



*Mission Permanente
de la République Islamique d'Iran
auprès des Nations Unies
et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève*

In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Ref. 2050/1670090

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Director-General of the World Health Organization, and with reference to the letter, dated 4 April 2023, pertaining to the nomination for the post of the Regional Director of the Eastern Mediterranean of the World Health Organization, has the honor to transmit the letter of His Excellency Dr. Bahram Einollahi, Minister of Health and Medical Education of the I.R. of Iran, with its enclosures, on the nomination of Dr. Ali AKBARI SARI for the above mentioned post.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Director-General of the World Health Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 13 July 2023



Director-General
c/o World Health Organization – Office of the Legal Counsel
Office 7058
Avenue Appia 20
1211 Geneva 27



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

Ref: B/159
Date: 12 July 2023

Dear Dr. Tedros,

As you are kindly aware, the Islamic Republic of Iran's healthcare system has achieved the highest standards in the region approved by the World Health Organization. The healthcare system in Iran is equipped with a very well-trained and capable team, a vast healthcare network and infrastructure, as well as high-standard training programs to educate the next generations of healthcare workers. In this context, I would like to refer to the letter of EMRO Regional Director No. 01/04 dated 3 April 2023, inviting us to nominate candidate for the post of WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean, I have the honor to inform you that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has decided to present candidature of Prof. Ali Akbari Sari, for the post of Regional Director for Eastern Mediterranean Office. EMRO Regional Office is one of the biggest specialized agencies in the region, with lofty objective of attaining the highest possible level of health for all people in the region. In this regard, strong leadership, expertise in public and international health are indispensable factors in successfully managing a regional office of such magnitude.

Prof. Ali Akbari Sari, is a Professor of Health Policy and Management and Head of Department of Health Management, Policy, and Economics at School of Public Health (SPH), Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS), and also visiting lecturer at York University; a search coordinator for the Cochrane Wounds Group; and a Research Fellow in Health Services Research at the NHS (National Health Service) Center for Reviews and Dissemination in York, UK. He is currently the President of Iran's National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) from 2020. He has played a pivotal role in implementing national programs aimed at enhancing public health within Iran. Under his leadership, the NIHR has emerged as a key player in evidence-informed policymaking and effective management of COVID-19 epidemic in the country. The chairman of the Committee for Economics of Education at Iran's Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME); the chairman of the committee for Health Policy and Systems Research at Iran's National Institute for Medical Sciences Research (NIMAD); a member of Iran National Academy of Medical Sciences are his other national positions.

He has served as a longstanding member of the advisory committees at the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) of the World Health Organization (WHO); including the advisory committees for Patient Safety Friendly Hospitals, Health System Governance and Evidence Informed Policy Making.

Throughout his career, he has been actively involved in diverse endeavors aimed at advancing public and global health. These include education, research, policy analysis, communication, consultation services, and various other activities. Notably, he has supervised and mentored over 100 MSc, MPH, and PhD students from diverse nations. Additionally, he has published extensively, with more than 300 papers appearing in esteemed peer-reviewed journals. He has established extensive international

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collaborations with universities, academic centers, and influential UN agencies such as the WHO.

In his role as the Director of Iran's NIHR, he has played a pivotal role in implementing national programs aimed at enhancing public health within Iran. Under his leadership, the NIHR has emerged as a key player in evidence-informed policymaking and effective management of COVID-19 epidemic in the country.

During his tenure as the Dean of the School of Public Health (SPH) at TUMS, he made substantial contributions to expanding the school's educational, research, and international initiatives. Specifically, he has played a crucial role in the development and establishment of various national and international programs. These include programs in Health Economics, Health Policy, Health Technology Assessment, and Health Services Management. Through these educational opportunities, we aim to equip future professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge to address complex public health challenges and contribute to evidence-informed decision-making.

Furthermore, during his management in the SPH, the school has expanded a strong network of laboratories that currently serve as an integrated part of Iran's National Health Network and Iran CDC. Notably, these laboratories, including the Leishmaniasis, Malaria, and Virology labs, function as reference and national labs for the country and work in strong collaboration with the WHO.

He has been actively involved in implementing an international diploma course focused on malaria program planning and management. This collaborative effort between the SPH, WHO, and Iran's MOHME has successfully conducted 15 iterations of the program. The course attracted participants from around the world, particularly the EMR, contributing to enhanced capacity and expertise in addressing this significant public health challenge.

In view of above, The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran attaches utmost importance to the nomination of Prof. Ali Akbari Sari, and firmly believes that given his qualifications and outstanding professional achievements, Prof. Akbari Sari, will make substantial contribution to the region and fundamental purpose of the WHO. Therefore, The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran would highly appreciate the invaluable support by your side for the candidature to the post of the Regional Director.

Enclosed herewith is Prof. Akbari Sari's documents along with his curriculum vitae. Thanking you in advance for your invaluable support to this very important post, I wish you continued good health and all the best in your life endeavors.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,


Prof. Bahram Einollahi, MD
Minister

H.E. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus,
Honorable Director-General, WHO

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IN THE NAME OF GOD



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**CC: H.E. Dr. Ahmed Al-Mandari,
Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean**

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Brief Curriculum Vitae
For Dr Ali AkbariSari, MD, PhD (10/07/2023)

Personal and contact information		
First name: Ali	Middle name: -	Last name: Akbari Sari
Nationality: Iran	Date of Birth: 23.10.1970	Gender: Male / Married
Address 1: I.R.I NIHR, No. 70, Bozorghmehr St., Vesal Shirazi Ave, Keshavarz Blvd, Tehran, Iran		
Address 2: Department of Health Management, Policy and Economics, 4th Floor, New Building, School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS), Poursina Ave, Tehran, Iran (P.O.B: 1417613191)		
Email: akbarisari@tums.ac.ir	Mobile Number: +98(0)9127251294	

