

## ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean Annual Report 2023

### MEMBERS

Ghaieb Bashar Mohamed Aljandeel (Iraq), chair  
Chahnez Triki (Tunisia), past chair  
Sally Mohamed Shaaban (Egypt), YES representative  
Fatema Abdulla (Bahrain)  
Raidah Saleem Al-Baradie (Saudi Arabia)  
Nirmeen Kishk (Egypt)  
Hakim Leklou (Algeria)  
Adel Misk (Palestinian Territory)  
Reda Ouazzanni (Morocco)  
Foksouna Sakadi, Jr. (Chad)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Developed the regional Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders (IGAP) for ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean
- Held a townhall meeting of ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean chapters
- Held the first Iraqi Epilepsy Conference: Contribution of over 350 participants on the first day and 150 on the second day from various districts around Iraq, as well as participation of an array of professors from different countries such as the UK, Italy, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar, providing a great opportunity for epilepsy professionals to share expertise, knowledge, and skills

### ACTIVITIES

- ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean annual meetings
- User manual: A step-by-step guide to implement a national action plan for epilepsy (to be finalized within two months of 2024)
- Adapted guidelines for management of status epilepticus and use of emergency rescue medicines to LMIC (to be finalized within two months of 2024)
- Ten fellowships (juniors)
- Three courses for the visiting teacher program in Egypt, Tunisia, and Chad
- Townhall meeting with attendance from 15 chapters in ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean
- San Servolo course
- Three ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean courses in English/French in Iraq, Tunisia, and Morocco
- Cours supérieur d'électroencéphalographie clinique in Morocco
- Two ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean EpiCases: Epileptic encephalopathy and Temporal lobe epilepsy
- Joint monthly English and French webinars with ILAE-Africa
- EEG Course for Technicians in December in Egypt

- Training general practitioners for the early care of people with epilepsy in Tunisia
- The ILAE Tunisian Chapter participated in the Workshop Air Fit Project about the impact of climate change on epilepsy
- The First Iraqi Epilepsy Conference
- The 7th Congress of Neurophysiology organized in June in Marrakech, Morocco
- The 2nd Nurse Educational Session in Epilepsy in Morocco
- ILAE Epilepsy in Children Workshop in December in Rabat, Morocco

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- One of most significant accomplishments that was achieved in 2023 was the development of the IGAP for the ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean region and working on a chapter-level to develop plans for each country in the region.
- Iraq hosted the ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean Epilepsy Course for the first time. The attendance was superb with over eighty participants joining each day from different medical facilities and neurological centers across Iraq. In addition, a substantial number of our colleagues attended virtually.
- The first African Brain Week was held in February 2023 in Morocco. The event featured different neurological themes, while allocating the first day to epilepsy, covering different aspects of management. The event was a great success thanks to the participation of international experts.
- The first Iraqi Epilepsy Conference was held in December 2023.
- An Epilepsy Booklet to help the non-medical population understand the disease was developed by the ILAE Moroccan Chapter.
- Telemedicine activities were held in different parts of rural areas in Morocco and Africa.
- A new ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean representative for the Young Epilepsy Section (YES) was elected.
- ILAE-YES groups were established in most of Eastern Mediterranean countries.

## RESEARCH & ARTICLES PUBLISHED

[Which terms should be used to describe medications used in the treatment of seizure disorders? An ILAE position paper, \*Epilepsia\* \(2024\)](#)

Emilio Perucca, Jacqueline A. French, Ghaieb Aljandeel, Simona Balestrini, Patricia Braga, Jorge G. Burneo, Augustina Charway Felli, J. Helen Cross, Aristeia S. Galanopoulou, Satish Jain, Yuwu Jiang, Reetta Kälviäinen, Shih Hui Lim, Kimford J. Meador, Zarine Mogal, Rima Nabbout, Francesca Sofia, Ernest Somerville, Michael R. Sperling, Chahnez Triki, Eugen Trinká, Matthew C. Walker, Samuel Wiebe, Jo M. Wilmschurst, Elaine Wirrell, Elza Márcia Yacubian, Jaideep Kapur

