



# Hebrew University-Hadassah

## Braun School of Public Health & Community Medicine

### International MPH Alumni Newsletter

March 2018



#### **This issue features:**

- Greetings from Prof. Ora Paltiel, Braun School Director.....2
- Greetings from Prof. Yehuda Neumark, IMPH Director.....3-4
- Message from Dr. Maureen Malowany, IMPH Alumni Academic Coordinator.....5
- Message from Ms. Reut Kramer, IMPH Alumni Communications Coordinator.....6
- IMPH EAST AFRICA ALUMNI CONFERENCE, MARCH 5-8, TANZANIA
  - Conference Program.....7-9
  - Conference Photos.....10-12
- Highlighting an Alumnus– Dr. Eugene Kongnyuy (Cameroon, IMPH 2006).....13
- Faculty News.....14
- Alumni News.....15

## Greetings from Prof. Ora Paltiel - Braun School Director

Dear Alumni,

It is now time to get ready for Pesach/Passover: the holiday of spring, and renewal. One of the obligations of Passover is to tell the story to our children, in other words, to teach.

Seeing our alumni at the recent East Africa Alumni Conference near Arusha, Tanzania certainly gave me a feeling of renewal. Although my general role is that of a teacher, I felt that I could learn much more from our dedicated, bright and committed alumni than they could ever learn from me. In the Talmud one wise rabbi wrote that "I have learned ...from my all teachers (rabbis), from my friends, but I have learned most of all from my students"\*\*. Hearing what our alumni are doing in the field, in NGOs, INGOs, government and academia has inspired me greatly. Their accomplishments have renewed my sense of the contribution that the IMPH training provides to those who really do want to make a difference in Public Health, and to the populations they serve. This would not be possible without the selfless contribution of our donors and supporters, are parent institutions, the Hebrew University and Hadassah, MASHAV, our teachers, our IMPH support and administrative staff, our alumni and the students themselves.

Passover is also about freedom and redemption, of course. A Christian saying is "the truth shall set you free" [John,8;23, New Testament]. In these times of fake news, alternative facts, and widespread ignorance despite reams of available knowledge let us all commit ourselves to edemption and freedom via research, via verifiable data, valid methods and a commitment to truth. This is the tradition of our School, of its venerable founders and of those who follow in their footsteps. The tremendous efforts of our alumni in data gathering and in the use of these data to assess and mitigate public health problems in their countries is truly inspiring !

All the best for a happy and renewing Passover and Easter season. Keep up the fantastic work you are doing and continue to inspire!

Ora Paltiel

\*\*

והיינו דאמר רבי הרבה תורה למדתי  
מרבתי ומחבירי יותר מהם ומתלמידי יותר מכולן  
—תלמוד בבלי, מסכת מכות י ע"א



Prof. Ora Paltiel presenting Conference participation certificate to Vincent Magombo (Malawi, IMPH 2015)

## Greetings from Prof. Yehuda Neumark— IMPH Director

Dear IMPH Alumni,

I think it would not be an overstatement to say that we are at a crossroads. The IMPH Program is into its 43<sup>rd</sup> IMPH cohort, we boast an alumni family of more than 850 graduates in nearly 100 countries worldwide, and as we witnessed just a few weeks at the East Africa Alumni Conference, our little program has made, and continues to make a big contribution to global public health!!



We accomplished this over the past nearly five decades in an environment of virtual monopoly - being the only international MPH program in Israel and one of the few MPH programs in the world that was truly international, and that awarded full scholarships to students from LICs. This is no longer the case. Haifa University launched an international MPH program last year, and Ben Gurion University of the Negev is preparing to establish their own IMPH in the not-too-distant future. On a broader scope, more and more universities in Europe, Australia, USA and elsewhere are offering scholarship support for students in their respective international health programs. The playing field has become quite crowded and competitive.

We have shared this question with some of you in various fora, and the answers we have received suggest that the challenge is multifaceted, with no single answer. Some of you are of the opinion that is increasingly difficult for young health professionals to take off a year to study abroad, because the job market in some countries is such that employment will not be guaranteed and graduates will return home with an IMPH degree but with no wall to hang it on. So, the suggestion is to move to blended-learning whereby part of our curriculum is completed online, thereby minimizing the Jerusalem-residency requirement. Others have voiced a strong counter-argument claiming that the year spent studying intensely in the global IMPH classroom, interacting with peers from around the world and touring the country, are unique and essential features of the program and should not be forfeited.

