

For Immediate Release



AUB to hold seminar on birth defects surveillance in Lebanon

Beirut, Lebanon- 08/04/2013 - Dr. Khalid Younis, director of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Department of Pediatrics in the American University of Beirut Medical Center, will present on the joint effort of the National Collaborative Perinatal Neonatal Network, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Lebanese MoPH to establish the first national birth defect surveillance program. The seminar will take place on April 10 at noon in the Nabil Boustany Auditorium, Van Dyck Hall. The seminar will be in English.

Brief Description of the Seminar:

Birth defects (BD) remain a high priority globally as reflected in the World Health Organization resolution adopted in 2010 to focus on BD surveillance and prevention, specifically in developing countries. According to March of Dimes 2006 global report, 94% of serious BD occur in low and middle-income countries with the majority being reported from the Middle East and North Africa region. The National Collaborative Perinatal Neonatal Network with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta and the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) are collaborating together to establish the first national BD surveillance program in Lebanon. In addition to surveillance, the network is engaged in awareness campaigns and other interventions to prevent birth defects.

ENDS

For more information please contact:

Maha Al-Azar, Associate Director for Media Relations, ma110@aub.edu.lb, 01-759685

Note to Editors

About AUB

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

Stay up to date on AUB news and events. Follow us on:

Website: www.aub.edu.lb
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/aub.edu.lb>
Twitter: http://twitter.com/AUB_Lebanon