

Rima Moghnieh, MD

Clinical Professor

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Dr. Rima Moghnieh serves as Professor of Clinical Medicine at the Lebanese American University in Beirut, also heading the Division of Infectious Diseases at the university's medical center.

Dr. Moghnieh's educational and training background is comprehensive and distinguished. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology from the School of Arts & Sciences at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, from 1981 to 1983. She continued her medical education at the same institution, receiving her Doctor in Medicine degree from 1983 to 1988. Dr. Moghnieh completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the American University of Beirut between 1988 and 1991, followed by a subspecialty in Infectious Diseases at the same institution from 1991 to 1993. She furthered her expertise through a clinical fellowship at Coppets Wood Hospital Isolation Unit of the Royal Free Hospital in London, UK, from 1993 to 1996. Most recently, she has been pursuing the EUCIC Infection Prevention and Control Certificate through the ESCMID Training Programme, expected to be completed between 2022 and 2024.

Dr. Moghnieh, has been practicing medicine in Lebanon since 1996. With over 25 years of experience in general infectious diseases and more than 20 years in treating immunocompromised patients, particularly in hematology, oncology, and

hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, she has developed a profound expertise in managing infections in critically ill and immunocompromised patients. Her professional interests span community-acquired infections, vaccine-preventable diseases, viral infections, and invasive fungal infections. Dr. Moghnieh is deeply engaged in antimicrobial stewardship, resistance surveillance, and infection prevention and control, and she plays a pivotal role in creating and implementing treatment guidelines to improve patient care and combat infectious diseases effectively. As an educator, Dr. Moghnieh has provided strong clinical mentorship to fellows, residents and medical students rotating through tertiary care hospitals she has worked in from multiple reputed medical schools in Lebanon.

Dr. Moghnieh is a distinguished leader in infectious diseases and antimicrobial stewardship with extensive involvement in both national and international organizations. In Lebanon, she plays a crucial role in the Lebanese Society of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology (LSIDCM), having served as president from 2011 to 2013 and continuing her contributions through various committees. Her responsibilities include the LSIDCM taskforce on COVID-19 management, the Lebanese National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, and multiple subcommittees of the Lebanese Ministry of Health. She also coordinates the Lebanese Guidelines for Common Infectious Diseases project and is an active member of scientific and executive committees for LSIDCM annual meetings.

Internationally, Dr. Moghnieh is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and a member of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for Antimicrobial Resistance (STAG-AMR) at the WHO, starting in 2024. She has served as an external consultant for the WHO, developing National Action Plans for antimicrobial resistance and national infection prevention and control guidelines across several Middle Eastern countries, including Lebanon, Syria, Kuwait, Libya, Tunisia, Somalia, and the UAE. Additionally, she has clinical teaching affiliations as an Associate Clinical Professor at Lebanese University and a Clinical Professor at Beirut Arab University.

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Dr. Moghnieh's selected publications cover a range of infectious disease topics. Key studies include her work on COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness in Lebanon (PLOS ONE, 2024), multidrug-resistant E. coli in critical care (Microbiol Spectr, 2024), and Infection prevention in the Eastern Mediterranean (Antimicrob Resist Infect Control, 2023). She has also investigated acute kidney injury from colistin therapy (Antibiotics, 2023), vaccine strategies against SARS-CoV-2 variants (Vaccines, 2022), and QTc prolongation during levofloxacin and triazole use (J Oncol Pharm Pract, 2023). Additional notable publications include research on COVID-19 booster immunogenicity (Vaccine, 2021), antimicrobial stewardship challenges (Antibiotics, 2021), and enhanced disinfection impact on Acinetobacter baumannii (Antimicrob Resist Infect Control, 2020).

Dr. Moghnieh held leadership roles in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) in several tertiary-care hospitals. As former president of the Lebanese Society for Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology, her dedication to enhancing IPC practices in Lebanon spans since 2011, focusing on hand hygiene, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and AMS. Since 2018, she has been a part-time consultant for the WHO, developing National Action Plans for AMR control in several Middle Eastern countries, including Lebanon, Syria, Kuwait, Libya, Tunisia

and Somalia and UAE. Additionally, she acted as an external consultant for WHO, aiding in developing national IPC guidelines in countries like Lebanon, Iraq, Palestine, and Jordan. Prof. Moghnieh has been nominated as a Member of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group for Antimicrobial Resistance (STAG-AMR) at the WHO for the 2024-2027 term.

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