
Award of the Down Syndrome research prize

The Down Syndrome Research Prize was established in 1999. Following the recommendations of the Down Syndrome Research Prize Committee at the Fifty-eighth Session of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean, the Regional Committee decided to award the prize for 2012 to Professor Dr Muneera Abdullah Al-Hussain, Saudi Arabia.

Professor Dr Muneera Abdullah Al-Hussain is being honoured for her significant contribution to paediatric medicine in Saudi Arabia and her support for children with Down Syndrome and their families. She graduated as a paediatrician (MBBS) from King Saud University Hospital, Saudi Arabia, in 1985. In 1990 she obtained the Arab Board Certificate in Paediatrics, and in 1992 the Fellowship Certificate in Genetics from King Faisal Specialist Hospital. She undertook subspecialty training in prenatal genetics at McMaster University, Canada in 2009. Following graduation, Professor Al-Husain worked in King Saud University Hospital becoming consultant paediatrician and clinical geneticist, and at the College of Medicine in King Saud University. Professor Al-Husain has done extensive research in the field of Down Syndrome and is the author and co-author of numerous scientific papers published in national and international journals.