Summary
<p>I am currently a Professor of Health Policy and Management and Head of Department of Health Management, Policy and Economics at School of Public Health (SPH), Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS). Additionally, I am the director of the Master of Public Health (MPH) programs offered by the SPH. <i>I was appointed as the Director of Iran's National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) in 2020, a role that currently takes a significant proportion of my time and effort.</i></p> <p>Moreover; I am the chairman of the committee for Economics of Education at Iran's Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MoHME); the chairman of the committee for Health Policy and Systems Research at Iran's National Institute for Medical Sciences Research (NIMAD); a member of Iran National Academy of Medical Sciences; a member of the advisory committee for the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI), the National Malaria Elimination Program, and the National Scientific Committee for COVID-19 at Iran's MoHME.</p> <p>I have served as a longstanding member of the advisory committees at the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) of the World Health Organization (WHO); including the advisory committees for Patient Safety Friendly Hospitals, Health System Governance and Evidence Informed Policymaking.</p> <p>I have been elected as the vice-president of the Iranian Public Health Association and also serve as a board member of the Iran Hospital Management Association. Additionally, I hold a professorship at the Department of Pharmacoeconomics and Management, School of Pharmacy, TUMS.</p> <p>I have served as an Associate Editor for 'Hakim Health Systems Research Journal' and the Editorial Board member for 'Hospital Journal' and 'Health Technology Assessment Journal'.</p> <p>Previously, I was the Dean of School of Public Health and also the Founding Head of the Department of Global Health and Public Policy at TUMS; Director of the Center for Iran Scientific Medical Journals at Iran's MoHME; a Visiting Lecturer at York University; a Search Coordinator for the Cochrane Wounds Group; and a Research Fellow in Health Services Research at the NHS (National Health Service) Center for Reviews and Dissemination in York, UK. After completing my MD degree from TUMS in 1998, I practiced as a general practitioner within Iran's Primary Healthcare System. Building upon this foundational medical knowledge, I could award a scholarship from Iran MoHME to pursue a PhD in Health Policy and Management at the University of York in the United Kingdom, successfully completing the program in 2006.</p> <p>Throughout my career, I have been actively involved in diverse endeavors aimed at advancing public and global health. These include education, research, policy analysis, communication, consultation services, and various other activities. Notably, I have supervised and mentored over 100 MSc, MPH, and PhD students from diverse nations. Additionally, I have published extensively, with more than 300 papers appearing in peer-reviewed</p>

journals. I have also established extensive international collaborations with universities, academic centers, and influential UN agencies such as the WHO. In my role as the Director of Iran's NIHR, I have played a pivotal role in implementing national programs aimed at enhancing public health within Iran. Under my leadership, the NIHR has emerged as a key player in evidence-informed policymaking and effective management of COVID-19 epidemic in the country. By prioritizing rigorous research and informed decision-making, we strive to improve health outcomes and ensure the well-being of the population.

During my tenure as the Dean of the SPH at TUMS, I made substantial contributions to expanding the school's educational, research, and international activities. Specifically, I played a crucial role in the development and establishment of various national and international programs. These include programs in Health Economics, Health Policy, Health Technology Assessment and Health Services Management. I have been actively involved in implementing an international diploma course focused on malaria program planning and management. This collaborative effort between the SPH, WHO, and Iran's MoHME has successfully conducted 15 iterations of the program. The course attracted participants from around the world, particularly the EMR, contributing to enhanced capacity and expertise in addressing this significant public health challenge. Furthermore, during my management in the SPH, the school has expanded a strong network of laboratories that currently serve as an integrated part of Iran's National Health Network and Iran CDC. Notably, these laboratories, including the Leishmaniasis, Malaria, and Virology labs, function as reference and national labs for the country and work in strong collaboration with the WHO.

Qualifications		
Date	Institution	Qualification obtained
2006	NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, York, UK	Post-doctoral Research Fellowship
2006	Department of Health Sciences, University of York, UK	PhD in Health Policy and Management
2003	University of York, UK	Post-Graduate Certificate in Claims Handling and Clinical Risk Management
1998	Faculty of Medicine, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran	MD (Doctor of Medicine)

Current Positions Held:	
Date started	Position
Jul 2020 (ongoing)	Director, I.R.I National Institute of Health Research (NIHR), Tehran, Iran
Aug 2020 (ongoing)	Head, Department of Health Management, Policy and Economics; School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran
Aug 2020 (ongoing)	Head, MPH Programs, School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran
Nov 2015 (ongoing)	Professor, Health Policy and Management, Department of Health Management, Policy and Economics, School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran
Dec 2007 (ongoing)	Associate Editor, Hakim Journal of Health Systems Research, MoHME, Iran
Oct 2018 (ongoing)	Vice-president and board member, Iran Public Health Association

Apr 2014 (ongoing)	Chair, National Examination Board for Health Policy, Economics, and Management, MoHME, Iran
Aug 2021 (ongoing)	Chair, Committee for Health Policy and Systems Research, Iran National Institute for Medical Sciences Research (NIMAD), Iran

Selected Previous Positions Held:

Date	Position
Nov 2013 - Jul 2020	Dean, School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
Apr 2013 - Apr 2015	Founding Director, Department of Global Health and Public Policy, School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
Oct 2007 - Jul 2022	Director, Centre for Publication of Iran Medical Journals, MoHME, Iran
Apr 2012 – Jul 2019	Advisor for Deputy for Research, MoHME, Iran
Oct 2008 - Oct 2013	Deputy Dean for Education, School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
Oct 2007 - Sep 2008	Head of Education Development Centre (EDO), School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
May 2009 - Jul 2020	Professor, Department of Pharmaco-Economics, School of Pharmacy, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran
May 2016 - Apr 2019	Chair, Committee for Olympiad National Exam in Health Services Management, Iran
Jan 2007 - Jan 2010	Visiting Lecturer, Health Services Research, Department of Health Sciences, University of York, UK
Jun 2006 - Jan 2007	Post-doctoral Research Fellow, NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, University of York, UK
2019 – 2021	Chair, Health Economics Committee, Imam-Khomeini 1000-Bed Hospital, Tehran, Iran
Jun 2006 - Oct 2007	DARE reviewer (0.2 wte), NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, York University, UK
Jun 2006 - Jan 2007	Reviewer for HTA and NICE (0.2 wte), NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, UK
Feb 2003 - May 2006	Research Fellow (0.2 wte), Department of Health Sciences, University of York, UK
Feb 2003 - May 2006	Search Coordinator and peer reviewer (0.2 wte), Cochrane Wounds Group, York, UK
Feb 2003 – Oct 2007	National Patient Safety Network Advisor, UK
1998 - 2000	General Practitioner, Karami Clinic, Tehran, Iran

