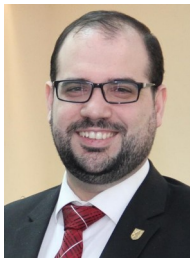
# Issam Shaarani

## MD, MSc

Associate Professor of Family Medicine, Beirut Arab University

Email i.shaarani@bau.edu.lb | issam.shaarani@me.com

Male | Born 13 January 1986 | Lebanese



## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

| | |
|---|---|
| 2023 – 2027 | **PhD in Health Economics and Policy (Candidate)**<br>Lancaster University, United Kingdom |
| 2026 | **Using Discrete Choice Experiments in Health (Short Course)**<br>Health Economics Research Unit (HERU), University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom |
| 2016 – 2020 | **Master of Science in Epidemiology**<br>American University of Beirut, Lebanon |
| 2015 | **Scholars in Health Research Certificate**<br>American University of Beirut, Lebanon |
| 2015 | **Arab Board in Family Medicine**<br>The Arab Board of Health Specializations |
| 2014 | **Specialist in Family Medicine (Residency Training)**<br>American University of Beirut Medical Center, Lebanon |
| 2009 | **Bachelor in Medicine and General Surgery**<br>Beirut Arab University, Lebanon |
| 2025 | **Life Support Training: BLS, ACLS, PALS**<br>American Heart Association |

## ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Jul 2025 – Present | **Associate Professor of Family Medicine**<br>Beirut Arab University, Lebanon |
| Mar 2022 – Present | **Consultant Family Medicine**<br>Primary Health Care Corporation, Qatar |
| Nov 2021 – Present | **Instructor of Public Health and Health Promotion**<br>iHeed / University of Warwick, United Kingdom |
| Sep 2021 – Mar 2022 | **Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to the Minister of Public Health**<br>Lebanese Ministry of Public Health |
| Jul 2019 – Mar 2022 | **Assistant Dean for Graduate Medical Education**<br>Beirut Arab University, Lebanon |
| Dec 2018 – Jun 2025 | **Assistant Professor of Family Medicine**<br>Beirut Arab University, Lebanon |
| Jun 2016 – Mar 2022 | **Founding Medical Director**<br>Beirut Arab University Healthcare Center, Lebanon |
| Nov 2016 – Mar 2022 | **Clinical Associate**<br>American University of Beirut Medical Center, Lebanon |
| Nov 2016 – Nov 2021 | **Chair, Working Party on Ethical Issues**<br>World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA) |
| Aug 2020 – Sep 2020 | **Consultant**<br>United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) |

Jul 2016 – Oct 2016 **Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Consultant**
International Medical Corps

Sep 2015 – Nov 2018 **Senior Lecturer**
Beirut Arab University, Lebanon

Jul 2015 – Nov 2015 **Community Medicine Expert**
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Jun 2014 – Jul 2015 **Chief Resident**
American University of Beirut Medical Center, Department of Family Medicine, Lebanon

## LICENSURE AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2022 – Present **DHP Practice Licence**
Department of Healthcare Professions, Qatar

2017 – Present **Member, Lebanese Epidemiological Association (LEA)**

2016 – Present **Member, World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA)**

2014 – Present **Member, Lebanese Society of Family Medicine**

2010 – Present **Member, Lebanese Order of Physicians**

## HONORS AND AWARDS

2026 **Most Active Researchers Award, Academic Year 2024–2025**
Beirut Arab University

2016 **Montegut Award**
American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM)

2014 **Resident of the Year**
American University of Beirut Medical Center, Department of Family Medicine

## RESEARCH GRANTS

2021 **Assessing Reproductive Health Unmet Needs and Access to Services among Lebanese Vulnerable and Syrian Refugees in Lebanon**
Funding organization: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

2016 **Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Syrian Refugees towards Family Planning**
Funding organization: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

## PUBLICATIONS

Listed in reverse chronological order. Dates in the margin give the month the article first appeared (online or in print).

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Aug 2026 **Rapidly deployed phone-based COVID-19 telemedicine clinic in Lebanon: a retrospective analysis**
Rabih Soubra, Rim Taleb, Ibrahim Chehab, Yahya Makkieh, Alissar El Sibai, **Issam Shaarani**
*Annals of Global Health*. 2026 Aug 31;92(1):85. doi:10.5334/aogh.5463

Jul 2026 **Navigating adverse selection and moral hazard in health insurance: implications for sustainable coverage**
**Issam Shaarani**
*Health Policy OPEN*. 2026 Jul:100178. doi:10.1016/j.hpopen.2026.100178

Nov 2025 **Association between social media use and cyberchondria during the COVID-19 pandemic: a cross-sectional study**
Nadia Koleilat, Abir Ghosson, Adel Ghandour, Fatima Soufan, Hussein Kaddoura, Mohammad Jounblat, Saria Abdallah, **Issam Shaarani**
*Clinical eHealth*. 2025;8:230–239. doi:10.1016/j.ceh.2025.10.004 Published online 4 Nov 2025.