Some of you pointed out that we are not sufficiently prominent online and on social media platforms. So, we recently invested money and time in making ourselves more visible, and while our efforts are showing results, we need to do more.

In order to ensure a viable and meaningful future, we must upgrade and scale-up, and to do so we need to wisely, yet promptly, address a number of issues.

Firstly, we need to reach a larger potential audience of qualified candidates. Two years ago we moved over to an online application process in the hopes that it would be easier and less time-consuming for the applicant, and indeed, with one week left until the application period for 2018-2019 closes, about 650 people opened an application, 500 of whom partially completed the application process, and 200 submitted a complete application. Of these, the Admissions Committee will receive for review some 150 applications. So the shift to the online system seems to have been a step in the right direction, and we are continuously improving the system to make it more user-friendly, in the hopes of increasing the number of completed submissions.

Secondly, we need to expand the class size, and thereby enhance the cost-benefit balance of the program. This will require us to secure additional scholarship support, and we are constantly working toward that goal. The current senior administration of Hebrew University is very supportive of our international academic and professional efforts, and is establishing an Authority for International Programs in order to strengthen and expand its international programs and courses. We have, in addition, begun considering a shift in scholarship policy, whereby acceptance into the program will not be conditional upon the availability of scholarships, and residence in a LMIC would not automatically qualify an applicant for full scholarship support. All applicants who meet the program's admission criteria would be invited to attend, and scholarship support will be awarded to the most competitive candidates and/or to those who can validly demonstrate the need for financial support.

We are about to undertake a comprehensive review of the IMPH curriculum to identify content area and teaching methods that require strengthening and/or updating. The IMPH curriculum is one of the largest, if not the largest of all master-degree programs in our university, and while we firmly believe that our students must return home with a heavily-laden toolbox of Public Health skills and knowledge, we need to bring our curriculum more into line with institutional and global standards.

Finally, we need to find better and more efficient ways of establishing and maintaining contact with you, our dear alumni. Maureen, Reut and I have begun to take a serious look at the numbers of alumni with whom we are in regular contact, and how we can improve those numbers. We need to widen our circles.

I would very much value any and all ideas, thoughts, comments and suggestions that you may have about the above issues, or any other that are relevant to any aspect of the IMPH Program and its future. My email address is: [yehudan@ekmd.huji.ac.il](mailto:yehudan@ekmd.huji.ac.il).

Yesterday, we held our annual pre-holiday Passover Seder to prepare the IMPH class for the experience they will have on Friday evening with faculty members and others who have graciously opened their homes to our students and will welcome them to their Seder table.

One of the messages of the Passover holiday is the importance of expressing gratitude. This, you may recall is expressed in the traditional "*Dayeinu*" (*it would have been sufficient*) song in the Hagaddah book from which we will read during the Seder. On Seder night we reflect back on our national (and personal?) history and in the *Dayeinu* we identify the special moments, the gifts and the support that we received along the way and (re)express our gratitude.

In that spirit, allow me to conclude by expressing my deep appreciation to our generous scholarship sponsors for the faith they place in us as we work together toward achieving our common goals and aspirations. To our students, for allowing us to become part of their lives during their year of studies and beyond. To our teachers for sharing their wisdom and experience. To the Hebrew University, the Hadassah Medical Organization and the Braun School and their leadership, for the financial, infrastructure and academic support provided to the IMPH Program. To the IMPH Team – Edna, Pam, Ronit, Maureen, Reut, and Matan for the boundless energy they invest in making the IMPH the world-class program that it is. And to you, dear alumni, for your continued support, friendship, and inspiration!