[Epileptic EEG patterns recognition through machine learning techniques and relevant time–frequency features, \*De Gruyter\* \(2023\)](#)

Sahbi Chaibi, Chahira Mahjoub, Wadhah Ayadi, Abdennaceur Kachouri

[Cutaneous adverse effects of antiepileptic drugs, \*Therapies\* \(2023\)](#)

Fatma Zgolli, Imen Aouinti, Ons Charfi, Widd Kaabi, Imen Hamza, Riadh Daghfous, Sarrah Kastalli, Ghozlane Lakhoua, Sihem El Aidli

[First report of Tunisian patients with CDKL5-related encephalopathy, \*Epilepsia Open\* \(2024\)](#)

Chahnez CharfiTriki, Salma Zouari Mallouli, Marwa Ben Jdila, Mariem Ben Said, Fatma Kamoun Feki, Sarah Weckhuysen, Sabeur Masmoudi, Faiza Fakhfakh

[A novel homozygous PIGO mutation associated with severe infantile epileptic encephalopathy, profound developmental delay and psychomotor retardation: structural and 3D modelling investigations and genotype-phenotype correlation, \*Metabolic Brain Disease\* \(2023\)](#)

Ameni Aguech, Lamia Sfaihi, Olfa Alila-Fersi, Roeya Kolsi, Abdelaziz Tlili, Thouraya Kammoun, Ahmed Fendri, Faiza Fakhfakh

[Treatment of seizures in the neonate: Guidelines and consensus-based recommendations—Special report from the ILAE Task Force on Neonatal Seizures, \*Epilepsia\* \(2023\)](#)

Ronit M. Pressler, Nicholas S. Abend, Stéphan Auvin, Geraldine Boylan, Francesco Brigo, Maria Roberta Cilio, Linda S. De Vries, Maurizio Elia, Alberto Espeche, Cecil D. Hahn, Terrie Inder, Nathalie Jette, Angelina Kakooza-Mwesige, Silke Mader, Eli M. Mizrahi, Solomon L. Moshé, Lakshmi Nagarajan, Iris Noyman, Magda L. Nunes, Pauline Samia, Eilon Shany, Renée A. Shellhaas, Ann Subota, Chahnez Charfi Triki, Tammy Tsuchida, Kollencheri Puthenveettil Vinayan, Jo M. Wilmshurst, Elissa G. Yozawitz, Hans Hartmann

[Wearable Electromyography Classification of Epileptic Seizures: A Feasibility Study, \*Bioengineering\* \(2023\)](#)

Achraf Djemal, Dhouha Bouchaala, Ahmed Fakhfakh, Olfa Kanoun

[Epileptic encephalopathy and amelogenesis imperfecta: What about Kohlschütter-Tönz syndrome? Case report and literature review, \*Special Care in Dentistry\* \(2023\)](#)

Manel chalbi, Meriem Nefzaoui, Miniar Rhaïem, Soumaya boussaid, Mohamed ali chemli

[Case report: Functional analysis of the p.Arg507Trp variant of the PIGT gene supporting the moderate epilepsy phenotype of mutations in the C-terminal region, \*Frontiers in Neurology\* \(2023\)](#)

Ikhlas Ben Ayed, Olfa Jallouli, Yoshiko Murakami, Amal Souissi, Salma Mallouli, Amal Bouzid, Fatma Kamoun, Ines Elloumi, Fakher Frikha, Abdelaziz Tlili, Sarah Weckhuysen, Taroh Kinoshita, Chahnez Charfi Triki, Saber Masmoudi

[Criminal liability and epilepsy: a case report of a postictal attempted homicide from Tunisia, \*The International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine\* \(2023\)](#)

Sana Omri, Najeh Smaoui, Rim Feki, Imen Gassara, Lobna Zouari, Jihene Ben Thabet, Mohamed Maalej, Manel Maalej Bouali, Nada Charfi

[Epilepsy awareness days, weeks, and months: Their roles in the fight against epilepsy and the intersectoral global action plan on epilepsy and other neurological disorders](#), *Epilepsy & Behavior* (2023)

