

**Imperial College
London**



**WHO Collaborating Centre
for Public Health Education and Training**

intensive course in

**E-Health Leadership and
Implementation Strategy in Iraq**



Directed by

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■ Introduction

Public healthcare education and research in Iraq has been deteriorating for several decades because of neglect, sanctions, absence of internet services and turmoil; and was compounded in the last decade by further instability and violence. It is widely recognised that Iraq lacks high quality healthcare services in urban and rural areas. The general population health status is poor, the prevalence of chronic disease and cancer has increased in recent years, and there is a clear lack of evidence in prevention and disease management strategy. Healthcare in Iraq still faces major challenges, especially linked to high mortality rates in infants and younger women. Most of these challenges can be alleviated by using e-health and ICT technologies and strategies.



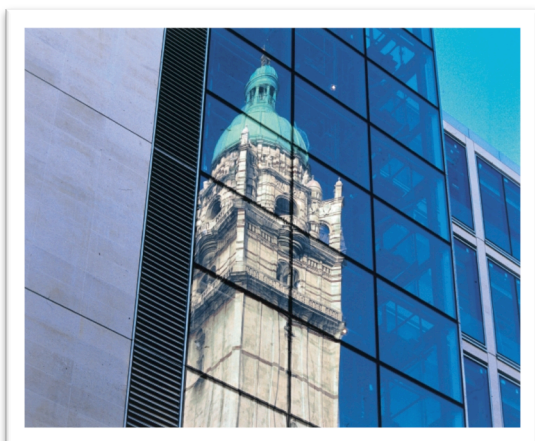
In order to prevent further deterioration of the Iraqi healthcare system, it is imperative to introduce innovative ICT strategies

research and medical education. Based on innovative communication, computing and internet technologies, these strategies will improve healthcare services in Iraq. Since 2003, there has been an exponential increase in the use of computers, mobile phone and Internet technologies, which constitute an existing and enabling infrastructure for better healthcare delivery system and e-health services in the country. The concept of e-health, broadly defined as 'the use of information and communication technology for enhanced health', is becoming a major global economic tool and a real driving force for the improvement of healthcare services in both developing and developed countries.

"Global health needs are changing rapidly, and today's health leaders need to keep up"

Professor Salman Rawaf,
Director of the WHOCC

The implementation of such e-health and ICT services in Iraq became a reality with the publication, in 2011, of an Iraq e-health strategy document by the ministry of health and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). This strategy document advocates the best practices for the implementation of e-health technologies for the delivery of primary care and patient centred services with the aim of improving healthcare in the Iraqi population in both urban and rural areas and in priority areas.



Consistently rated amongst the five world's best universities, Imperial College London is a science-based institution with a reputation for excellence in teaching, training and research. It attracts 14,000 students and 6,000 staff of the highest international quality. Innovative research at the College explores the interface between science, medicine, engineering and business, delivering practical solutions that improve quality of life and the environment - underpinned by a dynamic enterprise culture.

Since its foundation in 1907, Imperial's contributions to society have included the discovery of penicillin, the development of holography and the foundations of fibre optics. This commitment to

the application of research for the benefit of all continues today, with current focuses including interdisciplinary collaborations to improve global health, tackle climate change, develop sustainable sources of energy and address security challenges.

Imperial College London is fully committed to work with countries around the world to develop better health systems; preparing new generations of high quality and competent health professionals; building capacities through human resource development and finding solutions to current health problems - all aimed at improving the health of the populations and providing better health for all.

With that in mind, Imperial College London, through its WHO Collaborating Centre for Education and Training and its Global E-Health Unit, has developed an innovative course on **E-health Leadership and Implementation Strategy in Iraq**. The course encapsulates a variety of skills-development disciplines, including mobile health, electronic patient records and the implementation of e-health strategies. The learning objectives are achieved with the means of interactive teaching and hands-on experience through highly skilled tutors, demonstrations, case studies and problem-based learning.

■ E-Health Leadership and Implementation Strategy in Iraq course

The e-health leadership and implementation strategy course is, in the long run, expected to bring considerable benefits to health services in Iraq. Giving key decision-makers in Iraq the opportunity to develop their understanding and skills in e-health will lead to improvements in the implementation of e-health services such as electronic patient records, electronic health records, mobile health, and better delivery of primary and tertiary care services.

The course will be led by a multi-disciplinary faculty from the primary care and public health department at Imperial College. Speakers will have world leading expertise and backgrounds in public health, e-health, engineering, and medicine, with real-world experience implementing health information systems around the globe, including Iraq.