Membership in Selected Committees

Date	Committee Name
2007 – ongoing	Commission for Accreditation and Improvement of Iran Medical Journals, MoHME, Iran
2021 – ongoing	Strategic Committee of National Institute for Medical Sciences Research (NIMAD), Iran
2021 – ongoing	National Technical Advisory Group for Immunization, MoHME, Iran
2021 – ongoing	Technical Advisory Group on Malaria Elimination and Certification, MoHME, Iran

2021 – ongoing	Board of Trustees, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
2022 – ongoing	National Academic Promotions Committee, MoHME, Iran
2019 – ongoing	National Committee of COVID-19 Management and Control, MoHME, Iran
2019 – ongoing	National Ethics Committee for Health Research, MoHME, Iran
2014 – 2018	National Committee for Drug Registration, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Iran
2009 – ongoing	National Examination Board for Health Policy, Economics, and Management, Iran
2019 – 2022	Advisory Board, Iranian Medical Council, Iran
2021 – ongoing	Member of High Council for Scholarship, MoHME, Iran
2021 – ongoing	Member of High Council for Accreditation of Academic Degrees, MoHME, Iran
2010 – ongoing	National Board for Policymaking and Planning of MPH Programs, MoHME, Iran
2007 – ongoing	Board Member, Iran Association of Hospital Management, Iran
2021 – ongoing	Strategic Committee for Improving Productivity and Equity, MoHME, Iran
2007 – ongoing	Member of Research Council in the following research centers (RC): Knowledge Utilization RC, Equity in Health RC, Human Resources RC, Health Law RC; Iran

Academic Profile (July 2023)	
Number of Papers in Scopus	262
H index in Scopus	26
Citations in Scopus	2998
Number of Papers in Google Scholar	>300
Citations in Google Scholar	6514
H index in Google Scholar	40
Research Projects Completed (as PI or Co-PI)	>100

Selected Recent Research Projects	
1	Implementing Frontline Service Readiness, Capacity Assessments and Continuity of Essential Health Services in Health Facilities (Primary Health care and Hospitals) and Communities' Needs and Perceptions for 4 rounds (National Survey), Grant from WHO HQ in collaboration with MoHME. (2021-2023)- Principal Investigator.
2	Supporting Master trainers on patient safety friendly Primary Health Center Framework and Developing Patient Safety Training Packages for PSFH (implementing program at the national level) WHO-Regional Office. Grant from WHO EMRO in collaboration with MoHME. (2021-2023)- Principal Investigator.
3	Case-study of evidence-informed policy-making on COVID-19 for NEDtP members (Iran), Grant from WHO EMRO in collaboration with MoHME. (2021-2023)- Principal Investigator.
4	Development of a transferability tool for adaptation of HTA studies conducted by one country to another country context (in EMR), Grant from WHO EMRO in collaboration with MoHME. (2022)- Principal Investigator.
5	Conducting a Review of Expanded Program of Immunization in Iran considering COVID-19 implications. Grant from WHO EMRO in collaboration with MoHME. (2023)- Principal Investigator.

6	Implementation of WISN (Workload Indicators for Staffing Needs) as part of a roll out plan (Primary health care and Hospital level). Grant From WHO WCO in collaboration with MoHME. (2022)- Principal Investigator.
7	Implementing the National Health workforce Accounts (NHWA) at the National level. Grant from WHO WCO in collaboration with MoHME. (2022)- Principal Investigator.
8	National Health Accounts and household healthcare expenditure and utilization studies (set of projects 2020-2023). Funding: Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Tehran University of Medical Sciences. Responsibilities: Co-investigator.
9	National Survey of Iranian General Population to Estimate a Value Set for the EQ-5D-5L. Funding: Iranian National Science Foundation, School of Public Health, Equity Research Centre, Knowledge Utilization Research Centre and Tehran University of Medical Sciences in collaboration with the EuroQol Group. (2021)-Principal Investigator.
10	Survey of Iranian General Adult Population to Estimate a Value Set for the SF-6-new version. Funding: Iran MoHME. (2018)-Principal Investigator.
11	A set of Health Technology Assessment projects (over 20 projects). Funding: Iran MoHME (2007-2023)- Principal Investigator.

Publications	Date
Institutionalization of the COVID-19 rapid response system for health system policy-makers in the Islamic Republic of Iran ; A Akbari-Sari, E Ahmadnezhad, Z Abdi, S Riazi-Isfahani, S Saffarpour East Mediterr Health J 29 (6)	2023
Policy analysis of nutrition stewardship for prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in Iran ; M Amerzadeh, A Takian, H Pouraram, A Akbari-Sari, A Ostovar BMC Health Services Research 23 (1), 1-8	2023
Utilization Trend of Parenteral Antidiabetic Drugs in Type 2 Diabetic Patients Covered by Iran Health Insurance Organization from 2011 to 2030 ; A Shojaee, A Akbari-Sari, F Farzadfar, M Davari, R Daroudi, SMSP Mousavi; Iranian Journal of Public Health 52 (5), 1071-1080	2023
Iranian medical students' tendency to migrate and its associated factors M Taherahmadi, M Khabaz Mafinejad, A Sayarifard, A Akbari Sari, BMC Medical Education 23 (1), 232	2023
Comparing the Effectiveness of Motor Ambulances in Pre-hospital Emergency Medical Services Compared to Ambulances in Tehran City, Iran R Mirshafiee, A Akbari Sari, V Delshad, M Sayadnasiri, PH Kolivand, ...	2023
Barriers to Mental and Social Health Programs in Schools: A Qualitative Study N Baghian, M Shati, A Akbari-Sari, A Eftekhari, A Rasolnezhad, F Nanaei, Iranian Journal of Psychiatry	2023
A national survey of Iranian general population to estimate a value set for the EQ-5D-5L S Afshari, R Daroudi, R Goudarzi, A Mahboub-Ahari, M Yaseri, A Akbari-Sari, Quality of Life Research, 1-9	2023
The influencing factors of health-related quality of life of the general population of Iran during the COVID-19 Pandemic M Shirvani Shiri, H Karami, H Ameri, A Akbari Sari, M Tatari,	2023