Rugare Mugumbate, Raymond Klevor, Mauricio Olave Aguirre, Gams Massi Daniel, Nasir Yaqoob, Keryma Acevedo, Enat Yewnetu, Chantal Kanyabutembo, Etedal Ahmed A. Ibrahim, Salim Boutadghart, Adam Janneh, Najib Kissani

[Telemedicine for Individuals with epilepsy: Recommendations from the International League Against Epilepsy Telemedicine Task Force](#), *Seizure* (2023)

Pauline Samia, Jitendra Kumar Sahu, Amza Ali, Roberto Horacio Caraballo, Josephine Chan, Ana Carolina Coan, Pablo Sebastián Fortini, Samson Gwer, Bosanka Jovic-Jakubi, Najib Kissani, Yanin Rivera, Fred Stephen Sarfo, Mamta Bhushan Singh, Eugen Trinkka, Ji Yeoun Yoo, Hsiang-Yu Yu, Johan Zelano, J.Helen Cross

[Prevalence of epilepsy in Morocco: A population-based study](#), *Epilepsia Open* (2023)

Zouhayr Souirti, Mohammed Hmidani, Abdelaziz Lamkaddem, Kawtar Khabbach, Salma Belakhdar, Doae Charkani, Driss Mhandez Tlemcani, Nabila Lahmadi, Maroua El Akramine, Samira Erriouiche, Asmae Berrada, Asmae Ahniba, Mohammed Omari, Samira El Fakir, Nabil Tachfouti, Mohammed Abdoh Rafai, Imane Chahid, Bentahar Meriam, Mariam Jilla, Aayad Ghaname, Youssef Benmansour, Younes Filali Zegzouti, Najib Kissani, Abdelhakim Lakhdar, Rachid Belfkih, Mohamed Aggouri, Reda Ouazzani, Abderrahmane Chahidi, Abdelkrim Janati Idrissi

[Trace Elements and Epilepsy](#), *Nutritional Neurosciences* (2023)

Abdelaati El Khat, Driss Ait Ali, Bilal El-Mansoury, Youssef Ait Hamdan, Brahim El Houate, Mohamed El Koutbi, Lahcen, Tamegart, Halima Gamrani, Najib Kissani

## MEETINGS

During 2023, ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean had 12 meetings, once monthly; 11 meetings were virtual, and one was in person.



**Eastern Mediterranean Region Epilepsy Course**  
Saad Al-Witry Neurosciences Hospital-Baghdad  
9-10 August 2023



**The First Iraqi Epilepsy Conference**  
Rotana Babylon Hotel in Baghdad, Iraq  
1-2 December 2023

| <b>DAY 1: Epilepsy- Theme: Epilepsy surgery</b><br>14 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8h-8.45                                                                           | <b>Registration and welcome reception</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                   | <b>Welcome speech :</b><br>Pr Najib Kisaoui, president of the organizing committee & IMCE (Morocco)<br>Pr Zouhair Soufiri, president of the Moroccan society of neurophysiology (Morocco)<br>Pr Rachid Soulimani, president of the scientific committee (France)<br>Pr Ghaleb Bachar, President of ILAE- East Mediterranean Region (Iraq)<br>Pr Chantal Kanyaburamba, Epilepsy Alliance Africa (Rwanda) |
| 8.45-10.45                                                                        | <b>Session 1: Epilepsy surgery : clinical evaluation and selection</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                   | <b>Moderators:</b> Pr Agbeton Mendiaton (Porto-Novo / Benin); Pr Youssef Maiga (Bamako/Mali)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 15 min                                                                            | The IGAP: Intersectoral Global Action Plan for epilepsy and other neurological disorders for the next 10 years                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 30 min                                                                            | Basics Principles in epilepsy surgery                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 20 min                                                                            | How to select refractory epilepsy cases?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 20 min                                                                            | Neuropsychological treatment for adult epilepsy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 20min                                                                             | Neuropsychological tools in surgical epilepsy and universal cross-cultural assessments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 20 min                                                                            | Carer's perspective of childhood onset of complex epilepsy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 10 min                                                                            | Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 30 min                                                                            | Coffee-break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 11.15-12.45                                                                       | <b>Session 2: Epilepsy surgery: EEG and imaging</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                   | <b>Moderators:</b> Pr Arif Hershah (Lahore/Pakistan ), Pr Otheth Seidi (Khartoum/Sudan), Pr Khalid Aniba (Marrakech, Morocco)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 20 min                                                                            | EEG in refractory epilepsy: before and after surgery.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 20 min                                                                            | Video-EEG presentations of refractory epilepsies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 20 min                                                                            | MRI in refractory epilepsy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 20 min                                                                            | Epilepsy and cognition                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 20 min                                                                            | Ketogenic diet: is it a solution for refractory epilepsy?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 10 min                                                                            | Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