G-d Bless and Happy Holidays!  
Yehuda

Message from Dr. Maureen Malowany —  
IMPH Alumni Academic Coordinator

Dear Alumni,

We returned from the IMPH Alumni East Africa Regional Conference, 5-8 March 2018, energised by the conversations, presentations and overall camaraderie of the gathering near Arusha, Tanzania. I extend a very special thank you to IMPH alumn Dr. Andrew Method for his help on the ground!! As Ora has said, we were thrilled to hear about your work, your career decisions, your challenges. We have placed the presentations on the huji platform to share the work presented and would love to hear your feedback. Many of you working in other regions of the world experience similar challenges and, we are sure, are engaged in equally exciting responses to them.



It was clear to all that we need to be in better communication – meaning two-way sharing of information – so that we can facilitate more inter-regional collaborations and support. Although alumni at the Conference said they really appreciate receiving the newsletters, they were not as keen to be active on the huji alumni platform. We would like to give this a new ‘boost’, through sharing the presentations on this platform, and see if this is the best way for all of us to stay in touch. Establishing Regional Whatapp groups was put forward by alumni as a medium for ‘instant’ notices but Whatapp is not the best for more detailed information. Many of you have changed jobs in the past year and we still have your former information. Others have presented at conferences or published articles and we only heard about this because we were in a face-to-face conversation at the alumni conference. Unfortunately, given prohibitive costs, we will not have a full alumni conference in Jerusalem in the near future and we need to figure out – with you – how to support and develop the network of this amazing IMPH family.

We remind you that Pears Seed Grants are available to all alumni, from any region, as an open call. You may apply at any time and we really want to hear more from you with regard to this opportunity. The other grants - mentorship awards, support to present to international conferences and to publish papers, doctoral fellowships– remain open. Please let me know if you are interested in these funding opportunities. If you are unsure of requirements, email me and we will start the conversation!

Wishing you all a lovely holiday – whichever holiday you celebrate – as we come into spring in many parts of the world and fall in the south!

Regards,

Maureen

IMPH Alumni Academic Coordinator

## Message from Ms. Reut Kramer—Alumni Communications Coordinator

Dear Alumni,

The conference in Arusha, Tanzania is now over, and all are back to their usual routine. We are receiving wonderful feedback from participants. We have uploaded all the presentations that were presented in the conference to our Alumni Social Platform. Participants are welcome to add pictures and comments as well: <https://hujiconnectimph.com>

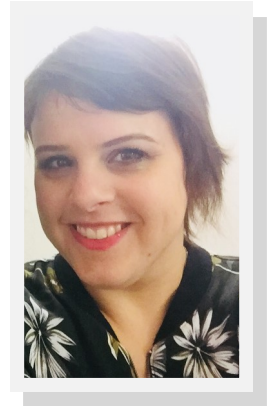
This might be a good opportunity to talk about the platform: We have created this platform for our Alumni to be able to connect with each other, to network independently with very little moderation from our side. We also wanted this place to be safe to share information, research, advices and thoughts. As a place for serious discussion but also for socializing- it is password protected and we allow only our alumni to join. Unfortunately, the platform is not very active. Very few alumni share their work, pictures, memories and job offers. We believe in this platform and in its ability to strengthen the connection between the School and Alumni, and the Alumni network. We would love to see some more activity there: more sharing, more discussion, more engagement. Let's give the Platform areal try! Log in, enjoy the wonderful things shared there, and share some of your own.

Also- if you have any thoughts or suggestions about how to make this platform more useful and active, please share them with us.

We would like to thank Dr. Gbenga Adebayo (Nigeria|IMPH 2016) for taking these wonderful pictures from the conference and sharing them with us!

Wishing you all a happy Passover, happy Easter or just a pleasant spring,

Reut





# TARGETING ADOLESCENT HEALTH: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

5-8/3/2018 Arusha, Tanzania



Braun School of Public Health  
and Community Medicine  
Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Hadassah Medical Organization