Publications	Date
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Health-Related Quality of Life in Osteoporosis Patients with and without Fractures in Tehran, Iran; M Rajabi, A Ostovar, A Akbari-Sari, SM Sajjadi-Jazi, A Mousavi, B Larijani, Journal of Bone Metabolism 30 (1), 37	2023
Economic barriers and gaps to reach the desirable consumption of salt, sugar, and fat in Iran: a qualitative study; M Amerzadeh, A Takian, H Pouraram, A Akbari Sari, A Ostovar Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition 42 (1), 8	2023
The health system barriers to a healthy diet in Iran M Amerzadeh, A Takian, H Pouraram, A Akbari Sari, A Ostovar Plos one 18 (1), e0278280	2023
Payment systems for dialysis and their effects: a scoping review Z Emrani, M Amiresmaili, R Daroudi, MT Najafi, A Akbari Sari BMC Health Services Research 23 (1), 45	2023
Two Decades of Experience of Using Clinical Practice Guidelines in Iran (2001-2021) M Moradi-Joo, A Akbari-Sari, M Seyed-Nezhad, SM Rayegani, Journal of School of Public Health and Institute of Public Health Research	2022
A comprehensive review of official discount rates in guidelines of health economic evaluations over time: the trends and roots; E Khorasani, M Davari, A Kebriaeezadeh, F Fatemi, A Akbari Sari; The European Journal of Health Economics 23 (9), 1577-1590	2022
Policy analysis of socio-cultural determinants of salt, sugar and fat consumption in Iran M Amerzadeh, A Takian, H Pouraram, A Akbari-Sari, A Ostovar BMC nutrition 8 (1), 1-7	2022
Public preferences regarding the priority setting criteria of health interventions for budget allocation: results of a survey of Iranian adults A Darvishi, R Daroudi, M Yaseri, A Akbari-Sari BMC Public Health 22 (1), 2038	2022
Measuring Health System Efficiency; A Protocol Study FH Lotfi, A Olyaeemanesh, E Mohamadi, R Majdzadeh, A Akbari-Sari, I Harirchi, Health Technology Assessment in Action 6 (1)	2022
Breastfeeding Duration and Its Effective Factors in Kerman Province, Iran S Mirafzali, A Akbari Sari, A Iranpour, S Alizadeh Global Pediatric Health 9, 2333794X221133019	2022
The economic burden of esophageal cancer in Iran R Daroudi, A Nahvijou, M Arab, A Faramarzi, B Kalaghchi, A Akbari-Sari; Indian Journal of Cancer 59 (4), 499-506	2022
Public Preferences and Willingness to Pay for a COVID-19 Vaccine in Iran: A Discrete Choice Experiment; A Darrudi, R Daroudi, M Yunesian, A Akbari Sari PharmacoEconomics-Open 6 (5), 669-679	2022
Diagnostic Accuracy of Opportunistic Breast Cancer Screening Based on Mammography in Iran A Ebrahimi, A Arian, A Akbari-Sari, N Ahmadinejad Iranian Journal of Radiology 19 (3)	2022
Challenges of and corrective recommendations for healthcare-associated infection's case findings and reporting from local to national level in Iran: a qualitative study	2022

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The impact of social determinants of health on early childhood development: a qualitative context analysis in Iran O Atashbahar, A Akbari-Sari, A Takian, A Olyaeemanesh, E Mohamadi, ... BMC Public Health 22 (1), 1149	2022
Health related quality of life in adults with asthma: a systematic review to identify the values of EQ-5D-5L instrument S Afshari, H Ameri, RA Daroudi, M Shiravani, H Karami, A Akbari Sari Journal of Asthma 59 (6), 1203-1212	2022
Incidence rate and financial burden of medical errors and policy interventions to address them: a multi-method study protocol E Ahsani-Estahbanati, L Doshmangir, B Najafi, A Akbari Sari, ... Health Services and Outcomes Research Methodology 22 (2), 244-252	2022
COVID-19 in homelessness: a worldwide scoping review on vulnerabilities, risks, and risk management M Nouri, A Ostadtaghizadeh, A Akbari-Sari Social Work in Public Health 37 (4), 303-318	2022
Breastfeeding duration and its effective factors in mothers with children aged 30-36 months in Kerman province, Iran S Mirafzali, A Akbari-Sari, S Alizadeh, A Iranpour	2022
The Method of Complete Weaning of Children and the Factors Affecting It, in Mothers with Children Aged 30-36 Months, in Kerman City, in 2020 A Akbari Sari, S Mirafzali, S Alizadeh Journal of Health 13 (1), 70-79	2022
A cost-effectiveness modeling study of treatment interventions for stage I to III esophageal squamous cell carcinoma R Daroudi, A Nahvijou, M Arab, A Faramarzi, B Kalaghchi, A Akbari-Sari, ... Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation 20 (1), 16	2022
Ranking Universities of Medical Sciences as Public Health Services Provider Institutions in Iran: A Result-Chain Analysis N Jahanmehr, A Rashidian, F Farzadfar, A Khosravi, M Shariati, A Akbari-Sari, Archives of Iranian Medicine 25 (4), 214-223	2022
Healthcare Utilization and Expenditures among Iranian Chemical Warfare Survivors Exposed to Sulfur Mustard P Mehdizadeh, M Ghanei, A Pourreza, A Akbari-Sari, B Mousavi, ... Archives of Iranian Medicine 25 (4), 241-249	2022
Factors Affecting the Acceptance of the Referral System by Patients: A Qualitative Study A Akbari-Sari, B Ahmadi, M Moradi-Joo, A Arabi, M Seyed-Nezhad Journal of School of Public Health and Institute of Public Health Research ...	2022
Collaboration among healthcare professionals at the public hospitals in Gaza: a quantitative study; II Shaqura, R Baroud, A Akbari-Sari Journal of Integrated Care 30 (1), 106-119	2022
Cost effectiveness of mammography focusing on mobile mammography for breast cancer screening in Iran: A review study A Akbari Sari, K Zendehdel, I Harirchi, F Habibi The Iranian Journal of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Infertility 24 (12), 98-109	2022
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Factors affecting the successful implementation of the referral system: A scoping review M Seyed-Nezhad, B Ahmadi, A Akbari-Sari Journal of family medicine and primary care 10 (12), 4364	2021
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Integrated early childhood development policy in Iran: a qualitative policy process analysis O Atashbahar, A Akbari-Sari, A Takian, A Olyaeemanesh, E Mohamadi, ... BMC public health 21 (1), 1-13	2021
Application of discrete choice experiments to estimate value of life: a national study protocol in Iran; N Mirzaee, A Takian, F Farzadfar, R Daroudi, A Kazemi Karyani, ... Cost effectiveness and resource allocation 19, 1-11	2021
Assessing progress in the national health financing system towards universal health coverage in Iran: a mixed-method study protocol M Anjomshoa, A Akbari Sari, A Takian Health research policy and systems 19 (1), 1-8	2021
Performance evaluation and ranking of regional primary health care and public health Systems in Iran; A Rashidian, N Jahanmehr, F Farzadfar, A Khosravi, M Shariati, A Akbari-Sari, ... BMC health services research 21 (1), 1-14	2021
Cost per DALY averted in low, middle-and high-income countries: evidence from the global burden of disease study to estimate the cost-effectiveness thresholds R Daroudi, A Akbari Sari, A Nahvijou, A Faramarzi; Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation 19 (1), 1-9	2021
Estimation of Burden of Cystic Echinococcosis in Iran Using Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs) in 2018; F Parandin, F Heydarpour, M Mohebbali, AA Hanafi-Bojd, A Akbari-Sari, ... Iranian Journal of Public Health 50 (11), 2302	2021
Evaluation of Health-related Quality of Life in Iranian General Population during the COVID-19 Pandemic. A cross sectional study MS Shiri, A Akbari-Sari, M Tatari, S Emamgholipour, S Afshari	2021
The Efficacy of Adding Pioglitazone to Insulin Therapy in Type 2 Diabetes: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis M Davari, E Khorasani, RS Shojaei, A Akbari-Sari, H Zakeri, P Saiyarsarai Journal of Pharmacoeconomics and Pharmaceutical Management 7 (1/2), 3-18	2021
Hospitalization costs of patients with Covid-19: A study in Tehran University of Medical Sciences S Damiri, A Nahvijou, N Sargazi, AA Fazaeli, A Akbari Sari, R Daroudi	2021