**African Brain Week**  
February 2023



**2nd Nurse Educational Session in Epilepsy**

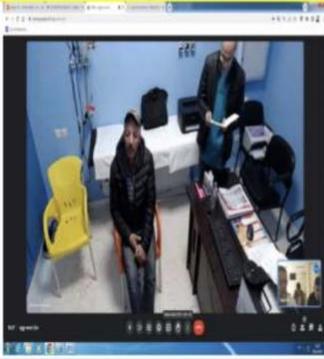
**Some practical experiences in our daily telemedicine practice with Tahenaout**  
الاستشارة عبر الهاتف 29 نوفمبر 2023

**Statistics:**  
2021 & 2022:  
2250 cases  
consulted and  
treated using  
TM

**Telemedicine activities in different parts of rural areas in Morocco and Africa**

**1<sup>st</sup> case**

**Presentation of the case by the nurse in charge of TM- تقديم المريض- TM**



- The last TM session was last 29 Nov
- الاستشارة عبر الهاتف 29 نوفمبر 2023

**2nd step**

**Diagnosis - تشخيص الحالة**



Looking for tongue tie in a 12y old boy with parietic dysarthria

Teaching dimension, explaining TM to our residents+ 6th+3rd year students

Temehdite, Ifrane, Morocco



**International Epilepsy Day in Sfax**

Training for parents of children with epilepsy, games and workshops for children with epilepsy  
13 February 2023

**ILAE**  
Cours régional d'épilepsie :  
15 et 16 Décembre 2023, Sfax, Tunisie

| 1 <sup>er</sup> Jour<br>Matin de 08-13h   |                                                                                  |                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Session 1. Bases de l'EEG                 |                                                                                  |                                                                          |
| 8-9-30                                    | Conférences : Bases et techniques de l'EEG                                       | Coordonnateur : <b>Loïka Triki (Sfax)</b>                                |
| 9-30-10                                   | Conférence interactive un EEG                                                    | <b>Wafa Zouari (Sfax)</b>                                                |
| 10-00-10-30                               | Artéfacts et pièges EEG                                                          | <b>Khalid Ben Ghili (Monastir)</b>                                       |
| Pause café                                |                                                                                  |                                                                          |
| Session 2. Étiologie des épilepsies       |                                                                                  |                                                                          |
| 11-00-11-30                               | Apport de la classification des épilepsies épileptiques (IAE 2022)               | <b>Chaheer Triki (Sfax)</b>                                              |
| 11-30-12-30                               | Cas cliniques : Les épilepsies (Pharmacologie)                                   | <b>Hafed Lakhsa (Algérie)</b>                                            |
| Déjeuner                                  |                                                                                  |                                                                          |
| Session 3. Généralisations des épilepsies |                                                                                  |                                                                          |
| 14-00-14-30                               | Explorations génétiques des épilepsies/ quand ?                                  | <b>Miloua Ben Ayed (Sfax)</b>                                            |
| 14-30-15-00                               | Neof génétique <b>Schubert</b> (NKS) : quel apport pour l'épilepsie              | <b>Mehrez Ben Said (Sfax)</b>                                            |
| 15-00-15-30                               | Thérapie génique en épilepsie                                                    | <b>Sawira Ben Said (Tunis)</b>                                           |
| Pause café                                |                                                                                  |                                                                          |
| Session 4. Cas cliniques épilepsie        |                                                                                  |                                                                          |
| 16-00-16-30                               | Cas interactif 1 : Une question est une réponse                                  | <b>Selma Zouari (Sfax)</b>                                               |
| 16-30-16-40                               | Cas interactif 2                                                                 | <b>Ofra Jelloul (Sfax)</b>                                               |
| 16-40-17-00                               | Cas interactif 3 : A propos d'un état de mal <b>infantile</b>                    | <b>Khaouther Shabbache (Tanger)</b>                                      |
| 17-00-17-30                               | Plan d'action global d'épilepsie : ou on est dans l'EMR ?<br>YES section Tunisie | <b>Chaheer Charif Triki (Sfax)</b><br><b>Khalid Ben Ghili (Monastir)</b> |

