In Lebanon, Palestinian refugees struggle with poor health, exacerbated by substandard housing and other forms of social, political and economic marginalization. A recent study conducted by Médecins Sans Frontières among refugees in Burj el-Barajneh found that 51% of adults suffered from mental distress or disorder. Another study by AUB in collaboration with the United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA) assessing the health and living conditions of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon found that 31% of those surveyed suffer from chronic illnesses, 25% suffer from acute illnesses and 40% of households are overcrowded.

In Palestine, around 800,000 Palestinians have been imprisoned on political grounds. A recent study completed by the Institute of Community and Public Health (ICPH) in collaboration with the Women’s Studies Institute at Birzeit University documents that this has adverse effects on the livelihoods, functioning and wellbeing of Palestinian political prisoner families from financial hardship to distress and psychosocial health problems among wives and children. Another study by the WHO shows that the Israeli military occupation of Gaza and the West Bank hinders the access of patients to health care: in Gaza in 2010, 646 referral patients were denied permits, and 1418 missed their hospital appointment due to delays – of these 421 were called for interrogation and six died waiting for permits. And what of the complex relationship between aid and occupation? Or the idea that aid can actually be unhealthy if what it does is sustain the occupation? – the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) has received more developmental assistance for health per capita since 1990 than any country in the Arab world yet the development of Palestinian health institutions has not progressed.

These are findings of some of the studies that were presented at a conference on the “Health of Palestinians Inside and Outside the Occupied Palestinian Territory” held on the 5th and 6th of March 2012 at the American University of Beirut (AUB). The conference was jointly organized by the CRPH, AUB and ICPH at Birzeit University, and was held in collaboration with the Lancet Palestinian Health Alliance, a network of Palestinian, regional and international researchers, committed to the highest scientific standards in research on Palestinians. This was the third conference of The Lancet Palestinian Health Alliance, the first two were held at the ICPH, Birzeit University.

Over 150 participants attended the two-day conference and they came from Gaza and the West Bank, from Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan and Syria, and from Canada, Europe, Japan and the US. The Welfare Association and Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) funded the conference. Presentations at the conference numbered 50 (22 oral and 28 poster presentations) and addressed the broader health issues affecting Palestinians including physical, mental and social health, as affected by dire living conditions, as well as by lack of access to health services and risk protection.
They covered the plight of Palestinians living inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territory enabling a comparative perspective and documenting that Palestinian suffering and loss of dignity are a shared outcome that is influencing Palestinian health in multiple settings. A policy session, moderated by Dr. Ala Alwan, Regional Director of WHO-EMRO, concluded the conference: policy recommendations were discussed by five prominent speakers concerned with health of Palestinians representing the Lebanon Ministry of Public Health, the Welfare Association, the Issam Fares Institute of Public Policy and International Affairs at AUB, UNRWA, and MAP.

These policy recommendations emerged from the oral presentations and were consolidated and documented with a view to drawing the attention of policy makers, politicians and the public at large to the findings of research on Palestinian suffering and health. They were divided into four main areas: Health and living conditions of Palestinians; Mental health and well being of Palestinians; Donors; and Access to health services and risk protection. Policy recommendations include:

- Those providing services to Palestinian refugees must address the issue of human insecurity and distress by exposing the fundamental structural and root causes of these problems and going beyond the delivery of basic needs towards calling for justice to Palestinians.
- An ecological approach to community mental health in health policy formulation should be adopted given the acute exposure to violence and human rights violation and their mental health implications.
- Donors should adopt a do no harm approach, and learn together with Palestinians how to improve ability to identify, track and assess the side effects in the social and political realm even when addressing fundamental human needs. Donor funding should be directed where there is greatest public health need (as determined by disease burden and accessibility of health services), in effort to create greater equity within the oPt.

Question time for the audience

CRPH Launches Lebanon’s First National Survey on Prevalence of Dementia in Collaboration with the Danish Embassy

Under the patronage of HE Minister of Public Health and in collaboration with the Danish Embassy, the CRPH launched Lebanon’s first national survey on prevalence of dementia on February 16th in West Hall, AUB. The study is supported by the National Institute of Aging and the National Institute of Health in the US.

