



Easter Joury

Dr. Joury is currently working as an Assistant Professor of Dental Public Health and Oral Epidemiology in the Faculty of Dentistry, Damascus University. She was qualified as an orthodontist from Damascus University in 2001. Then, she completed her MSc in Dental Public Health in 2003, and PhD in Oral Epidemiology in 2007 in Queen Mary's School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of London. She is a member in the AMER/IADR Task Group on Building Capacity and Financing Oral Health, and the Tempus team for Higher Education Reform Experts in Syria. Dr. Joury is a speaker and a trainer in a number of epidemiology, dental public health, research capacity building, evidence-based dentistry and biostatistics courses and workshops organized by national and international organizations such as the World Health Organization and the UNRWA.

Dr. Joury modernized dental public health programme in Damascus University, in 2011. She founded Syrian Smiles Project to provide outreach oral care to disadvantaged groups in the community, such as, children with special needs, elderly residents of nursing homes and residents of shelter centres, by trained under and post-graduate dental students of Damascus University. She also encouraged dental undergraduates to build partnership with students in other higher education sectors to create a wide variety of high quality, very appealing and innovative health education materials and activities in Arabic. The evidence-based content touched vital issues such as diet, oral hygiene and smoking cessation in a holistic approach towards health. Methods varied from puppet shows to interactive computer software, children's stories, activity books and board games, videos, poems, songs, brochures, posters and leaflets; targeting diverse groups. Dr. Joury was involved during her education with many outreach dental projects such the Community Dental Access Project (CDAP) run by Bart's and The London, University of London. She supervised post- and under-graduates' applied dental public health research projects and communicated the findings with decision makers. Her research interest has focused on social inequality in oral health and evaluating the effectiveness of community-based preventive care programmes, health promotion interventions and modernizing dental education. She presented her research findings in international conferences and meetings.

Dr. Joury worked on establishing a common teaching and research platform between dental public health and other specialties such as Paediatric Dentistry, Prosthodontics, Periodontology, Orthodontics and Oral Pathology.

Throughout her education and professional career, she has received academic distinctions and honours. Her passion is in using her knowledge and skills to promote oral health and general wellbeing of disadvantaged children and communities across the globe.