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# Dr. Samar J. Melhem, PhD

Assistant Professor of Digital Health and Pharmacy Informatics

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Location: Amman, Jordan

## Professional Summary

Experienced researcher and Assistant Professor specializing in Digital Health and Pharmacy Informatics, with a strong focus on advancing public health through digital solutions. Recognized for expertise in developing and assessing digital health policies, cancer care services, and pharmacy informatics. Proven success in teaching and curriculum development for pharmacy students, supporting digital literacy, e-health engagement, and system reforms. Dedicated to bridging technology with healthcare practices to improve patient outcomes, particularly in cancer survivorship and chronic disease management.

## Research Interests

- Digital Health Policy and Health Systems Research: Exploring the impact of digital policies on healthcare accessibility, equity, and quality.
- Digital Solutions for Cancer Care and Mental Health: Innovating digital applications to support cancer care services and enhance mental health outcomes for survivors.
- Digital Pharmacy Practice: Implementing digital tools to advance pharmacy services, medication management, and patient education.
- Technology-Enabled Health System Reforms: Promoting reforms through technology integration, fostering improved health service delivery.

## Key Skills and Competencies

- Pharmacy Informatics: EHR optimization, telehealth integration, health informatics analysis, and digital data management.
- Research and Analytical Skills: Systematic reviews, clinical trials, qualitative analysis, and health policy assessment.
- Digital Health Solutions: Development of mHealth applications, digital health service integration, and patient-centered innovations.
- Educational Expertise: Curriculum design, interdisciplinary teaching, student mentorship, and conference presentations.

## Professional Experience

### Assistant Professor of Digital Health and Pharmacy Informatics

The University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan
June 2024 – Present

- Leading research on digital health interventions to support public health initiatives, focusing on cancer care, chronic disease management, and smoking cessation.
- Supervising student projects on integrating digital health practices with pharmacy informatics, fostering digital competency among students.

### Teaching Assistant in Digital Health

Kingston University, United Kingdom
2022 – 2023

- Delivered courses in Pharmacy Informatics, Digital Health, and Pharmacy Practices for bachelor’s students, focusing on digital literacy and informatics application in healthcare.
- Developed course content and mentored students in projects aimed at digital health solutions and technology-enabled pharmacy practices.

### Lecturer in Pharmacy Practice

Al Ahliyya Amman University, Amman, Jordan
2013 – 2017

- Taught core modules in pharmacy practice, emphasizing clinical skills, patient-centered care, and digital applications in pharmaceutical sciences.
- Introduced digital resources and methodologies, contributing to enhanced student engagement and modernized course offerings.

### PhD Researcher

Kingston University, London, United Kingdom
December 2018 – June 2024

- Conducted pioneering research on digital health solutions to support mental health and cancer survivorship, with findings published in top-tier journals.
- Collaborated with interdisciplinary teams to investigate health system reforms driven by digital innovation.

## Education

PhD in Digital Health Solutions
Kingston University, United Kingdom, 2019 – 2023

MBA in Total Quality Management (TQM)
The University of Jordan, 2012 – 2014

Master’s Degree in Clinical Pharmacy
The University of Jordan, 2008 – 2010

Bachelor of Pharmacy (B.Pharm.)
The University of Jordan, 2003 – 2008

## Certifications

Certified Lead Quality Management System Auditor (QMS)- Lloyd's Register

Certified Internal Quality Management Auditor – Lloyd's Register

## Research and Publications

1. Melhem, S.J., Nabhani-Gebara, S., Kayyali, R. Digital trends, digital literacy, and e-health engagement predictors of breast and colorectal cancer survivors: a population-based cross-sectional survey. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 20(2), 1472. 2023.

2. Melhem, S.J., Nabhani-Gebara, S., Kayyali, R. Informational needs and predictors of Jordanian breast and colorectal cancer survivors: a national cross-sectional study. Supportive Care in Cancer, 30(8), 6827-6837. 2022.

3. Melhem, S.J., Nabhani-Gebara, S., Kayyali, R. Latency of breast cancer stigma during survivorship and its influencing factors: A qualitative study. Frontiers in Oncology, 13, 1075298. 2023.

4. Melhem, S.J., Aiedeh, K.M., Hadidi, K.A. Effects of a 10-day course of a high dose calciferol versus a single mega dose of ergocalciferol in correcting vitamin D deficiency. Annals of Saudi Medicine, 35(1), 13-18. 2015.

5. Melhem, S.J., Nabhani-Gebara, S., Kayyali, R. Leveraging e-health for enhanced cancer care service models in middle-income contexts: Qualitative insights from oncology care providers. Digital Health, 10, 20552076241237668. 2024.

6. Melhem, S.J., Kayyali, R. Multilayer framework for digital multicomponent platform design for colorectal survivors and carers: a qualitative study. Frontiers in Public Health, 11, 1272344. 2023.

7. Melhem, S.J., Nabhani-Gebara, S., Kayyali, R. Cancer literacy among Jordanian colorectal cancer survivors and informal carers: Qualitative explorations. Frontiers in Public Health, 11, 1116882. 2023.

## Reviewer for Journals

Actively reviewing for multiple international journals in digital health, informatics, and pharmacy practice. (Cancer Supportive Care, Cancer Medicine, BMC public Health, BMC Psychology,Health systems and Policy, Digital Health, Scientific reports, BMJ open)

## Professional Affiliations

- Member, International Society for Digital Health and Pharmacology (ISDHP)
- Member, American Pharmacists Association (APhA)

## Conferences and Presentations

- Presented research on digital health trends and pharmacy informatics at British Onclogy Pharmacy Association (BOPA )2020 and BOPA 2021, focusing on the role of digital applications in enhancing patient care and pharmacy practice.

## Languages

- English (Full Professional)
- Arabic (Native)
- French (Professional Working)