

MASRI Biobank

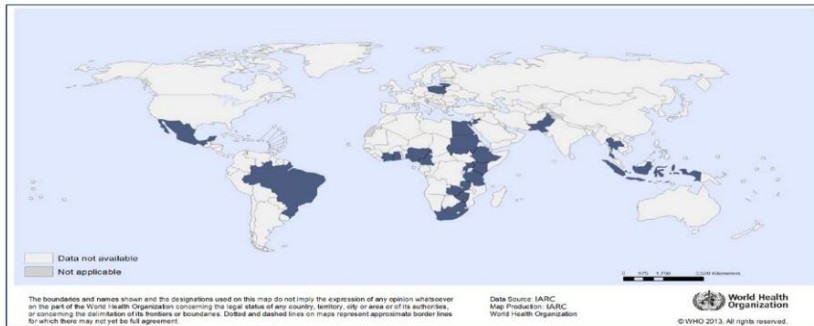
NEWS

1. Biobank Announcement, 2017

MASRI Cancer Biobank was announced for the first time in the 9th Breast-Gynecological & Immunooncology International Cancer Conference.

2. Annoucement of MASRI Membership in BCNet, 2017

BCNet Members



BRAZIL: Banco de Células do Rio de Janeiro; Barretos Cancer Hospital; **CAMEROON:** Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Université de Yaoundé; Université des Montagnes; **COLOMBIA:** Clinica de la Costa Ltda; **CÔTE D'IVOIRE:** Institut Pasteur de Côte d'Ivoire; **EGYPT:** Children's Cancer Hospital Egypt – 57357; Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University; Integrated Biobank of Mansoura, School of Medicine, Mansoura University; Medical Research Institute, Ain Shams University; Medical Research Institute, Alexandria University; National Cancer Institute; National Liver Institute; Shifaa Al Orman Hospital, Luxor; South Egypt Cancer Institute, Assiut University; **ETHIOPIA:** Jigjiga University; **GHANA:** Breast Care International, University of Health and Allied Sciences; **INDONESIA:** Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Gadjah Mada; **IRAN:** Golestan Cancer Biobank; **JORDAN:** King Hussein Cancer Center Biobank; **KENYA:** Ampath Reference Laboratory; **LITHUANIA:** National Cancer Institute; **MEXICO:** Instituto Nacional de Cancerología; **NIGERIA:** College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Obafemi Awolowo University Teaching Hospitals Complex; **PAKISTAN:** Shaikat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (SKMCH&RC); **POLAND:** Biobank Lab, Department of Molecular Biophysics, University of Lodz, Wrocław Research Centre EIT+ Biobank; **SOUTH AFRICA:** National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS), NHLS/Stellenbosch University Biobank; **SUDAN:** Institute of Endemic Diseases (IEND), University of Khartoum; Radio-Isotope Centre Khartoum; **THAILAND:** National Cancer Institute; **THE GAMBIA:** Medical Research Council (MRC) The Gambia Unit, MRC International Nutrition Group; **UGANDA:** Makerere University College of Health Sciences; **UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA:** Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute; **ZAMBIA:** Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia; **ZIMBABWE:** African Institute of Biomedical Science & Technology; University of Zimbabwe College of Health Sciences.

BCNetter

Issue No. 5, September 2017



3. Announcement of MASRI Biobank conference 2019

News and Events



First International Egyptian Biobank Conference

Cairo, Egypt | 18–19 January 2019

The Faculty of Medicine Ain Shams Research Institute (MASRI) and Breast Gynaecological International Cancer Society (BGICS) Board, will host the 1st International Egyptian Biobank Conference in conjunction with the 11th Breast, Gynaecological and immuno-oncology International Cancer Conference on 18-19 January 2019 at the Fairmont towers hotel, Cairo, Egypt. The conference will bring together a global network of professionals to foster innovation resulting in the betterment of biobank and medical research.

The Conference's Scientific Program is designed to provide state-of-the-art information on Biobank Science, biobank regulations, Quality management and Quality assurance, Ethical legal and social issues, offering breakthrough advances, patient management and best practices of biobank and biobank accreditation through an outstanding range of scientific and educational symposia, special sessions, debates and much more.

The Conference intends to introduce to the audience the latest information on new aspects and strategies through strongly multidisciplinary approaches. The first International Biobank Conference is the result of two successful meetings in 2017 and 2018 supported by IARC and the BCNet, and attended by Dr Maimuna Mendy and Dr Elodie Caboux.

Contact: amanymourad@yahoo.com for more information.



Report from National Health Laboratory Services / Stellenbosch University Biobank, South Africa

Dr Carmen Swanepoel writes that she, Dr Dominique Anderson, (researcher in Metagenomics, University of the Western Cape) and an MSc student at the Stellenbosch University, Ms Jody Bell participated in South Africa's National Science week as part of their community and public engagement activities.

As members of South African Women in Science and Engineering and members of BCNet, they participated in the South African National Science Week (30 July – 4 August, with the theme "Deepening our democracy through Science" at schools under the West Coast Department Education jurisdiction. We visited Bernardino Heights School in Kraaifontein and set up an exhibition and discussion on Biobanking science, cancer and bioinformatics. We also let all the children perform their own DNA extractions from the saliva using household items.



Carmen also co-authored an article "EU data transfer rules and African legal realities: is data exchange for biobank research realistic?" You can find the article on the BCNet website [here](#).

The article "How biobanks can help improve the integrity of scientific research" can be found [here](#).



