

For Immediate Release



AUB to launch first national study on prevalence of dementia in Lebanon

Beirut, Lebanon- 10/02/2012 - The American University of Beirut is launching Lebanon's first national survey on prevalence of dementia, under the patronage of Health Minister Ali Hassan Khalil and in collaboration with the Danish Embassy, the Center for Research on Population and Health, at the Faculty of Health Sciences, AUB. The launch will take place at AUB on Feb. 16, 2012, at 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm, in West Hall's Common Room.

The study is supported by the National Institute on Aging and the National Institutes of Health in the United States. Professor Monique Chaaya, chair of the Epidemiology and Population Health Department, is leading the study together with Professor Gunhild Waldemar, director of the Danish Dementia Research Center in Denmark, as well as with the collaboration of Professor Samir Atweh from the Division of Neurology, AUB Medical Center, and Professor Martin Prince from the Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London, UK.

As the Lebanese population is undergoing unprecedented rapid demographic aging, dementia is becoming a major public health issue. In recognition of the problem, researchers from Lebanon, Denmark, and the UK are joining forces in the first population-based epidemiological study about dementia in Lebanon to provide a reliable estimate of dementia occurrence and an assessment of the needs of people with dementia in the country. This study is the first collaboration between Lebanese and Danish researchers in the field of public health.

ENDS

For more information please contact:

Maha Al-Azar, Assistant Director for Media Relations, ma110@aub.edu.lb, 01-353 228

Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

Stay up to date on AUB news and events. Follow us on:

Website: www.aub.edu.lb

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/aub.edu.lb>

Twitter: http://twitter.com/AUB_Lebanon