**Braun School of Public Health & Community Medicine**

**5-8 March 2018**

**MS-Training Center for Development Cooperation, Arusha, Tanzania**

## TARGETING ADOLESCENT HEALTH: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

MONDAY, 5 MARCH	
14:30-15:00	<b>Registration</b>
15:00-17:30	<p><b>SESSION I - Chair: Yehuda Neumark</b></p> <p><b>Welcome &amp; Conference Opening</b></p> <p><b>Ora Paltiel</b>, Director, Braun School</p> <p><b>Maureen Malowany</b>, IMPH Alumni Academic Coordinator</p> <p><b>Opening Address</b></p> <p><i>Adolescent Health: Demographic Dividends</i></p> <p><b>Adesegun Fatusi</b>, Vice-President, Sub-Saharan Africa, International Association for Adolescent Health</p> <p><b>Alumni Presentations: From Agendas to Practice to Framing Policy</b></p> <p><i>Advancing the adolescent health agenda through regional intergovernmental organizations</i></p> <p><b>Grace Miheso</b>, USAID</p> <p><i>Evidence for HIV prevention interventions for most at-risk adolescents: challenges and lessons for Kenya</i></p> <p><b>Jordan Kyongo</b>, LVCT Health</p> <p><i>Developing a multinational instrument for measuring district healthcare systems performance in Ethiopia</i></p> <p><b>Elias Yesuf</b>, Jimma University</p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
17:30-19:30	<b>🍴 Opening Dinner - Nyama choma - BBQ 🍴</b>
TUESDAY, 6 MARCH	
7:00-8:30	<b>Breakfast</b>
8:30-10:15	<p><b>SESSION II - Chair: Ora Paltiel</b></p> <p><b>Keynote Address:</b></p> <p><i>Global Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents: Implementation of the AFRO Flagship Programme</i></p> <p><b>Symplice Mbola Mbassi</b>, Medical Officer, Adolescent, Youth &amp; School Health, WHO-Regional Office for Africa</p> <p><b>Alumni Presentations: Adolescent Health - Rural, Marginalized and Vulnerable Communities</b></p> <p><i>Adolescent health in marginalised communities, Kenya</i></p> <p><b>Robert Bett</b>, Kenya Red Cross Society</p> <p><i>Project ECHO: Mitigating challenges faced by health care providers in remote areas of South Sudan</i></p> <p><b>Kandyang Jansuk</b>, Ministry of Health, South Sudan</p> <p><i>NCDs in adolescent Africans, Uganda</i></p> <p><b>Barnabas Natamba</b>, MRC Uganda</p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
10:15-10:45	<b>Break</b>

TUESDAY, 6 MARCH Continued	
10:45-11:45	<b>Adolescent Panel: Health challenges from our perspective</b> <b>Members of Tanzania NGO – Youth Education ♦ Moderator: Andrew Method</b> , District Medical Officer
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13:00-15:15	<b>SESSION III – Chair: A. Mark Clarfield</b> <i>Cancer burden and risk factors in adolescents and young adults</i> <b>Ora Paltiel</b> , Braun School  <b><u>Alumni Presentations: Strategies for Local Contexts</u></b> <i>Peer-provider model in contraceptive distribution, Kenya</i> <b>Norah Obudho</b> , Associate Regional Director, PPFA  <i>Using a peer-to-peer model to reach adolescents in Zambia</i> <b>Marcqueline Zulu</b> , University of Maryland-Zambia  <i>High school girls empowerment: sisterhood clubs, Swaziland</i> <b>Londiwe Hlophe</b> , University of Swaziland  <b>Discussion</b>
15:15-15:45	Break
15:45-17:00	<b><u>Alumni Presentations: The Double Burden Challenges</u></b> <i>Determinants of access to care for breast and cervical cancer in Western Kenya</i> <b>Grace Apiyo</b> , Remote Medical International, Turkana, Kenya  <i>Cholera outbreak prevention: the forgotten target for teens in under-resourced settings, DRC</i> <b>Patrick Mirindi</b> , Food for the Hungry, FP-USAID  <i>Predicting changes in prevalence &amp; long-term survival in children with neurological impairments, Kilifi, Kenya</i> <b>Jonathan Abel</b> , KEMRI Wellcome Trust, Kilifi  <b>Discussion</b>
17:00-17:30	<b>IMPH Alumni Activities: 'Heads-up' on Curriculum, Seed Grants, PhD scholarships</b> <b>Maureen Malowany</b>
17:30-18:30	Special Lecture by <b>Canute Temu</b> on "Development and Language"
18:30-19:30	Dinner
WEDNESDAY, 7 MARCH	
7:00-8:30	Breakfast
8:30-10:00	<b>SESSION IV – Chair: Maureen Malowany</b> <i>'Every Woman, Every Child' Program, Tanzania</i> <b>Janneth Mghamba</b> , Director, Epidemiology & Disease Control, Ministry of Health, Tanzania  <b><u>Alumni presentations: Thinking about Sexual Risk</u></b> <i>Sexual and reproductive health KAP among adolescent girls in Patna District, Bihar, India</i> <b>Smita Todkar</b> , Doctors for You  <i>Harmful cultural practices and adolescent sexual health, Malawi</i> <b>Vincent Magombo</b> , AMREF, Malawi  <b>Discussion</b>
10:00-10:15	Break