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**Nomination of the Regional Director of
the Eastern Mediterranean Region of the World Health Organization**

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Answer to the Questions:

1. A strong technical and public health background and extensive experience in international health
<p>I possess a robust technical background in public health, accompanied by extensive experience in the field of international health. Currently, I hold the esteemed position of Professor of Health Policy and Management and serve as the Head of the Department of Health Management, Policy, and Economics at the renowned School of Public Health (SPH) within Tehran University of Medical Sciences (TUMS). Additionally, I have been entrusted with the responsibility of directing the Master of Public Health (MPH) programs offered by the SPH.</p> <p>In recognition of my expertise, I was appointed as the Director of Iran's National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) in 2020, a role that currently commands a significant portion of my time and effort. This appointment has allowed me to spearhead critical initiatives aimed at advancing health research on a national scale.</p> <p>Moreover, I hold prominent positions within various committees and organizations related to health policy and research in Iran. These include serving as the head of the committee for Economics of Education at Iran's Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MoHME) and as the head of the committee for Health Policy and Systems Research at Iran's National Institute for Medical Sciences Research (NIMAD). In addition, I am a member of the Iran National Academy of Medical Sciences and contribute to advisory committees for vital health programs such as the Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI), the National Malaria Elimination Program, and the National Scientific Committee for COVID-19 at Iran's MoHME. Furthermore, I have served as a longstanding member of advisory committees at the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) of the World Health Organization (WHO); including the advisory committees for Patient Safety Friendly Hospitals, Health System Governance and Evidence Informed Policy Making.</p> <p>Demonstrating my commitment to professional associations, I have been elected as the vice-president of the Iranian Public Health Association and serve as a board member of the Iran Hospital Management Association. Additionally, I hold a professorship at the Department of Pharmacoeconomics and Management, School of Pharmacy, TUMS, further contributing to academia and fostering interdisciplinary collaborations.</p> <p>To foster the dissemination of knowledge, I have served as an Associate Editor for Hakim Health Systems Research Journal and the Editorial Board member for Bimarestan 'Hospital' Journal. These publications cater to a local readership as they are published in Farsi. Furthermore, I hold the position of Editorial Board member for the Health Technology Assessment Journal, which is published in English.</p> <p>In previous leadership roles at the SPH within TUMS, I made significant contributions to the institution's growth and development. As the Dean of the SPH, I provided oversight for its operations</p>

and guided its strategic direction. Additionally, I had the privilege of being the Founding Head of the Department of Global Health and Public Policy at TUMS, actively contributing to its establishment and advancement. Furthermore, I assumed the role of Director of the Center for Iran Scientific Medical Journals at Iran's MoHME, where I played a pivotal role in managing and advancing the publication of scientific and medical journals in the country.

On an international scale, I have contributed my expertise as a visiting lecturer at York University, enriching the educational endeavors of the institution. Concurrently, I served as a search coordinator for the Cochrane Wounds Group, actively engaged in conducting systematic reviews and synthesizing evidence related to wound care. Additionally, I worked as a Research Fellow in Health Services Research at the NHS (National Health Service) Center for Reviews and Dissemination in York, UK. This experience enabled me to engage in rigorous research activities focusing on health services and contribute to the dissemination of evidence-based knowledge.

My academic journey encompasses a comprehensive educational background and substantial contributions to the fields of public and global health. After completing my MD degree from TUMS in 1998, I practiced as a general practitioner within Iran's Primary Healthcare system. Building upon this foundational medical knowledge, I pursued a PhD in Health Policy and Management at the University of York in the United Kingdom, successfully completing the program in 2006.

Throughout my career, I have been actively involved in diverse endeavors aimed at advancing public and global health. These include education, research, policy analysis, communication, consultation services, and various other activities. Notably, I have supervised and mentored over 100 MSc, MPH, and PhD students from diverse nations, contributing to their professional development and the cultivation of future public health leaders. Additionally, I have published extensively, with more than 300 papers appearing in esteemed peer-reviewed journals. This commitment to disseminating knowledge ensures that evidence-informed information reaches wider audiences.

