

Profile

“ Mooza Alkhinji: My ambition is to have all our projects published in science journals and co-operate with Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) to discover new drugs for cancer patients”



Mooza Alkhinji

Name: Mooza Alkhinji

Major: Biomedical Science

Graduated in: BSc in Biomedical Science 1997, MSc in Immunology 2000

Occupation: Senior Lab Technician, Department of Health Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Qatar University.

What is your current occupation?

I prepare proposals for research projects, choose the techniques to be used and analyze the results. It is my responsibility to evaluate new machines, help students to use statistic program for data analysis, and ensure safety hygiene in the lab. I also evaluate offers from companies and act as clinical coordinator between Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) and Qatar University (QU).

Can you tell us about your University studies and of your specialization?

I graduated in biomedical science gaining the first BSc in the GCC for labs. We studied general sciences related to hematology, histopathology, cytopathology, endocrinology, microbiology, virology, immunology and molecular biology. Then I did my master's study on immunology lab in the UK.

When did you join the CAS?

I started working with the Health Sciences Department at the College of Arts and Sciences in April 2008.

How did you join the CAS?

I worked in the molecular virology lab of HMC where I helped Dr Asmaa Al-Thani, Head of Department of Health Sciences at the College of Arts and Sciences, in her project. She offered me the opportunity to join CAS's Health Sciences Dept to establish a new research lab and procure all the required updated equipment.

Did you have any experience prior to joining the QU?

I was a supervisor in the molecular virology lab where we analyzed all viruses like Hepatitis C and B and others in sample patients.

What do you like most about your current job?

I am very comfortable conducting experiments, analyzing the results and happy seeing them published in science journals. We moved to a new building for research where we have enough space for all projects, especially now that we have more than five big projects.

What challenges do you face in doing your job?

The greatest challenge lies in resolving all problems that occur while running the protocol. One has to be very patient when this happens.

Which of your projects do you prefer most?

I like my master's project (modification of T cell for gene therapy). Since working in QU, the one I like most is the one that dealt with detection of HPV and genotyping and discovering a new vaccine for it.

Tell us about your future ambitions in your field of work?

My ambition is to have all our projects published in science journals and co-operate with Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) to discover new drugs for cancer patients as we have all the facilities to get it done.

What would your final word and advice for the new generation of graduates be?

They should be encouraged that in field research there will always be new methods to be discovered, techniques other than routine work. They should know that for new machines and techniques to be useful, they must cooperate with each other and even with collaborators in other countries.