10:15-12:00	<p><b><u>Alumni presentation: Thinking some more about Sexual Risk</u></b></p> <p><i>Community perceptions on HIV prevention interventions targeting adolescent girls and young women in urban informal settlements</i></p> <p><b>Jane Osindo</b>, African Population Health Research Center</p> <p><i>What can older children and older adults (possibly) have in common?</i></p> <p><b>A. Mark Clarfield</b>, Director, Medical School for International Health, Ben Gurion University of the Negev</p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
12:00-13:00	Lunch
13:00-19:00	🌳 Excursion to Arusha National Park / Lake Duluti 🌳
19:00-20:00	Dinner
<b>THURSDAY, 8 MARCH</b>	
7:00-8:30	Breakfast
8:30-10:00	<p><b>SESSION V - Chair: Ora Paltiel</b></p> <p><i>mHealth: 10 years on and the sound of science is still silent</i></p> <p><b>Yehuda Neumark</b>, Braun School</p> <p><b><u>Alumni presentations: Public Health Communication – Getting the Message Across</u></b></p> <p><i>Health Communication in the Age of New Media</i></p> <p><b>Gbenga Adebayo</b>, Health Communication Consultant</p> <p><i>Adopting a participatory learning approach in programming for adolescents &amp; young people, Nigeria</i></p> <p><b>Segun Afolabi</b>, Dept. of Community Health, Obafemi Awolowo University</p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p>
10:00-10:30	Break
10:30-11:00	<p><b>IMPH Alumni Activities: Moving Forward</b></p> <p><b>Conference Wrap-up</b></p> <p><b>Maureen Malowany</b></p>
11:00-11:30	Presentation of Certificates
11:30-13:00	🌳 Farewell Lunch 🌳
<b>Shalom &amp; L'Hitraot</b>	

## Pictures from the IMPH Alumni Conference

Arusha, Tanzania- 5-8 March, 2018.



Left to right:

Nyasha Makaruse (Zimbabwe, IMPH 2017); Dr. Smita Todkar (India, IMPH 2017); Dr. Sharon Kataka (Kenya, IMPH 2017); Dr. Angela Tengekyon (Kenya, IMPH 2015); Dr. Robert Bett (Kenya, IMPH 2015); Dr. Grace Apiyo (Kenya, IMPH 2012)

Dr. Charles K. Sigei  
(Kenya, IMPH 1990)



Left to right:

Jordan Kyongo (Kenya, MPH 2009); Dr. Mieraf Taddesse Tolla (Ethiopia, IMPH 2009), Dr. Norah Obudho (Kenya, IMPH 2009)