Sep 2025 **Randomized controlled trial on improving pesticide label interpretation among farmers in Akkar Governorate, Lebanon: the impact of a WhatsApp-delivered educational video**
Nisreen Hassan Akkouch, Jalal Halwani, **Issam Shaarani**, Fouad Ziadeh
*PLoS One*. 2025 Sep 18;20(9):e0331842. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0331842

Feb 2025 **Exploring pesticide knowledge, practices, and health perceptions among farmers in Akkar, Lebanon**
Nisreen Hassan Akkouch, Jalal Halwani, **Issam Shaarani**
*International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 2025 Feb 12;22(2):260. doi:10.3390/ijerph22020260

Jan 2025 **Beliefs and attitudes of Syrian refugee mothers in Lebanon regarding children vaccination: a cross-sectional study**
**Issam Shaarani**, Sleiman Khadem, Marwa Obeid, Behnaz Saadieh, Aya Serhal, Karim Zakkour, Sara Mohammad, Hussein Berjaoui, Nour Izmirli
*BMC Public Health*. 2025 Jan 8;25(1):99. doi:10.1186/s12889-025-21290-w

Nov 2024 **Financial literacy and wellbeing among medical students, residents, and attending physicians in Lebanon: results from a nationwide multi-centered survey**
MohammadAli Jardaly, Jumana Antoun, Rania Sakr, Hassan Doumiati, **Issam Shaarani**
*INQUIRY: The Journal of Health Care Organization, Provision, and Financing*. 2024;61:00469580241294135. doi:10.1177/00469580241294135 Published online 20 Nov 2024.

Mar 2024 **Are female physicians as trusted as their male colleagues? A cross-sectional study**
**Issam Shaarani**, Nour Izmirli, Najwa Zahra, Jana Salem, Abdallah Yassine, Mohammad Treiki, Karim Tabbikha
*Journal of Public Health (Berlin)*. 2025 Dec;33(12):2561–2569. doi:10.1007/s10389-024-02222-1 Published online 13 Mar 2024.

Feb 2024 **Beliefs and practices of physicians in Lebanon regarding promotional gifts and interactions with pharmaceutical companies**
**Issam Shaarani**, Jida Hasbini, Reem Farhat, Nour Safawi, Jamil Sleiman, Alaa Kassem Hammoud, Tamara Fayad, Dana Khazaal, Oubaida Elkhatib, Hussein Berjaoui
*Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal*. 2024 Feb 25;30(2):116–124. doi:10.26719/emhj.24.027

Nov 2022 **Developing and validating a tool to assess telemedicine acceptance among physicians during pandemic using a Technology Acceptance Model**
**Issam Shaarani**, Mohammad Jounblat, Hadi Jounblat, Ali Ghanem, Reem Mansour, Rim Taleb
*Telemedicine and e-Health*. 2023 Jun;29(6):903–911. doi:10.1089/tmj.2022.0348 Epub 15 Nov 2022.

Jan 2022 **Future healthcare providers and professionalism on social media: a cross-sectional study**
Rabih Soubra, Ibrahim Hasan, Louna Ftouni, Adam Saab, **Issam Shaarani**
*BMC Medical Ethics*. 2022 Jan 20;23(1):4. doi:10.1186/s12910-022-00742-7

May 2021 **Utilization of telemedicine by the Lebanese physicians during time of pandemic**
**Issam Shaarani**, Ali Ghanem, Mohammad Jounblat, Hadi Jounblat, Reem Mansour, Rim Taleb
*Telemedicine and e-Health*. 2022 Feb;28(2):219–226. doi:10.1089/tmj.2021.0090 Epub 17 May 2021.

May 2021 **Health seeking behaviour among Lebanese population: a highlight on seeking care from pharmacists**
Rabih Soubra, Sani Hlais, Nadine Houmani, Lina Ghandour, Reda El Haj Hassan, Mohammed Joujou, **Issam Shaarani**
*European Journal of General Practice*. 2021 Dec;27(1):51–59. doi:10.1080/13814788.2021.1917541 Published online 4 May 2021.