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, and in collaboration with Professor Samir Atweh from the Department of Neurology, AUB Medical Center (AUB-MC), and Professor Martin Prince from the Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College London, UK. Based at FHS, Dr. Kieu Phung from the Danish Dementia Research Center is coordinating the study.

The study addressed the urgent question of Palestinian health under occupation in Gaza and the West Bank, as well as in refugee camps in adjoining countries, recognizing that Palestinians everywhere have suffered an injustice that continues to influence their lives and their health conditions in multiple ways.

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.

Monique Chaaya

Huda Zurayk

Iman Nuwayhid

CRPH Launches Lebanon’s First National Survey on Prevalence of Dementia in Collaboration with the Danish Embassy
endorsement of the book, calling it a "massive accomplishment that fills major information gaps in public health."

The book is divided into seven sections which address the context of public health; social determinants of health; burden of disease; the health of population groups including vulnerable ones, such as the elderly, migrants and children; health in the context of war and violence; health systems; and health in relation to the social agenda for change.

Public Health in the Arab World Book Launched at AUB

It is being translated into Arabic by the Arabic Program at the World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (WHO EMRO) and should be released later this year. The book editors are: Samer Jabbour, Senior Lecturer at FHS, Rita Giacaman, Professor at the Institute of Community and Public Health at Birzeit University, Marwan Khawaja from UN ESCWA (formerly at FHS), Iman Nuwayhid, Dean of FHS, and the associate editor is Rouham Yamout from WHO country office in Lebanon (formerly at FHS).

Lead editor Samer Jabbour noted that this large initiative “became possible when a prestigious institution such as FHS took it on.” He added that the book fills a long recognized need as "scholarship on the region has focused on the politics, economy, or sociology of the region, without seriously looking into health concerns while international scholarship on health did not take the Arab world as a framework for research".

Although the book was written before the onset of the Arab uprisings, Jabbour noted that “a lot of the determinants of health problems discussed in the book such as inequalities, marginalization and unemployment, are also causes for popular discontent and mobilization.” He argued that “while achieving justice in health may be difficult without broader social justice, justice in health can be an entry to broader justice.”

All royalties from the sale of the book will go to purchase copies to be distributed for free to students and institutions of public health in the Arab World.

Visit the Public Health in the Arab World website at www.aub.edu.lb/fhs/phaw

Funding News

The Faculty of Health Sciences was awarded $CAD 4.5 million by the International Development Research Center (IDRC) to implement a program on “Shaping research for health in the Arab World: A systems and network approach to advance knowledge, inform policy, and promote public health”.

The grant will be initiated in June 2012 and will run till May 2017. It includes support for the CRPH mainly to recruit an associate director, to run regional training on writing proposals and writing papers, and to support research activities. The award also includes funds to establish two new Centers at the Faculty of Health Sciences: the Center for Knowledge Translation and Health Policy (CKT), and the Center for Public Health Outreach, Practice and Stewardship (CPhOps).

Publications from CRPH Sponsored Research 2012


Research Highlights

Published Papers

The Cost of Being Palestinian in Lebanon

For over 60 years, Palestinian refugees in Lebanon have been denied basic civil rights. In the area of employment, they have been excluded from working in a wide range of professions and sectors, segregated into less desirable sectors of the Lebanese economy, and deprived of social security benefits. How do these exclusionary policies affect the economic wellbeing of Palestinian refugees? Does being Palestinian in Lebanon exert a cost above and beyond having low education or low-skills? Utilizing data from the CRPH Urban Health Study, Abdulrahim and Khawaja examined employment-related inequities between Palestinians in Burj el Barajneh refugee camp and Lebanese citizens who live in two disadvantaged Beirut suburbs. Specifically, the article investigated inequities in income returns on education and occupation, paying attention to differences by gender.

Findings of the study showed that exclusionary policies have not been successful at barring Palestinians from working in Lebanon. At most ages and for both genders, they work almost at the same rate as the Lebanese. Palestinians, however, pay a cost simply in exchange for employment. Palestinian men are segregated into less-desirable occupations and receive lower incomes compared to Lebanese men at every educational level and occupational category. Palestinian women pay a double cost due to the accumulated disadvantage of being Palestinian and a woman in the Lebanese context; those who have a secondary education or higher receive the lowest relative incomes.