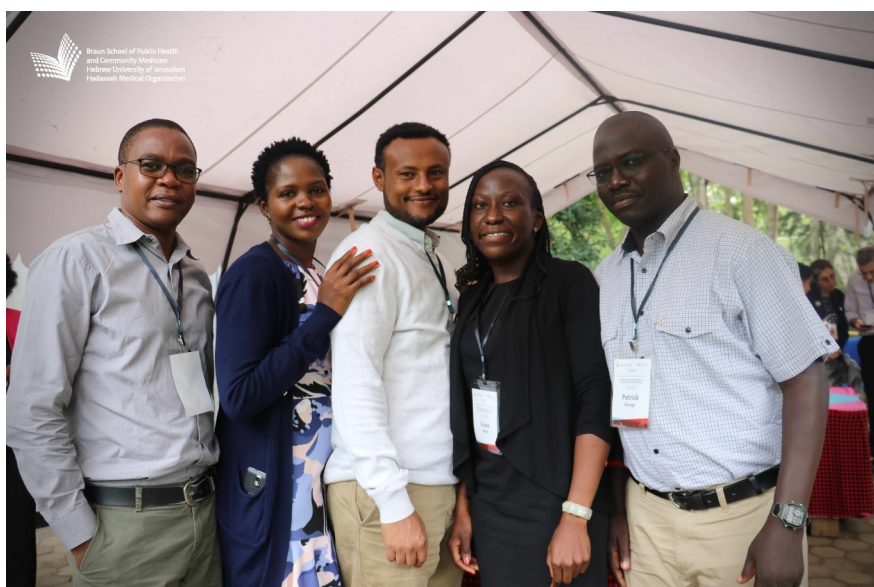
Left to right:

Dr. Charles Okidi  
(Uganda, IMPH 2015);  
Dr. Robert Bett (Kenya,  
IMPH 2015); Dr. Irene  
Kinera (Uganda, IMPH  
2015); Dr. Angela  
engekyon (Kenya, IMPH  
2015); Dr. Andrew  
Method (Tanzania, IMPH  
2015); Vincent Magombo  
(Malawi, IMPH 2015)



Left to right:

Emmanuel Koyano  
Bunzari (Tanzania, IMPH  
2012); Dr. Sarah Achen  
(Uganda, IMPH 2012);  
Dr. Elias Ali Yesuf  
(Ethiopia, IMPH 2012);  
Dr. Grace Apiyo (Kenya,  
IMPH 2012);  
Dr. Patrick Buruga  
(South Sudan, IMPH  
2012)



Dr. Andrew  
Method  
(Tanzania, IMPH  
2015) is  
moderating a  
special panel with  
members of  
Tanzania NGO –  
Youth Education







Left to right:

Jonathan Abuga Abel (Kenya, IMPH 2013); Nyasha Makaruse (Zimbabwe, IMPH 2017); Prof. A Mark Clarfield; Prof. Ora Paltiel, Dr. Gbenga Adebayo (Nigeria, IMPH 2016); Marcqueline Chiona Zulu (Zambia, IMPH 2016); Dr. Margaret Betty Eyobo Lejukole (South Sudan, IMPH 2013)



## IMPH Alumni Conference Participants—Tanzania 2018

*Thank you all for attending and making this conference a great success!*

## Highlighting an Alumnus

### Dr. Eugene Kongnyuy (Cameroon, IMPH 2006)



Deputy Representative, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Nigeria for West African Region. Previously, Regional Advisor for East and Southern Africa, UNFPA, in the area of Reproductive Health and Family Planning, covering 23 countries of the region.

Obstetrician & Gynecologist with a PhD in Public Health from Staffordshire University, UK. Eugene currently works with UNFPA from Abuja, Nigeria. His previous posts include UNFPA work in East and Southern Africa, H4+ Coordinator in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Chief Technical Advisor for Maternal/Reproductive Health in Madagascar. Before joining UNFPA, Eugene was appointed Lecturer in Sexual and Reproductive Health, University of Liverpool, UK, where he contributed significantly in the development of a new Masters in International Reproductive Health, and taught / supervised many students.

Through his postings, Eugene provided technical assistance to public health professionals and health systems in many sub-Saharan countries including Malawi, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Rwanda, Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Madagascar, DRC, Zambia, and, in the Caribbean region, Haiti.

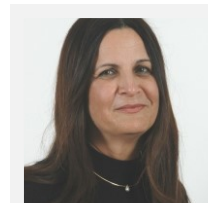
Eugene has acted as a Pears Mentor for a Pears Seed Grant research in Cameroon, conducted by Dr. Luchuo Bain. Eugene's own research areas of interest are evidence-based healthcare and policy, quality of care, maternal and newborn health and reproductive health and in conducting systematic reviews with the prestigious Cochrane Collaboration, UK.

