

# Imam Reza General Hospital Newsletter

Tabriz University of Medical Sciences  
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Imam Reza General Hospital,  
Tabriz University of Medical  
Sciences, Tabriz, Iran

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### Obtaining the Full Approval of the Educational Accreditation of Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, Iran

The educational accreditation system of hospitals is one of the most important models for monitoring the activities of educational hospitals and evaluating their performance. In brief, it can be said that accreditation is the granting of a permission or confirming of the qualification of an educational unit which has considered the predetermined criteria based on the judgment of experts in the related area. Therefore, it is of a great essence to be aware of and take the methods that can be a beneficial base for improving the quality of country's medical education. It is my pleasure to declare that with the efforts of professors, residents and medical students of Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, Iran, and with the admirable management of the deputy of education and research and the efforts of hardworking staff, we were able to fully approve the educational accreditation of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education for the first time in 2022. It is worth mentioning that the internationalization of the Imam Reza General Hospital, establishment



• **Mojtaba Mohammadzadeh**  
**Director-In-Charge's Message**  
Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Intensive  
Care Medicine  
Dean of Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, Iran



The department of Palliative Care Medicine and Pain of Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, Iran with suitable physical space and advanced equipment was established.

of new units in the deputy of education and research, including innovation office, center for skill lab, Covid studio and clinical research development unit in the center played a significant role in obtaining this approval. In this regard, other important items in obtaining this approval can be related to the development of new treatments in the center, including the quantitative and qualitative expansion of organ transplantation, establishment of several new treatment departments such as interventional radiology, hypothermia induction, pulmonary hypertension clinic, establishment of an iodine therapy center and palliative care medicine and pain department. I would like to congratulate this valuable success to the respected chancellor of the Tabriz University of Medical Sciences (TUOMS), respected professors and dear students of the center, and also express my special gratitude to the efforts of the respected deputy of education of the TUOMS, to the respected deputy of education and research of the Imam Reza General Hospital, and to the respected managers of the educational departments of the center. As well, I would like to appreciate the precious efforts of the respected deputy for management development and resources of the center and the support of the respected deputy of treatment and their unique cooperation who have played a great role in achieving this honor in this great path.



• **Hassan Soleimanpour**  
**Editorial Message**  
**Editor in Chief**  
Professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care, Subspecialty in Intensive Care Medicine (ICM), Clinical Fellowship in EBM, Fellowship in Trauma Critical Care and CPR  
Deputy Dean for Education and Research, Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, Iran

### Scientific Collaboration of Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, Iran with World Health Organization and Cerrahpaşa Hospital, Istanbul, Turkey



Heading towards Imam Reza General Hospital  
Joining as a WHO Collaborating Center

A Warm Welcome in Advance to Dr. Syed Jaffar Hussain from the Staff of Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, Iran (the Largest Referral Center in Northwest Iran)



It is my pleasure to announce that in order to improve the educational and research performance of the Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, Iran, the final steps of joining this hospital as a collaborating center with the World Health Organization are in progress, and also the Istanbul Cerrahpaşa Hospital has declared their willingness to have scientific collaboration with the clinical departments and research centers of Imam Reza General Hospital. At the moment, we can announce that Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, Iran has entered a new part of its scientific activities and is moving forward to join great international and academic institutions. As the deputy dean for education and research of this center, I would like to declare my appreciation for all the support of the respected chancellor of the Tabriz University of Medical Sciences (TUOMS), to the respected principal of international communications of the TUOMS, to the respected educational and research assistants of the TUOMS, and to the praiseworthy efforts of the respected dean of Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz in this great path. Through the grace of God, we will soon witness the presence of the respected representative of the World Health Organization in Iran, Dr. Syed Jaffar Hossein, at Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, Iran. In this respect, we will put strenuous effort on accelerating the process of joining Imam Reza General Hospital with the World Health Organization as a collaborator center. As well, in the near future, we will witness the presence of Professor Nuri Aydin, the chancellor of the Istanbul University Cerrahpaşa and dean of Cerrahpaşa Hospital, at Imam Reza General Hospital, Tabriz, to put into practice the process of exchange of professors, and students and also have research collaborations. Indeed, our greatest wealth in this path is the presence of knowledgeable professors, talented residents, dear nurses and students, and hardworking hospital staff.



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### Evidence-Based Medicine Center

H-index: 31  
Citations: 9145  
Published Papers: 511  
International Papers: 45%

The Iranian Center for Evidence-Based Medicine (ICEBM) was established in 2004 by Dr. Sakineh Hajebrahimi at Tabriz University of Medical Sciences, as the first Persian language EBM center. The center is now one of the core EBM centers in the region and has strong links with EBM centers worldwide. It is a special place that fuels creativity and knowledge in evidence-based healthcare. The main goal of the center is to undertake appropriate training and research to make a high-quality, safe and effective evidence-based environment for the health system. This center is a strong arm of clinical governance in the field of health services and is a bridge between research and the health system and patients' clinics. ICEBM, due to its performance and obtaining the necessary points, was able to become the first affiliated center of JBI Australia in Iran in 2020. ICEBM is the first and only Iranian partner of JBI Australia which is one of the most well-known international institutions active in evidence-based practice. Our center has received an official notification from JBI and an official memorandum has been signed between the JBI institute and the Research vice chancellor of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences. Its advantages include receiving a grant for the implementation of systematic review projects and clinical audits, holding fellowship courses and training courses with a certificate from JBI, free access to all mentioned specialized JBI software systems such as Paces, JBI Connect and obtaining a travel grant for members to participate in JBI seminars.