What psycho-social effects does the prolonged economic exclusion have on the fabric of Palestinian society in Lebanon? Young Palestinians learn with time that education does not necessarily promise social mobility. Intervening on this learned perception is important. But this requires advocating for equity-centered employment policies, rather than running programs to convince Palestinians of the virtues of education. Just as the literature on the social determinants of health has increasingly advanced a “health in all policies” approach to reducing health inequities, the present findings advance a compelling argument that abolishing exclusionary labor policies that target Palestinians should be considered health policy.


Research Project Updates at CRPH

Prevalence of Dementia in Lebanon

Interviewing participants for the study

October 2011, marked Phase 1 of the NIH-funded project entitled “Prevalence of dementia in Lebanon”. This first phase is a validation of the 10/66 Dementia Research Group (DRG) diagnostic instrument for dementia with 300 participants. The second phase will start in September 2012 with a pilot study on 500 persons randomly selected from Beirut and Nabatieh to assess the feasibility of data collection and calculate a preliminary estimate of dementia prevalence among the people older than 65 in Lebanon.

The research group (Monique Chaaya and Kieu Phung) implementing the study is now two-thirds of the way through Phase 1 and is progressing according to plan. The questionnaires in the diagnostic instrument were translated and back translated and then a focus group was set up to discuss the conceptual validity of the questionnaires in the Lebanese cultural and linguistic contexts. As part of the capacity building program, Professor Martin Prince, leader of the 10/66 DRG from the Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College London, came to AUB to participate in the launch and train the local research group as well as five medical residents, who are interviewers for the study, in the 10/66 dementia diagnostic instrument. For the same purpose, the Co-PI of the study, Professor Gunhild Waldemar from the Danish Dementia Research Center, Copenhagen, Denmark, gave a seminar at the AUB-MC about updates on diagnostic criteria, neuroimaging, and biomarkers for dementia. After the training, the interviewers conducted several interviews at the participating NGOs to assess the interview burden and the acceptability of the questionnaires under field condition. After the interview procedure was fine-tuned, data collection began (March 2012) and is expected to conclude in July 2012.

Participants are being recruited from Ain Wazein Hospital in the Shouf, Ayadina in Nabaa, Mother and Child Hospital in Verdun, St. Joseph Social Center in Bourj Hammoud, and outpatient clinics at AUB-MC. To date, 100 interviews have been completed. There have been challenges however, such as the difference between written Arabic and spoken Arabic. The cognitive test is strictly structured and must be read verbatim to the participants. However, the interviewers have to read the questions in formal Arabic and ask them in spoken Arabic. Therefore, they have to be trained to ask the questions in spoken Arabic in a standardized manner. The other challenge is that dementia is still a taboo in Lebanon and this makes

![Image: Prevalence of Dementia in Lebanon](image)
At the regional level, the AUB-TCRG regional network composed of members of AUB, the King Hussein Cancer Center, Jordanian University for Science and Technology, The Syrian Center for Tobacco Studies, and Virginia Commonwealth University will meet in September 2012 in order to discuss ways to move forward in waterpipe tobacco research. The network is planning its first international meeting on “Waterpipe Tobacco Smoking: Building Evidence for Intervention and Policy” in September 2013. A conference proposal will be developed by the team to seek sponsorship and financial support.

Advocacy

Advocacy efforts continue in collaboration with civil society focusing on monitoring of enforcement and compliance of Law number 174, which prohibits smoking in indoor public places. Members of the AUB-TCRG served as judges in a school wide contest in the city of Saida, South Lebanon, to promote the enforcement of the Law. The event was organized by the Islamic Welfare Association, sponsored by the WHO and the Ministry of Public Health and held under the patronage of MP Bahia Al Hariri. The AUB-TCRG is also working with IndyAct and the Tobacco Free Initiative who won a Bloomberg grant that focuses on developing and building efforts to reinforce implementation and compliance of the Law.

The AUB-TCRG is collaborating with the AUB Neighborhood Initiative, led by CRPH affiliate Professor Cynthia Myntti. The project aims to assist neighborhood restaurants and cafes to prepare for the smoking ban to come into effect in September 2012. The team plans to reach out to restaurants to help them make the switch to smoke-free as smooth as possible. Following a thorough mapping and interviews with neighboring businesses, the team will provide printed materials such as brochures, stickers and non-smoking signs; train restaurant managers and waiters on dealing with difficult customers; and organize a neighborhood event on the first smoke-free day.