Mar 2021 **COVID-19 public awareness: association with social media use and development of a scoring tool 'COVID-PAS'**
Rim Taleb, Aref El-Kantar, Hadi Itani, Ibrahim Mallah, Karim Amshe, Mohamad Mehdi Diab, Salim Baayoun, Sanaa Itani, **Issam Shaarani**
*Journal of Communication in Healthcare: Strategies, Media and Engagement in Global Health*. 2021 Apr;14(2):105–113. doi:10.1080/17538068.2021.1892431 Published online 3 Mar 2021.

Nov 2020 **Predictors of contraception use among Syrian refugees in Lebanon: results from a cross-sectional study**
Jinan Usta, Rim Taleb, Sarah El Harakeh, Rana El Kheir, Malak Jbahi, Shatha Dassouki, **Issam Shaarani**
*Maternal and Child Health Journal*. 2021 Apr;25(4):684–693. doi:10.1007/s10995-020-03098-9 Epub 28 Nov 2020.

Feb 2020 **Interprofessional communication of physicians using WhatsApp: physicians' perspective**
**Issam Shaarani**, Aref El-Kantar, Nour Hamzeh, Mohammad Jounblat, Tala El-Yaman, Mira Habanjar, Nourhane Halawi, Ahmad Itani, Rabih Soubra
*Telemedicine and e-Health*. 2020 Oct;26(10):1257–1264. doi:10.1089/tmj.2019.0216 Epub 21 Feb 2020.

Jul 2019 **Attitudes of patients towards digital information retrieval by their physician at point of care in an ambulatory setting**
**Issam Shaarani**, Hussein Berjaoui, Alaa Daher, Mayar Khalil, Abed El Rahman Al Rifai, Radwan Saati, Jumana Antoun
*International Journal of Medical Informatics*. 2019 Oct;130:103936. doi:10.1016/j.ijmedinf.2019.07.015 Epub 25 Jul 2019.

May 2018 **Adoption of positive health behaviour among primary care physicians: a cross-sectional pilot study from Lebanon**
Rim Taleb, **Issam Shaarani**, Najla Lakkis, Rana El-Jarrah, Mona Osman
*BJGP Open*. 2018 Jul;2(2):bjgpopen18X101590. doi:10.3399/bjgpopen18X101590 Published online 16 May 2018.

Oct 2017 **Effect of computer use on physician-patient communication using a validated instrument: patient perspective**
**Issam Shaarani**, Rim Taleb, Jumana Antoun
*International Journal of Medical Informatics*. 2017 Dec;108:152–157. doi:10.1016/j.ijmedinf.2017.10.007 Epub 18 Oct 2017.

May 2017 **Use of family practice journals in journal clubs: a study from the Middle East**
Basem Saab, Rim Taleb, Adel Al Bari, Hashim Al-Sayed, **Issam Shaarani**
*BJGP Open*. 2017 May 17;1(2):bjgpopen17X100953. doi:10.3399/bjgpopen17X100953

### Other Publications

Oct 2016 **Caring for war refugees: the basics remain the same**
Rim M. Taleb, **Issam A. Shaarani**
*Medscape*. 2016 Oct 27.

May 2016 **Nail biting: a habit or a disease?**
Rim M. Taleb, **Issam A. Shaarani**
*Medscape*. 2016 May 19.

### Reports and Other Contributions

Apr 2022 **Ethics and medical radiological imaging: a policy brief for health-care providers**
External reviewer of the draft policy brief
World Health Organization, Geneva; 12 April 2022. ISBN 978-92-4-004778-5

Dec 2017 **Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon towards Family Planning**
Research team: **Issam Shaarani**, Jinan Usta, Rana Chehab, Rim Taleb, Sarah Al Harakah, Rana El Kheir, Malak Gebaie, Shatha Dassouki, Yaman Hneineh
Study leaflet, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Lebanon; December 2017

## ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

2026 **Financial Expectations of General Public Regarding Telemedicine in Lebanon: A Discrete Choice Experiment**
Study design phase

2026 **Financial Expectations of Healthcare Providers Regarding Telemedicine in Lebanon: A Discrete Choice Experiment**
Study design phase

2022 **The Burden of Medical Education Debt in a Low-Middle-Income Economy: Results from a National Survey in Lebanon**
Manuscript writing phase

2022 **Access to Reproductive Health Services During Overlapping Crises in Lebanon: A Qualitative Study of Barriers and Coping Strategies**
Manuscript writing phase

2022 **Unmet Reproductive Health Needs among Syrian Refugee and Vulnerable Lebanese Women amid Compounded Crises in Lebanon: A Cross-sectional Study**
Manuscript writing phase