**ILAE**  
Cours régional d'épilepsie :  
15 et 16 Décembre 2023, Sfax, Tunisie

| 2 <sup>ème</sup> Jour<br>Matin de 08-13h            |                                                                    |                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Session 5. Épilepsies épileptiques épileptiques     |                                                                    |                             |
| 8-00-8-30                                           | Concept et classification des épilepsies épileptiques épileptiques | <b>Chaheer Charif Triki</b> |
| 8-30-10-00                                          | Epilepsies avec décharge épileptique épileptique                   | <b>Mehrez Ben Said</b>      |
| 10-00-10-30                                         | Patterns EEG dans les épilepsies épileptiques épileptiques         | <b>Rim Karroum</b>          |
| 10-30-11-00                                         | Patterns EEG dans les épilepsies de l'enfant et l'adolescent       | <b>Fatma Karroum</b>        |
| Pause café                                          |                                                                    |                             |
| Session 6. Chirurgie de l'épilepsie                 |                                                                    |                             |
| 11-00-12-00                                         | Région cingulaire : comment mettre en place en région EMR          | <b>K. Khabbache</b>         |
| 12-00-12-30                                         | Indications et techniques de l'épileptochirurgie                   | <b>Georg Dachevitz</b>      |
| 12-30-13-00                                         | Région orbitofrontale en région EMR                                | <b>Fatma Karroum</b>        |
| 13-00-13-30                                         | Chirurgie des malformations corticales                             | <b>Georg Dachevitz</b>      |
| Déjeuner                                            |                                                                    |                             |
| Après midi                                          |                                                                    |                             |
| Session 7. Des épilepsies épileptiques épileptiques |                                                                    |                             |
| 15-00-15-30                                         | Cas interactif 5                                                   | <b>Ofra Jelloul</b>         |
| 15-30-16-00                                         | Cas interactif 6                                                   | <b>Selma Zouari</b>         |
| 16-00-17-00                                         | Cas interactif 7 : Faut-il opérer ?                                | <b>Itan Charif</b>          |
| 17-00-17-30                                         | Cas interactif 8                                                   | <b>Georg Dachevitz</b>      |
| 17-30-18-00                                         | Cas interactif 9 : Quand ça tombe devant les yeux                  | <b>Wafa Bouachane</b>       |
| Clôture de cours                                    |                                                                    |                             |

**ILAE-Eastern Mediterranean Course on Epilepsy in Sfax**  
54 doctors and scientists attended, including ten from Algeria  
15-16 December 2023



**AirFit Project**  
Impact of climate change on epilepsy

## YES EGYPT:

**YES members in Egypt hosted the first YES Egypt booth at the 12th Annual Conference of Neurology Department, Faculty of Medicine, Mansoura University from 1-3 November 2023 with attendance and participation of professors of the Egyptian Chapter of ILAE and the Egyptian clinical neurophysiology society.**



## YES IRAQ:

**The team has been officially established since October 2023.**

**Active participation at the 1st Iraq Epilepsy Congress  
"1-2 December 2023"**



Iraq YES Team got an award for their participation at the conference, Dr abas N. Sidiq got the Award on behalf of other members.



**YES EGYPT:**



**The team has been officially established since March 2023**

Recent activities in Last six months:

**\*Educational activities in collaboration with Egyptian Medical Syndicate**

**YES TUNISIA:**



**The team has been officially established since November 2023**



Active participation at the ILAE-EMR regional Epilepsy course in Tunisia  
"15-16 December 2023"



*Report submitted by Ghaieb Aljandeeel*