical Diseases Master students from the University of Medical Sciences and Technology visited the MRC and attended the mycetoma clinic, and also visited the new Media Center and the other departments





**1 September** 📅

Dr. Waled Hassan, the Minister of Health in Sennar State, visited the MRC and discussed with the director, Professor Fahal, future collaborations to serve mycetoma patients in endemic regions.



**6 September** 📅

The University of Khartoum final surgery examiners visited the MRC and SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub and gave objective ideas and comments.

## 6 September 📅

Mrs. Junerlyn Farah Agua, RMT, MPH, Technical Officer, Strategic Analytics and Information, Department of Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases at the WHO, visited the centre as well as the SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub.



## 14 September 📅

Sofie Karlsson, Head of Communications and Analysis, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), visited the different departments of the MRC as well as the SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub.





**15 September** 📅

The Regional Director of WHO EMRO, Dr. Ahmed Al-Mandhari, and Dr. Nima Saeed Abid, the WHO country representative in Sudan, and the Minister of Health, Dr. Haitham Awadallah, and their accompanying team visited the MRC and its toured its various departments.



**4 October** 📅

Professor Abdelrahman Hassan Osman, Dean of Pharmacy at Ahfad University for Women and faculty members visited the MRC and SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub.



**22 October** 📅

The British Council Country Director in Sudan, Mr. Stephen Forbes, visited the MRC and SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub where he toured the various facilities and discussed the many services offered at the centre as well as the centre's broad vision and future plans.



**28 October** 📅

A delegation from EU Sudan visited the MRC and toured its various departments and SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub.



**31 October** 📅

Dr. Tatsuo Ilyama, Head Department of International Clinical trials at the National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM) and Dr. Muchanga Sifa, regional manager for Africa and training project leader at DIT NCGM visited the MRC during the Mycetoma National Campaign.

During their visit, they discussed the Clinical Trials Training Workshop, which was held in collaboration with the National Center for Global Health and Medicine.



**31 October** 📅

Professor Satoshi Kaneko and members of the International Collaborative Research Program for Tackling the Neglected Tropical Diseases Challenges in African Countries visited the MRC to discuss their ongoing collaborative project, titled “Research on the diagnostics of early or latent eumycetoma: Search for new biomarkers, POC diagnostics, and development of a clinical epidemiology platform”.



**9 November** 📅

Professor Elmansoury, representative from the Arab Scientific Research Councils Federation, visited the MRC. He was taken through the different departments of the MRC and attended a session on Good Financial Practice as part of the Clinical Trials Training Workshop.



**16 November** 📅

The MRC was pleased to welcome Professor Melanie Newport, Professor of Infectious Diseases and Global Health at Brighton and Sussex Medical School, who attended the Mycetoma National Campaign events and visited the MRC.



**23 November** 📅

Dr. Kingsley Asiedu, Medical Officer at the WHO Department of Neglected Tropical Diseases and Dr. Priya Pathak, technical officer at the WHO visited the MRC. They toured the various departments, including the clinics, lab, research and development arcade, and ultrasound unit. They also discussed future collaborations with the MRC and attended the Mycetoma National Campaign events.



**24 November** 📅

Dr. Wendy van de Sande, Assistant Professor at the Department of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Erasmus MC, visited the MRC to participate in the Mycetoma National Campaign events.





## 29 November 📅

A delegation from Qatar Charity visited the SAA'ID Vocational Training Hub at the Mycetoma Research Center. The purpose of their visit was to tour the facilities and learn about the activities involved in training volunteers with limited income in numerous marketable skills. Qatar Charity also kindly donated equipment and tools, including ovens, mixers, and food grinders, to support SAA'ID. In addition, they organised a marketing skills training course to help small business owners develop their skills and generate income.



## 5 December 📅

Dr. Fabiana Alves, NTD Leishmaniasis-Mycetoma Cluster Director at DNDi, visited the MRC to learn more about the activities at the centre and discuss potential collaborations and projects.



## 6 December 📅

The MRC was pleased to welcome Fabienne Benoist, Head of Regulatory Affairs at Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi), who toured the MRC and El Hassan Center for Neglected Tropical Diseases Clinical Trials and also discussed future collaborations between the MRC and DNDi.



**24 December** 📅

Mr. Peelen Oyieko, Data Management Officer at DNDi, and Mr. Wael Ahmed Eltegani, CRA at DNDi, visited the MRC to discuss the clinical trial being held at the MRC in collaboration with DNDi.

# MRC Visiting Fellows



**1 October** 📅

Dr. Andreas Neumayr, head of the Centre for Tropical and Travel Medicine at the Swiss TPH, visited the MRC to learn about mycetoma and the centre's activities.



**12 November** 📅

Dr. David Shneider, Honorary Research Fellow, Department of Global Health and Infection, Brighton and Sussex Medical School, was a visiting fellow at the MRC. He experienced the MRC clinic to gain more knowledge on mycetoma and learn about the centre's activities.



**14 November** 📅

The MRC was pleased to have Dr. Augustin Kadima Ebeja from the WHO Regional Office for Africa join us in the mycetoma clinic. He was able to see firsthand how we manage patients with diverse presentations and at various points in their treatment journey. He also attended some of the Mycetoma National Campaign events, such as the Mycetoma Alliance Meeting and the Mycetoma Young Researchers Association event.



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