2020 **Healthcare-seeking Behaviour and the Role of Telemedicine during the COVID-19 Lockdown in Lebanon: A Cross-sectional Study**
Submission phase

## THESIS SUPERVISION

2020 – 2024 **Co-supervisor, PhD thesis: "Agricultural Pesticide Management in Akkar Governorate, Lebanon: Assessing Farmer Awareness and the Efficacy of Digital Educational Interventions"**
PhD Program in Public Health, Lebanese University in collaboration with Beirut Arab University

## INVITED LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS

2026 **A Health System That Learns: Digital Health, Research, and Lebanon's Sustainable Future**
Invited speaker, Session I: Sustainable Health, Advancing Research for a Sustainable Future Conference (ARSFC 2026), Beirut Arab University, Beirut, Lebanon

2024 **Teaching Evidence-based Medicine: Preparing Future Doctors to Question, Critique, and Care**
Keynote speaker, Anbar 3rd International Medical Conference (AIMCO-2024)

2023 **Ethical Considerations of Patient Access to their Electronic Health Records**
Workshop (co-presenter), WONCA World 2023, organized by RACGP, Sydney, Australia

2023 **Ethical Considerations of AI Use in Primary Care**
Workshop (co-presenter), WONCA World 2023, organized by RACGP, Sydney, Australia

2023 **OSCE: from Theory to Practice**
Workshop, invited speaker addressing clerkship directors, Qatar University

2019 **Providing Primary Healthcare for the Underprivileged: Ethical Perspectives**
WONCA EMR Regional Conference, Beirut, Lebanon

2019 **Stakeholder Workshop on Ethical Aspects of Radiation Protection in Health Care**
Invited by WHO, WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland

2018 **Ethical Considerations of Physicians' Involvement with Politics**
Workshop, 22nd WONCA World Conference, Seoul, South Korea

2018 **EBM at Point of Care: How to Get a Quick Answer in the Clinic**
Workshop, 17th Annual Conference of the Lebanese Society of Family Medicine, Beirut, Lebanon

2018 **Community Based Research: An Overview**
Workshop, Health to Community (H2C) Project, Lebanese Association for Scientific Research (LASeR), Tripoli, Lebanon

2017 **Updates on Cancer Screening**
New Mazloum Hospital Annual Conference, Tripoli, Lebanon

2017 **Young Family Physicians: Hidden Opportunities and Challenges Faced**
Annual Conference of the Lebanese Society of Family Medicine, Lebanon

2017 **Caring for Refugees: A Choice or an Ethical Obligation**
22nd WONCA Europe Conference (co-presenter), Prague, Czech Republic

2016 **Social Media: A Double-Edged Sword**
Annual Conference of the Lebanese Society of Family Medicine, Beirut, Lebanon

2014 **Role of Social Media in Medicine**
Annual Conference of the Lebanese Society of Family Medicine, Beirut, Lebanon

## COMMITTEE, EDITORIAL AND BOARD SERVICE

Feb 2026 – Present **Chair Elect, Working Party on Ethics and Professionalism**
World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA)

Jan 2026 – Present **Editorial Board Member**
BMC Health Services Research, Springer Nature

Mar 2023 – Present **Member, Board of Directors**
Lebanese Medical Students' International Committee (LeMSIC)

Dec 2021 – Present **Member, Executive Board of the Working Party on Ethics and Professionalism**
World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA)

Jan 2019 – Present **Editorial Board Member**
Lebanese Medical Journal

May 2016 – Mar 2022 **Member, Executive Board of BAU Healthcare Center**
Beirut Arab University

Nov 2016 – Mar 2022 **Chair, Graduate Medical Education Committee**
Beirut Arab University, Faculty of Medicine

Nov 2016 – Oct 2017 **Member, Community Service Committee**
Beirut Arab University, Faculty of Medicine

Sep 2015 – Mar 2022 **Member, Research Committee**
Beirut Arab University, Faculty of Medicine

## LANGUAGES AND SKILLS

Languages
**Arabic**: mother tongue
**English**: proficient user (C2) in listening, reading, spoken interaction, spoken production and writing
**French**: basic user (A1 listening, A2 reading, A1 spoken interaction, A1 spoken production, A1 writing)
Levels according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: A1/A2 basic user, B1/B2 independent user, C1/C2 proficient user.

Digital skills
Proficient in information processing, communication, content creation, safety and problem solving (self-assessment)
Very good command of office suites (word processor, spreadsheet, presentation software)
Very good command of SPSS