Furthermore, I have established extensive international collaborations with universities, academic centers, and influential UN agencies such as the WHO. Through these partnerships, I have worked towards safeguarding and improving public health on both local and global scales. My efforts have been dedicated to protecting communities, preventing diseases, and reducing health disparities in Iran and the broader region.

In my role as the Director of Iran's NIHR, I have played a pivotal role in implementing national programs aimed at enhancing public health within Iran. Under my leadership, the NIHR has emerged as a key player in evidence-informed policymaking and effective management of COVID-19 epidemic in the country. By prioritizing rigorous research and informed decision-making, we strive to improve health outcomes and ensure the well-being of the population.

During my tenure as the Dean of the SPH at TUMS, I made substantial contributions to expanding the school's educational, research, and international initiatives. Specifically, I played a crucial role in the development and establishment of various national and international programs. These include programs in Health Economics, Health Policy, Health Technology Assessment, Health Services Management. Through these educational opportunities, we aim to equip future professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge to address complex public health challenges and contribute to evidence-informed decision-making.

As the Director of MPH programs at SPH, I have focused on expanding tailored MPH programs to cater to the needs of public health professionals, hospital managers, policymakers, and health systems researchers from diverse sectors in Iran and the region. These comprehensive programs cover

essential public health functions such as community needs assessment, health policy and economics, epidemiology and biostatistics, and research methods, including implementation research. To date, over 1000 public health professionals and managers from Iran and the region have benefited from these MPH courses, further strengthening the public health workforce in our country and beyond. Additionally, I have been actively involved in implementing an international diploma course focused on malaria program planning and management. This collaborative effort between the SPH, WHO, and Iran's MoHME has successfully conducted 15 iterations of the program. The course attracted participants from around the world, particularly the EMR, contributing to enhanced capacity and expertise in addressing this significant public health challenge. Furthermore, during my management in the SPH, the school has expanded a strong network of laboratories that currently serve as an integrated part of Iran's National Health Network and Iran CDC. Notably, these laboratories, including the Leishmaniasis, Malaria, and Virology labs, function as reference and national labs for the country and work in strong collaboration with the WHO.

Throughout my career, my primary interests have revolved around evidence-informed health policy, health systems reform, health systems governance, quality improvement, patient safety, financing, payment methods, cost containment methods, and efficiency. My expertise lies in understanding health systems in both developed and developing countries, utilizing various quantitative, qualitative, and review research methodologies to address health policy and health services questions. The findings of my work have been published in prestigious journals and presented at international conferences.

Currently, my teaching activities encompass health economics, economic evaluation, global and international health, policy analysis, health systems, financing, and advanced health services research methods. I have designed and implemented several short workshops on relevant issues in both English and Farsi languages, including workshops on health economics, economic evaluations, systematic review methods, and knowledge translation and exchange (KTE). Furthermore, I have taught postgraduate courses (MSc, PhD, MPH) at the University of York, TUMS, and other renowned universities.

2. Competency in organizational management

At the national level, I have had an extensive and diverse array of academic and managerial roles within the field of public health. These positions encompassed various esteemed organizations and institutions, where I assumed significant responsibilities and contributed meaningfully to the advancement of public health in Iran.

One noteworthy role was my appointment as the Director of the Iran NIHR. Functioning as a national non-departmental public body, the NIHR serves as the primary observatory and knowledge brokering center for the MoHME in Iran. The position of Director at the NIHR is a prestigious appointment made by the Minister of Health. The core objectives of this organization entail fostering research and evidence-informed practices, facilitating the dissemination and utilization of knowledge, as well as enhancing population health on a national scale.

Furthermore, I held the esteemed position of Dean at one of the most venerable and expansive SPH, TUMS in Iran and the wider region, which spanned approximately seven years. Founded in 1966 with the mandate to serve local, national, and international communities, the SPH has consistently played a pivotal role in advancing public health initiatives. During my tenure as Dean, I played an instrumental role in expanding the school's management infrastructure, educational programs, and research

endeavors. This encompassed establishing new departments, laboratories, research centers, research stations, journals, and educational courses. As a result of these efforts, the SPH now boasts a robust and well-structured management apparatus, comprising over 110 esteemed academic staff, 250 technical staff members, 10 distinct educational departments, and an enrollment of more than 1200 postgraduate students across an array of programs. These programs include 16 PhD programs, 18 MSc programs, and a wide range of MPH programs.

Moreover, I have assumed directorial responsibilities within several significant departments and centers. Notable among these roles were my directorship of the Department of Public Policy and Global Health, as well as the Department of Health Management, Policy and Economics at Tehran University of Medical Sciences. Additionally, I served as the Director of the Center for Iran Scientific Medical Journals, which operated under the purview of the Iranian MoHME. In these capacities, I contributed to the strategic management and operational oversight of these departments and centers, thereby fostering an environment conducive to scientific advancement and scholarly excellence in the field of public health.

3. Proven historical evidence for public health leadership

My experience in the field of public health encompasses several significant areas, which I will outline below:

1- Leadership Experience: Over the course of the past decade, I have occupied various leadership positions within the public health sector, as mentioned earlier. Serving as the Director of the School of Public Health (SPH) and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), I successfully evaluated several large-scale public health programs with the objective of reducing infectious diseases and enhancing access to healthcare services. Notable examples include the Malaria program, EPI Review, and Influenza initiatives. These endeavors garnered international recognition and resulted in substantial improvements in population health outcomes.

2- Crisis Management: During the recent epidemic, while fulfilling my role as the Dean of SPH, I effectively led a multidisciplinary team in formulating and executing a comprehensive response plan. Through proactive measures such as swift identification of cases, contact tracing, and community engagement, we were able to contain the outbreak and prevent further transmission. Our adept crisis management approach received commendation from both national and international health authorities. I have actively advocated for various courses in the field of disaster and crisis risk management, one of which is the HELP course. This course has been successfully conducted multiple times in Iran, in collaboration with the World Red Cross, bringing together participants from different backgrounds.

3- Policy Development and Advocacy: Throughout my professional trajectory, I have been actively engaged in policy development and advocacy efforts aimed at addressing significant public health challenges. For instance, I am spearheading a team responsible for implementing the nationwide family physician program, which had a transformative impact on healthcare delivery across the country.