Data analysis and manuscript preparation for publication will take place in August and September 2012 and the preliminary results of the validation study will be presented at the Alzheimer Association International Conference (AAIC) in July 2012 in Vancouver, Canada.
The War and Global Health

The War and Global Health Working Group (WGH-WG) headed by Dr. Omar Dewachi is comprised of local, regional, and international collaborators working in public health, medical practice, and the social sciences. Together, Omar Dewachi, Vinh-Kim Nguyen, Rita Giacaman, Ilana Feldman, Sonya Knox, Nasser Yassin, Livia Wick, Ghassan Abu Sitta, and Laurel Harig use their range of experience and expertise to explore the interplay between war, conflict, and global health.

The WGH-WG has received funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) to explore the challenges that warfare and the crisis of the Arab state place on public health and healthcare delivery in the region. The work of the group will address the emergence of ‘therapeutic geographies’ by focusing on places and processes developing as a result of the breakdown of health care systems under political transition. These therapeutic geographies are seen as part of the social, political, medical, economic and geographic consequences of warfare and conflict that shape and challenge new ways of understanding healthcare systems and biological citizenship. The IDRC grant money will also be used by the WGH-WG to host conferences, expand their network, and continue their research endeavors.

The Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health Project

The Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health Project (YSRHP) is using a multi-faceted inter-disciplinary approach including teaching and research, training workshops, and advocacy to achieve its ultimate goal of Promoting Youth Reproductive and Sexual Health, and Sexuality Education in the Region. The project team includes Professor Lilian Ghandour (PI), Dr. Faysal El-Kak and Professor Loulou Kobeissi (co-PI’s) and Rola Yasmine (Research Assistant).

The research study has received IRB approval and the pilot phase has been successfully completed. The online survey, which will be conducted via a secured sever (LimeSurvey), was launched end of April at AUB and will continue till July 2012. Since the survey seeks to comprehensively investigate patterns of sexual behavior, as well as the perceptions and attitudes of youth across Lebanon, the research team is currently communicating with research collaborators at other universities to expand the survey to other private universities as well as the Lebanese University.

Beginning June 2012, the YSRHP will be hosting workshops at AUB for physicians and nurses who provide care to young people. The workshops will be centered on themes of sexual and reproductive health and rights as well as bodily rights to enhance healthcare providers sensitivity and knowledge of these topics. Moreover, the second regional discussion forum is planned for September 2012 and will address Sexuality Education in the Middle East and North African region.

An elective 2-credit course for undergraduate and graduate students on “Human Sexuality in Public Health” started this spring semester and has a full student capacity. In the realm of education, the proposal of creating four DVDs for Sexuality Education in elementary through high school levels, with the school health division of the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, has been approved by the Ministry. This reproductive health curriculum is to be taught at schools as of 2013. The team has been studying the curriculum and brainstorming for creative ways to implement health awareness and education with the use of multi-media. The Health Education Resource Unit (HERU) led by Ms. Mayada Kanj will be assisting the YSRHP in creating these educational DVDs.

The expected outcome of this project, coupled with the continued efforts and ongoing work of its members, will hopefully contribute to a growing global and regional interest in sexuality and sexual health and by extension, enrich academic literature, empower community resources, and perhaps even overcome the existent cultural silence and denial pertaining to youth sexual and reproductive health in Lebanon and the region at large. The activities of this project have been made possible by a generous grant from the Ford Foundation.

Choices and Challenges in Changing Childbirth (CCCC) - Alliance Research Team Meeting and Clinical Audit Training

The CCC regional research team conducting a regional study on maternal and neonatal near-miss in four public hospitals in Egypt, Lebanon, the occupied Palestinian territory and Syria convened a three-day research and training meeting at AUB March 11 through 13, 2012. The meeting was made possible through supplemental funding from the World Health Organization Department of Reproductive Health Research (Implementation Research Platform). The first day consisted of a training in how to conduct a multidisciplinary clinical audit (the main intervention of this research). This training was facilitated by Dr. Michael Walker (Senior Vice President of the Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Obstetric Advisory of the UK National Patient Safety Agency). Dr. Ghazna Siddiqi (Senior Lecturer, University College London, and Associate Researcher at FHS) also helped to organize and facilitate the meeting.