4. MASRI Biobank and 11th BGICC Report in BCNet Letter

11th BGICC Conference in Cairo Egypt



BGICC conference in Cairo, Egypt from 17 to 18 January, 2019

Report by Dr Amany Maher, MASRI Biobank



Standing from left: Dr Ahmed Samir, NCI Biobank; Dr Safa Mukhtar, Assuit Cancer Institute Biobank; Dr Sally Wahied, Luxor Biobank; Dr Fayek Elkhwsky, Alexandria Medical Research Institute; Dr Doaa Mohamed, Assuit Cancer Institute; Dr Merhan Fouda, NCI Biobank

Seated from left, Dr Elodie Caboux, IARC; Dr Amany Maher, MASRI Biobank

The Faculty of Medicine Ain Shams Research Institute (MASRI) and Breast Gynaecological International Cancer Society Board, hosted the 1st International Egyptian Biobank Conference in conjunction with the 11th Breast, Gynaecological and immuno-oncology International Cancer Conference (BGICC) on 18-19 January 2019 in Cairo, Egypt.

The conference brought together a global network of professionals to foster innovation resulting in the betterment of biobanking and medical research.

IARC/BCNet was invited to share information and experience on Biobanking in Cancer Research and Quality management in Biobanking at the BGICC conference and to participate in a workshop "Toward Egyptian Networking" on 20th January at The Faculty of Medicine Ain Shams Research Institute (MASRI).

Also, ISBER was represented by one of their communication committee members, Dr Dan Guo, who shared her background in Biobanking standard procedures and Chinese networks as a model. This year's conference was a great success, gathering all Egyptian expertise and biobankers and putting us on the way to develop our National Egyptian Network.

Contact: [Dr Amany Maher](#) for more information.



From left: Dr Amany Maher, MASRI Biobank, Dr Elodie Caboux, IARC; Dr Rania Labib, 57357 Children's Cancer Hospital; Dr Dan Guo, Peking Union Medical College Hospital Biobank

5. MASRI Participation in BCNet check-In Meeting held in Zoom during COVID-19 pandemic, 2020

BCNetter

Issue No. 12, June 2020



A snapshot of our BCNet Check-In Meeting held on Zoom, on May 08, 2020

Dear BCNet Members,

What a difference three months make!

In France, and Europe as a whole, we are coming slowly into the 'new normal' after a 12-week period of confinement, during which most aspects of our work were affected in an unprecedented manner. These included laboratory work, the collection and receipt of biological samples for a number of studies across the world, as well as the cancellation of major events and meetings.

The [ISBER](#) 2020 Annual meeting in Anaheim was cancelled, and instead a number of webinars are planned to take place throughout the year. The same has been true for future meetings too, such as the [European Biobank Week](#) (will be moving to a virtual meeting format) as well as the [African Society for Laboratory Medicine \(ASLM\)](#) moving onto a new date a year later, in 2021.

The last few months have witnessed a number of challenges, most of which still ongoing. These highlight the need for taking wider, collective action so that our efforts can be impactful. The existence of strong networks provides the cornerstone for such collective activities, as well as the opportunity to share experiences and expertise. The ability to share information across our network gives us strength and a continued empowerment.

We are grateful for your very active participation to the BCNet check-in meeting in May. It is clear that we have all been affected, in many different ways by the pandemic. Our continuing communication remains key to overcome the challenges ahead of us. We will be circulating over the next few weeks a short survey to re-assess the needs and priorities for the BCNet working groups in light of the global developments.

In this BCNetter you will read about multilingual COVID-19 videos; the GHTAs; the increasing utility of the IARC online Learning Platform; as well as the most up to date developments by the [BBMRI.nl](#) colleagues on sustainable biobanking. New papers and important news are also highlighted.

We are grateful for all of our members' contributions and keen to highlight much needed success stories where possible.

We will continue steadfast through these unpredictable times, with the communication lines always open while pursuing new activities for the benefit of our network. We look forward to the continued cooperation of the members and even more successful initiatives in the coming weeks and months.

Zisis Kozlakidis
BCNet Coordinator

6. MASRI Biobank Conference in the BGICC, 2022

BCNetter

Issue No. 17, February 2022



Dear **BCNet Members**,

We hope that 2022 has started with an increase in research activities and a gradual move away from the emergency response to the unfolding SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. While the epidemiology of the pandemic remains asynchronous between the different locations globally, it is also evident that the impacts of the pandemic are far-reaching and asymmetrical. Thus, it remains of interest to monitor the impact in our research infrastructures and try to understand the parameters that will remain affected in the longer term.

Having said that, BCNet remains dedicated with supporting further international collaborations and networking. As such there were presentations by Profs Ezzat, Elkhwsky; Drs Abdelhafiz, Caboux, Henderson, Sughayer and Kozlakidis, and many other esteemed colleagues hosted by the 14th Breast Gynecological & Immunooncology International Cancer Conference (BGIICC) in Egypt, on January 21st, 2022. The conference attracted over 3,000

delegates from across the world and had a hybrid format.

The next reference point in international Biobanking conferences is the ISBER Annual Conference and Exhibits, that will take place in Atlanta, GA, USA, from 16–20 May 2022. As always, the BCNet members are entitled to register as ISBER members for free – please do contact Ms Tracy Wootton to provide the code for the free members' registration. Interested individuals can subsequently register for the ISBER conference using their member status.

However, the role of BCNet is more than presenting specific conferences to the biobanking community within resource-restricted settings. The current BCNetter provides information on funding opportunities currently available as well biobanking peer-reviewed publications of interest, highlighting the work of our members, as well as in the field.

Finally, the free access of BCNet members to IARC educational material continues through the dedicated online educational platform for biobanking available at <https://learning.iarc.fr/>

Three new lectures/videos available:

- Analysing the Impacts of COVID-19 on Laboratory Management
- Sample Security and Quality Assurance of Samples in Multi-National Projects
- The Management of COVID-19 Samples

Zisis Kozlakidis

BCNet Coordinator