4- Collaborative Partnerships: Recognizing the paramount importance of collaboration, I have consistently fostered partnerships with governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and academic institutions. By leveraging these collaborations, we secured additional funding, accessed

expert knowledge, and implemented evidence-informed interventions that yielded enduring improvements in population health.

5- Capacity Building: As a firm believer in the transformative potential of education and capacity building, I have devoted a substantial portion of my time to mentorship and training programs. Through these initiatives, I have empowered a new generation of public health leaders, equipping them with the requisite skills and knowledge to effectively tackle emerging health challenges. Notably, the Fellowship program for all deputy public health officials across the country has gained significant renown. The fellowship program encompassed a comprehensive one-year curriculum focusing on the domains of primary health care and public health management. Following the successful completion of this program, public health deputy hailing from various regions across the nation underwent further training under my direct supervision within the SPH. The specific focus of this supplementary training was centered around the control and provision of care for non-communicable diseases. In Iran, an esteemed cohort of community health workers, known as Behvarz, assume an invaluable role in steering primary health care initiatives. Owing to the robust team established within the SPH, I assumed the responsibility of conducting in-service training sessions for approximately 500 health trainers representing diverse geographical locations nationwide. These individuals were subsequently equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to serve as trainers in the realm of primary health care. Consequently, these trainings were disseminated through a cascading model across the entire country, thereby ensuring widespread implementation and impact.

4. Sensitivity to culture, social and political differences

I recognize and place great value on the importance of being sensitive to cultural, social, and political differences within our region. It is crucial to acknowledge and address these variations in order to effectively tackle health issues and promote equitable health outcomes. In response to this issue, I would like to outline key points that I will address as the Regional Director:

1- Cultural Sensitivity: I understand the significance of comprehending and respecting the diverse cultures, social practices, and beliefs within the EMR. By acknowledging and accommodating religious customs, traditions, and values, we can ensure that healthcare initiatives are culturally appropriate and responsive to the needs of the communities we serve.

2- Social Awareness: A comprehensive understanding of the social dynamics and structures within our region is vital. This includes recognizing social norms, roles, and inequalities that may impact health outcomes. By considering factors such as gender equity, socioeconomic disparities, and access to healthcare services, we can design policies and interventions that address these challenges and strive for inclusive healthcare delivery.

3- Political Understanding: Navigating the complex political landscape of the EMR is a priority. As the nominated Regional Director, I will actively engage with local governments, policymakers, and stakeholders to establish partnerships and advocate for evidence-informed health policies. By understanding the political priorities and challenges faced by each country, we can align our strategies with their specific needs and work towards mutually beneficial outcomes.

4- Collaboration and Partnership: Building strong collaborations with regional organizations, national health authorities, civil society groups, and other stakeholders is essential. By fostering inclusive partnerships that respect and incorporate local expertise and perspectives, we can develop healthcare

programs and policies that are grounded in the realities of our region. This collaborative approach ensures widespread acceptance and support for WHO initiatives.

5- Training and Capacity Building: I am committed to enhancing cultural competence among healthcare professionals and WHO staff. Implementing comprehensive training and capacity-building programs will be a priority. By providing education on cultural awareness, sensitivity, and effective communication, we can equip healthcare providers with the necessary skills to deliver services that are respectful, culturally appropriate, and responsive to the diverse populations we serve.

6- Continuous Learning and Adaptation: I believe in fostering a culture of continuous learning and adaptation. Regular evaluation of interventions and policies, along with seeking feedback from communities and stakeholders, will be incorporated into our approach. By embracing new knowledge and being open to innovative approaches, we can effectively address emerging challenges and adapt our strategies to evolving cultural, social, and political contexts.

By addressing these key points, I aim to ensure that the EMRO WHO effectively addresses health issues and promotes equitable health outcomes in the Eastern Mediterranean Region.

5. A strong commitment to the work of WHO

First and foremost, I firmly believe in the mission and values of the WHO. The dedication of WHO to promoting health, preventing diseases, and ensuring equitable access to healthcare resonates deeply with both my personal and professional aspirations.

Over the course of my career, I have had the privilege of witnessing the profound and transformative impact that evidence-informed public health interventions can have on communities. This experience has solidified my commitment to utilizing my knowledge and expertise to actively contribute to the achievement of WHO's goals.

In terms of my qualifications, I have amassed a diverse range of experiences that have prepared me well for the role of EMRO Regional Director. I have worked extensively in public health (as reflect on my resume) at both national and international levels, collaborating closely with various stakeholders including governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and community leaders. These experiences have provided me with a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities inherent in the field of global health, particularly in the EMR.

Furthermore, my track record demonstrates my ability to lead and manage complex public health initiatives. I have successfully overseen the implementation of large-scale health programs, ensuring they are delivered on time, within budget, and aligned with organizational objectives. My leadership style is inclusive, collaborative, and empowering, fostering a sense of shared purpose among team members and stakeholders.

My deep commitment to continuous professional development, which I believe is essential for effectively addressing the evolving health challenges faced by the EMR. In addition to my practical experience, I actively engage in ongoing learning and endeavor to stay abreast of the latest developments and best practices in public health, epidemiology, health economic and health systems strengthening.

The field of public health is dynamic and constantly evolving, with new research findings, interventions, and strategies emerging at a rapid pace. By actively engaging in ongoing learning, I ensure that my knowledge and skills remain up-to-date and aligned with current evidence-informed

approaches. This enables me to apply cutting-edge knowledge and best practices to address the specific health needs and priorities of the EMR.

To further reinforce my commitment to working with WHO, I am fully aware of the unique opportunities and challenges associated with the position of EMRO Regional Director. I recognize the importance of building strong partnerships with member countries, civil society organizations, academic institutions, and other relevant stakeholders. I am dedicated to fostering collaborative relationships, promoting dialogue and knowledge exchange, and ensuring that all voices are heard and taken into account when shaping regional health policies and strategies.

Furthermore, I understand the significance of advocating for adequate resources and mobilizing support for WHO's programs and initiatives within the region. I am prepared to engage in high-level negotiations, leveraging my communication and diplomatic skills to garner financial and political commitments from key stakeholders. I firmly believe that securing sustainable funding and political commitment is vital for achieving WHO's objectives and making a lasting impact on the health and well-being of the people in the EMR.