Highlights of the training included the importance of instigating a no-blame culture within health-care settings and instituting non-hierarchical approaches to improve the quality of maternal and neonatal health.

The meeting also served as a venue for the research teams from the four countries to compare findings from the formative research and to plan the intervention stage. In the formative stage of the study, the researchers in the four countries have been collecting data in the four study hospitals on maternal and neonatal near miss. They are also investigating health system factors affecting the management of maternal and neonatal near-miss cases. Each team is conducting interviews with women who were themselves near-miss cases or are mothers of babies who almost died but survived. Interviews were also conducted with healthcare providers to understand the constraints they face in providing evidence-based care. In all 29 participants attended the three-day meeting in Beirut, including the regional research team and Obstetrician/Gynecologists and Neonatologists from the study hospitals.
CRPH Affiliate News

Rita Giacaman, PhD, MPH
(Professor and Research and Program Coordinator, Institute of Community and Public Health, Birzeit University, rita@birzeit.edu)
Professor Giacaman attended the World Health Organization’s World Conference on Social Determinants of Health held in Rio de Janeiro in October 2011. She was awarded an honorary PhD from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) in December 2011 for her contributions to research, and lectured at LSE on dignity and its components among Palestinian youth. She also lectured at Brown University in the United States in April 2012, on how she and her colleagues have developed metrics that are relevant to the context of the occupied Palestinian territory as well as on the plight of Palestinian political prisoners’ wives and children. Professor Giacaman is an active member of The Lancet Palestinian Health Alliance (LPHA). In cooperation with the CRPH, the LPHA’s 3rd conference was held in Beirut in March of 2012. Subject to reviews by The Lancet editors, plans are underway to publish the abstracts of the conference in The Lancet Online in the fall of 2012.

Faysal El-Kak, MD
(Senior Lecturer, Department of Health Promotion and Community Health, fk01@aub.edu.lb)
Faysal El-Kak, President of the Lebanese Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (LSOG) organized the LSOG annual conference on “Woman’s Health Across Life Span” in collaboration with The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and The International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics, in Beirut in October 2011. In February 2012 he attended the Global Consultative Group meeting at the WHO, Geneva- of which he is a member – on Preconception Counseling. He also conducted an assessment of the Preventing Maternal to Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS program in Oman. From March to April 2012 he organized and coordinated the National Pap Smear Campaign, part of the Cervical Cancer Prevention Campaign in Lebanon. He was invited to speak on Adolescent and Polycystic Ovaries at the Adolescent and Women’s Health Conference in Jordan in March 2012 and on Youth and Sexuality this time in Turkey in May 2012. A member of the scientific committee of the 45th Middle East Medical Assembly (MEMA) conference held in Beirut in May 2012, he gave two presentations at the MEMA, one on Maternal Health in Lebanon and another on sexually transmitted infections. He regularly conducts seminars to local health care providers in Lebanon and is teaching a new course on Sexuality and Public Health at FHS.

Rima Nakkash, PhD
(Assistant Professor, Department of Health Promotion and Community Health, rn06@aub.edu.lb)
Rima Nakkash continues to be involved in research, teaching, and advocacy on tobacco control. In March 2012, she gave three presentations at the 15th World Conference on Tobacco or Health held in Singapore: (1) Policy Implications for Waterpipe Tobacco Smoking, (2) Alternative Forms of Tobacco Use Around the World: Prevalence and Health Effects, and (3) The Role of Academia in Advocacy for Tobacco Control. She is currently involved in two Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) funded research projects as co-lead Principal investigator the most recent entitled “A situation analysis of applied research ethics involving human subjects in Lebanon and Qatar: gaps, dilemmas and implications for capacity building”. As member and coordinator of the AUB-TCRG, she is actively engaged with a regional network of researchers from Syria, Jordan and the US whose efforts have culminated in a number of joint research proposals. Nakkash is teaching a new course at FHS entitled Advocacy in Health that draws on her personal experience in advocacy and on readings of peer reviewed experiences of public health advocacy world wide. Her latest advocacy efforts focus on working with civil society to monitor compliance and enforcement of the most recently adopted tobacco control policy in Lebanon. Moreover, she is spearheading a new evidence-based campaign to push for increasing taxation on tobacco products in Lebanon supported by research funded by the IDRC.