Dr. Luchuo Bain (Cameroon, IMPH 2013) writes:

"Eugene is a fine scientist, excellent and demanding teacher. His selflessness in mentorship towards social, academic and scientific growth of myself and most of his mentees is amazing. Through Eugene, I was lucky to have had an unforgettable experience in the IMPH in the Hebrew University thanks to him. He is an inspiration for future public health practitioners through his academic and career accomplishments". He listens, he teaches, he cares, he guides and he is changing the world in his new position at the UNFPA Nigeria. Cannot thank you enough, Eugene".

## Faculty news

Congratulations to Dr. Chen Stein-Zamir as her PhD thesis "Timeliness and completeness of routine childhood vaccinations among young children in Israel" has been just approved! This is truly a great accomplishment as Dr. Stein-Zamir completed her PhD while working as District Health Officer; Head, Israel National Immunization Registry, Jerusalem District Health Office and the Braun School Faculty.



Congratulations to Professor Ora Paltiel, Braun School Director, upon being awarded Hebrew University's most distinguished "Rector's Prize for Outstanding Teacher and Researcher 2017". This is a most fitting recognition of Ora's stellar accomplishments in both these roles as well as being a brilliant clinician.

Prof. Paltiel has also won the Strage-BGU Award for Excellence in Environmental Science with Dr. Benny Hefetz for their article "Human Exposure to Wastewater-Derived Pharmaceuticals in Fresh Produce: A Randomized Controlled Trial Focusing on Carbamazepine" *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, **2016**, 50 (8), pp 4476–4482.



Congratulations to Prof. Yehuda Neumark, IMPH Director, for winning a grant from The Dream Doctors Project organization for research on therapeutic medical clowns.



Congratulations to Dr. Hagai Levine on receipt of a grant for an emergency-information center project in collaboration with Haifa University.



Joint congratulations to Prof. Yehuda Neumark and Dr. Hagai Levine on receipt of a grant from the Israel Defense Forces Medical Corps for their project on soldiers' rehabilitation-from-smoking using text messages.



We are proud to share Prof. Ronit Calderon-Margalit's recent publication in the prestigious *New England Journal of Medicine*. What a great accomplishment!

Read the article in the following link:

<http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1700993>





## Alumni News

A huge MAZAL TOV to Adina Rosenblatt-Rashti (USA, IMPH 2014), who gave birth on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 to a beautiful daughter, Lielle Moriah! Wishing the family good health, joy and happiness!



Congratulations to Nobel Cubahiro (Burundi, IMPH 2016) on his marriage on December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017. We wish Nobel and his wife, Benimana Sandrine a lifetime of good health and happiness together!



We were deeply saddened to hear that our Alumna, Dr. Ana Santander (Bolivia, IMPH 1980) passed away in December 2017. We extend our deepest condolences to her family and friends. May you know no further sorrow.



Enkhjargal Batbaatar (Eni), an alumna of IMPH 2007/2008, successfully completed her PhD at the University of Sannio, Italy in 2016. Her PhD topic, “Evaluating inpatient satisfaction at tertiary level hospitals in Mongolia”: Batbaatar, E. (2016). Evaluating In-patient Satisfaction in Three State Tertiary Level Hospitals, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. (Doctoral Dissertation). Università degli Studi del Sannio, Benevento, Italy.

Javkhlanbayar Dorjdagva (Bayara), an alumnus of the IMPH 2006/2007, completed his PhD at the University of Eastern Finland in May 2017. His PhD thesis was titled “Socioeconomic-related health inequalities and health care utilization in Mongolia”: Dorjdagva, J. (2017). Socioeconomic-related health inequalities and health care utilization in Mongolia. (Doctoral Dissertation). The University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio, Finland.

Congratulations to you both!!

We are excited to congratulate Dr. Wen Peng (China, IMPH 2016) on publishing an article together with Prof. Elliot Berry. The article on “Global Nutrition” will be published soon on PLOS ONE!



We are happy to share that an article for which Majd Zarifeh (East Jerusalem, IMPH 2015) is co-author was published recently. The article titled “The Risk for Lung Cancer Incidence with Calcium Channel Blockers: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Observational Studies” was published in the *Drug Safety Journal*.



Read the article here: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs40264-018-0644-4>



IMPH Class of 2017/2018 is celebrating the traditional Passover Seder