6. The good physical condition required of all staff members of the organization

I fully recognize the importance of maintaining good physical health, and I am committed to upholding this requirement as a member of the WHO workforce.

As an aspiring leader within the organization, I firmly believe that personal health and well-being are crucial components of professional effectiveness. The nature of the work at WHO demands a high level of energy, resilience, and dedication, as we strive to address complex health challenges and ensure the well-being of communities. Maintaining optimal physical condition is therefore not only a requirement but also a fundamental responsibility that allows us to lead by example and promote a culture of health within the organization.

I am personally committed to leading a healthy lifestyle and prioritize physical fitness in my daily routine. Regular exercise, proper nutrition, and sufficient rest are integral parts of my lifestyle, enabling me to perform at my best both personally and professionally. This commitment extends beyond personal preference; it is grounded in a deep understanding of the connection between physical health and professional effectiveness. By embodying these principles, I aim to inspire and motivate others within the organization to prioritize their own health and well-being.

It is worth noting that an organizational commitment to good physical condition among its staff members is not just about individual well-being but also directly linked to the organization's credibility and effectiveness. As representatives of an organ, we are tasked with advocating for health promotion, disease prevention, and healthy lifestyles worldwide. By embodying the principles, we promote, we reinforce our credibility as global health leaders and inspire confidence in the communities we serve. In consideration of the foregoing, I fully acknowledge and appreciate the requirement for all staff members of the organization to maintain good physical condition, and I am committed to upholding this expectation if selected for the role of EMRO Regional Director. I recognize the significance of personal health and well-being in professional effectiveness, and I prioritize these aspects in my own life. By leading by example and promoting a culture of health, I aim to inspire and motivate others to prioritize their well-being as well. I firmly believe that maintaining good physical condition not only enhances job performance but also reinforces WHO's credibility as a global health leader.

Qualifications		
Date	Institution	Qualification obtained
2006	NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, York, UK	Post-doctoral Research Fellowship
2006	Department of Health Sciences, University of York, UK	PhD in Health Policy and Management
2003	University of York, UK	Post-Graduate Certificate in Claims Handling and Clinical Risk Management
1998	Faculty of Medicine, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran	MD (Doctor of Medicine)

Current Positions Held:	
Date started	Position
July 2020 (ongoing)	Director of I.R.I National Institute of Health Research (NIHR), Tehran, Iran
Aug 2020 (ongoing)	Head of Department of Health Management, Policy and Economics, School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran
Aug 2020 (ongoing)	Director of MPH Program; School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran
May 2009 (ongoing)	Professor, Department of Pharmaco-Economics, School of Pharmacy, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran
Dec 2007 (ongoing)	Associate Editor, Hakim Journal of Health Systems Research, Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Iran
Oct 2018	Vice-president and board member, Iran Public Health Association
Oct 2020	Chairman, Committee for Economics of Education, Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Iran
Aug 2021 (ongoing)	Chairman, Committee for Health Policy and System Research, Iran National Institute for Medical Sciences Research (NIMAD), Iran

Selected Previous Positions Held:	
Date	Position
Nov 2013 – July 2020	Dean of School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
Apr 2013 - Apr 2015	Funding Head of Department of Global Health and Public Policy, School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
Oct 2007 - July 2022	Director of The Centre for Accreditation and Improvement of Iranian Medical Journals, Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Iran
Apr 2012 – July 2019	Advisor for Deputy for Research in Iran Ministry of Health and Medical Education.
Oct 2008 - Oct 2013	Deputy for Education. School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran

Oct 2007 - Sep 2008	Head of Education Development Centre (EDO). School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
Jan 2007 - Jan 2010	Visiting Lecturer in Health Services Research, Department of Health Sciences, University of York
Jun 2006 - Jan 2007	Post-doctoral Research Fellow, NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, University of York
Jun 2006 - Oct 2007	DARE reviewer (0.2 wte), NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, University of York
Jun 2006 - Jan 2007	Reviewer for HTA and NICE (0.2 wte), NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, York
Feb 2003 - May 2006	Research Fellow (0.2 wte), Department of Health Sciences, University of York
Feb 2003 - May 2006	Search coordinator and peer reviewer (0.2 wte), Cochrane Wounds Group, York
Feb 2003 – Oct 2007	National Patient Safety Network Advisor, UK
1998 - 2000	General Practitioner, Karami Clinic, Tehran, Iran

Selected Research Projects	
1	National Health Accounts and household healthcare expenditure and utilization studies (set of projects). Funding: Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Tehran University of Medical Sciences. Responsibilities: Co-investigator/Principal Investigator.
2	Implementing Frontline Service Readiness, Capacity Assessments and Continuity of Essential Health Services in Health Facilities (Primary Health care and Hospitals) and Communities' Needs and Perceptions for 4 rounds (National Survey), Grant from WHO HQ in collaboration with MoHME. (2021-2023)- Principal Investigator.
3	Supporting Master trainers on patient safety friendly Primary Health Center Framework and Developing Patient Safety Training Packages for PSFH (implementing program at the national level) WHO-Regional Office. Grant from WHO EMRO in collaboration with MoHME. (2021-2023)- Principal Investigator.
4	Case-study of evidence-informed policy-making on COVID-19 for NEDtP members (Iran), Grant from WHO EMRO in collaboration with MoHME. (2021-2023)- Principal Investigator.
5	Development of a transferability tool for adaptation of HTA studies conducted by one country to another country context (in EMR), Grant from WHO EMRO in collaboration with MoHME. (2022)- Principal Investigator.
6	Conducting a Review of Expanded Program of Immunization in Iran considering COVID19 implications. Grant from WHO EMRO in collaboration with MoHME. (2023)- Principal Investigator.
7	Implementation of WISN (Workload Indicators for Staffing Needs) as part of a roll out plan (Primary health care and Hospital level). Grant from WHO WCO in collaboration with MoHME. (2022)- Principal Investigator.
8	Implementing the National Health workforce Accounts (NHWA) at the National level. Grant from WHO WCO in collaboration with MoHME. (2022)- Principal Investigator.