

BIOGRAPHY Dr. Sonia HAMMAMI, MD, PhD

Professor of Internal and Geriatric Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Monastir, Tunisia

President of Geriatric Tunisian Society

President of Maghreb Academy for Medicine of Ageing

Head of research laboratory *LR12ES05,LR-NAFS 'Nutrition - Functional Food & Vascular Health'Faculty of Medicine - University of Monastir (Tunisia)*

A pioneer geriatrician in Tunisia that worked as Professor of Internal Medicine and Geriatric Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, National graduate School for science and technology of health and National Graduate Institute of Biotechnology; University of Monastir. Currently the Chairman of this Department.

Dr Hammami did training in ISPED , University Segalen Bordeaux Epidemiology and Medical Statistics . She also obtained a diploma in Internal Medicine and did training in Internal Medicine as clinical assistant in Pitié Salpêtrière Hospital (University Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris). It span public health, family and internal medicine, and concluded by intensive training for two years in geriatrics through a combined program between Tunisia and Belgium, she completed a DESS (Diplome d'Etude Supérieure Spécialisée) in gerontology.

Her working experience includes working in academic and governmental organizations. She is a consultant for the government on the health care for the elderly program at the level of Tunis. At the same time she is a short term consultant with the United Nations Population Fund, and World Health Organization. Dr Hammami was elected into the executive Board of the Middle East Academy of Medicine of Aging (MEAMA).

Her training and work experience obtained in Tunisia and Europe helped in establishing a number of research activities. Dr Hammami research focuses on frailty and metabolic disorders in the elderly (epidemiology, Diabetes, Hypertension, nutrition and atherosclerosis). She is also involved in epidemiological research on Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia and many transcultural studies in gerontology. Acted as the Principal investigator for the project supported by the EMRO/WHO to study the medico- social situation and the lifestyle of elderly in Monastir city (TUNISIA)". At the same time she is the Tunisian coordinator of the scientific cooperation project Belgo-Tunisian to develop Geriatric and Gerontology in the center of Tunisia using the Belgium experience.

Currently she is a member of a number of committees including the Coordinating Committee of the Tunisian group (Ministry of health) to develop gerontological and geriatric education at the under graduate and postgraduate level. At the same time she is a member of the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, College of Internal Medicine, Tunisian Society of Internal Medicine, Tunisian Alzheimer disease Association

She founded the Geriatric Diploma, University of Monastir with the help of dedicated staff in collaboration with INIA and MEAMA. Currently she is the vice chairperson of the National Association to Protect Elderly, the vice Chair-person of the Association of research in neuropsychiatric science and the Chair-person of the meeting of geriatric Medicine organized since 2005 in Tunisia (Monastir)

Finally, she had an extensive list of publications, book chapters, and large number of published abstracts. She has published works on aging issues, internal medicine and education. A total of more than 90 publications and 650 published abstracts in national and international journals and books published. She had participated as a speaker in large number of International meeting and has organized some of them in Tunisia.