The key aims of this short, intensive course are to:

- (i) Provide Iraqi healthcare managers, doctors and medical experts the necessary knowledge in e-health leadership and capacity building for the implementation of the Iraq e-health strategy.
- (ii) Disseminate the key implementation mechanisms of the Iraq e-health strategy and the best approaches to translate them into sustainable projects and services.
- (iii) Communicate the potential issues and barriers of the e-health strategy, and delivering best models tailored for healthcare services in Iraq.
- (iv) Introduce and innovate, and ensure the successful application of mobile health services

in Iraq.

■ Learning objectives

The objective of this course is to provide Iraq healthcare managers, medical personnel, and doctors the necessary knowledge and know how required for e-health leadership and policy, thereby guaranteeing the successful implementation of the e-health strategy in Iraq.

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Assess and appraise the existing infrastructure of e-health services in poor resource and developing countries
2. Take practical steps to implement key recommendations of the Iraq e-health strategy.
3. Identify health care gaps, challenges, and inefficiencies in the resource-poor settings of Iraq, especially in the primary care sector.
4. Develop strategies on the use of information systems to address current challenges and improve quality of care in Iraq
5. Demonstrate e-health leadership, project management and coordination skills in multidisciplinary teams, including evaluating and measuring impact.

■ Course structure and syllabus

The course is delivered in an intensive five day block, over a one week period. The modules are run on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, from 10 am to 5pm; while Wednesday is reserved for self-study, discussion and reflection. A variety of teaching methods and styles are combined to produce a stimulating and challenging learning experience which will include presentations, multi-media workshops, round table exercises, class discussions, active learning seminars and hands-on sessions.

Core Modules of the Course include:

Day-1 (Monday):

- (i) Introduction and overview of e-health and the Iraq e-health strategy.
- (ii) Discussions and seminar on global e-health and impact of e-health in low resource countries.
- (iii) E-health models and delivery structures in the developing world.

Day-2 (Tuesday):

- (i) E-Health policy and leadership.
- (ii) Introduction to the WHO e-health toolkit.
- (iii) Key healthcare challenges in Iraq, e-health solutions and implementation issues.
- (iv) Capacity building and training issues in Iraq (practical workshop, presentations and discussions).

Day-3 (Wednesday):

- (i) Strategies to promote and develop a highly skilled e-health IT technical/support workforce in Iraq.
- (ii) Identification of priority e-health services for implementation and plans for pilot studies.
- (iii) Self-study assignments and group discussions.

Day-4 (Thursday):

- (i) Introduction to Electronic Patient and Health Record systems.
- (ii) Introduction to Mobile health and its impact on key Iraq healthcare services.
- (iii) Examples and applications of m-health pilot services in Iraq and lessons learnt.

Day -5 (Friday):

- (i) Community healthcare mobilisation and health promotion strategies using e-health.
- (ii) E-health Standards/Interoperability and Enterprise Architectures for e-health.
- (iii) Concluding discussions and future plans.

■ Course fees and location

Imperial College London WHO Collaborating Centre is a not for profit organisation which aims to fulfil WHO's mandate of 'better health through quality health and healthcare services delivered by competent and highly skilled workforce.' The course fees will be \$3000 per attendee. The fees include all the course material, catering, and other administrative costs. The course will be offered in various settings within the various Imperial College establishments, Imperial College NHS Trust Hospitals and NHS Primary care clinics.



Faculty Members

Prof A Majeed, Head of Primary Care and Public Health Department, Imperial College London
Prof S Rawaf, Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre, Imperial College London (WHOCC, ICL), UK
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Global E-Health Unit

Dr Josip Car, Director of the Global E-Health Unit, ICL, UK

Honorary Faculty Members

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The WHO Collaborating Centre for Public Health Education and Training Imperial College London was designated for such a function by the WHO Global Committee with the support of the British Government. The WHO Collaborating Centre is part of the Department Primary Care & Public Health, School of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College London. It is currently involved in several major international projects supporting countries in their health system development, advancing academic institutions, enhancing the role of primary health care, strengthening human resource capacity including public health and clinical training and educational activities, enhancing institutional and individual quality and performance, addressing the escalating problem worldwide of non-communicable diseases, promoting public health principles and preparing countries for man-made and/or natural disasters through emergency preparedness and planning. The Centre's work focuses on health as complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease. Our remit extends to many countries around the world and includes all six WHO Regions. The Centre continues to expand and has been increasingly active in strengthening primary care and public health. Through conference papers, workshops and networking, publications have been varied and prolific. Research has continued into human resource development, service quality, patient safety and public engagement. Consultancy work has focused on health system, human resource, and capacity development, academic advancement and disseminating good practice.

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