CRPH Research Seminars
May 17, 2012
Nisreen Salti (FAS), Jad Chaaban (FABS) & Rima Nakkash (FHS), AUB
One Pack for One Dollar: The Role of Tobacco Taxation in Curbing the Smoking Epidemic in Lebanon (see below)

March 29, 2012
Elene L.Tolma, Associate Professor, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
Promoting health through the youth asset approach: an example from youth in Oklahoma

January 19, 2012
Rima Afifi, Professor, HPC, FHS
The raison d’être of the youth movements in the Arab citizen revolt

CRPH Seminar
One Pack for One Dollar
Presented by Professors Nisreen Salti, Jad Chaaban & Rima Nakkash, AUB
Tobacco use is a major public health problem in Lebanon: over half of adults smoke, 60% of young teenagers have smoked at least one form of tobacco in the previous month. Price and tax measures are an effective means of reducing tobacco consumption, particularly for young smokers. Revenues from taxes can also be earmarked towards tobacco control prevention and cessation programs.

This study focused on household consumption of tobacco products and is the first to address the welfare and public finance effects of raising taxes on tobacco products in Lebanon. Spending on these products reached 553 million USD in 2010. The government currently collects around 230 million USD per year in tobacco tax revenue (excluding profits by the Regie, the national public tobacco production and trade monopoly). The average price of imported cigarettes is remarkably low, so there is substantial room for increasing the price of tobacco products as part of a national tobacco control strategy.

Cigarettes price per US$. Imported cigarette prices now aligned with international prices

Data on prices for other countries is from the WHO. Data for prices in Lebanon are the authors’ estimates

The objectives of the study were to estimate the elasticity of demand for tobacco products (a measure of the sensitivity of demand to changes in the price) in order to simulate, for a variety of tax rates, the effect of the tax on consumption and on tax revenues. The elasticity of demand for domestically produced and imported cigarettes, and waterpipe tobacco, was estimated, taking into account the substitution possibilities across tobacco products. Findings are in line with international findings: the elasticity of demand for imported cigarettes is -0.22 (i.e., for every 10% increase in imported cigarette prices, quantity consumed would drop by 2.2%).
Join Us as a Visiting Fellow
CRPH has been sponsoring a Visiting Fellows Program since January 2003. Selected fellows from the Arab region may visit CRPH for one to three months to use the Center’s facilities and data resources to undertake their own research and to exchange ideas and experiences with CRPH faculty affiliates. Candidates need to be affiliated with an academic university or research institution, to hold a postgraduate degree and to have good working knowledge of English. A fellowship application may be requested from Mrs. Ruba Ismail, Program Administrator, at crph@aub.edu.lb and should be submitted at least three months prior to the proposed starting date.

The MS in Population Health
This graduate program is designed to provide training in Population Sciences, focusing on the impact of population change on health. It offers basic training in population theory and analysis as well as in quantitative research methods. Students will participate in collaborative research activities with FHS faculty through the Center to gain practical experience. Students will also have access to the Center’s data generated by the Urban Health Study and other studies for thesis research. The university catalogue and graduate admission application form can be requested from the AUB admissions office via e-mail at admissions@aub.edu.lb, or downloaded from http://www.aub.edu.lb

Opportunities for qualified students to receive financial aid are available in the form of Graduate Assistantships, Graduate Scholarships, and other sources of funding, such as FHS administered research grants (when available). Information regarding financial assistance for FHS graduate programs can be obtained from Ms. Mitra Tauk at mt12@aub.edu.lb

Contact Us
To learn more about CRPH research activities, to subscribe to CRPHNews, or to request an application for the Visiting Fellows Program, contact us at
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About CRPH

Announcements
→ Special issue of The Lancet on the Arab World: Second Meeting set for Fall 2012
→ Ras Beirut Well-Being Study Monograph launch set for Fall 2012

Upcoming Events
→ July 7-9, 2012: The Reproductive Health Working Group will be meeting in Gammarth, Tunisia for its 24th Annual Conference