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### Neuroscience Research Center

H-index: 39  
Citations: 9053  
Published Papers: 851  
International Papers: 27%

The first steps for the foundation of the Neurosciences Research Center (NSRC) of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences were taken by the organization of a multidisciplinary research team in 2003 at Imam Khomeini Hospital. Over time, with an increment of research projects, the team decided to establish a research center. After the selection of the founding board, and preliminary approval of the Medical Sciences Universities Expansion Council, NSRC was finally established in 2006. Later in 2007, with the formation of NSRC's research and policy councils, and also selection of Dr. Mehdi Farhoudi as director of the research center, the principle consent was issued from the Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME). Eventually, with increased cooperation of NSRC with other national/international research centers, admission of PhD students, and setting up of its well-equipped laboratories, NSRC achieved to get the definite consent of MOHME in 2009. Currently, NSRC has numerous projects in cooperation with a wide range of local state and private universities, in various industrial, computational, basic sciences, clinical, diagnostic, and rehabilitation fields.

NSRC has also accomplished the mission of expanding and deepening its international relations through working on some joint projects with the universities in Denmark, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada, which has led to the publication of joint articles and designing research projects for PhD students. NSRC is now working on conducting pre-clinical and clinical studies has succeeded to answer the ever-increasing demands of researchers by establishing specialized laboratories in the fields of motor and cognitive behavior, molecular neurobiology, surgery of laboratory animals, histopathology, electrophysiology, and cognitive evaluation and rehabilitation. It has also paid special attention to conducting field studies and

library research, including disease registries or narrative and systematic reviews in recent years. Furthermore, in the last few years, by taking "aim-target" policies, the conducted researches of this center is mainly focused on brain vascular and neurodegenerative diseases. For this reason, the modelling of Brain ageing, Ischemia, Stroke, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and other cognitive diseases are developed in this research center. In the field of education, NSRC hosts successful PhD and Post-Doc courses since 2010, and according to the quantitative and qualitative development of research projects in NSRC, this center is now working with junior and senior researchers in different grades, including MD, Pharm.D., D.M.D., MSc, Medical Residency, PhD, and Post-Doc; and hopes to improve this potential by expanding its physical space as soon as possible. It is also worth noting that one of the major achievements of this center is published of "the Journal of Experimental and Clinical Neurosciences" in 2014. This journal accepts original and review articles from local and international researchers. Finally, despite all the existing restrictions, NSRC of TUOMS is one of the pioneering neurosciences research centers in Iran, according to annual evaluations; and hopes to maintain this position in the future as well.

#### Main Research Lines

Stroke, Epilepsy, Multiple Sclerosis, Trauma, Headache, Tumor, Neuromuscular disease, Neurodegenerative Disease



• **Mohammad Reza Ardalan**  
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### Kidney Research Center

H-index: 28  
Citations: 3220  
Published Papers: 291  
International Papers: 34%

#### Objectives of the Center

Kidney Research Center is in line with conducting research and technological activities in the field of nephrology and kidney transplantation in order to promote health and increase public awareness and establish educational and research relations with other research centers and educational departments of the university and production and industrial centers. Kidney disease is one of the most common diseases in modern life. Increased prevalence of diabetes, weight gain and hypertension, and the use of various medications have renal complications. Changing lifestyle, consuming lots of salt and calories, the occurrence of continuous and unpredictable changes and changing the pattern of kidney diseases have created new needs in front of different communities. Kidney transplantation and related sciences have led to the prevalence of up to 8% of chronic kidney failure in various communities. Therefore, recognizing kidney diseases and their timely prevention and treatment have high value in promoting community health. Therefore, the main goal of the Kidney Research Center of the Tabriz University of Medical Sciences is community support to reduce the incidence and prevalence of kidney disease and advance related sciences in the field of genetic research, epigenetics and kidney transplant immunology in the region and the world.

#### Perspective

We intend to achieve the following goals with a research view and the development of research by achieving new diagnostic and therapeutic methods and self-sufficiency in the production of scientific achievements - By promoting education and research in the field of kidney diseases, we want to serve the health of the community as a reputable research center in the region and the country. - Have a key role in health planning in the country. - The best research position in the field of kidney diseases in the country. - Led the research of kidney diseases in the country and the Middle East



• **Mohammad Hossein Somi**  
Professor of Gastroenterology  
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### Liver and Gastrointestinal Diseases Research Center

H-index: 44  
Citations: 11995

Published Papers: 918  
International Papers: 19%

Liver and Gastrointestinal Diseases Research Center (LGDR) was founded in 2005 with the mission of producing knowledge and technology to maintain and promote the health of society in hepatic-gastrointestinal diseases and cancers. LGDR is the coordinator of AZAR Cohort study conducted on over 12,900 participants in East Azerbaijan province, Iran. Official activities of the center have been started from 2005/05/16 with the appointment of Prof. Mohammad Hossein Soumi as the head of the center. LGDR has had successful collaboration and partnership with other universities and organizations in the autoimmune hepatitis registry, population-based cancer registry, celiac registry and joint research projects with the University of Groningen and in East Azerbaijan. LGDR consists of genetic research as well as biomedical analysis laboratories and holds PhD by Research courses. The fields of research cooperation include: Hepatitis (A, B and Autoimmune), Nutrition and gastrointestinal diseases, Inflammatory bowel disease, Gastrointestinal cancers (Epidemiology, Genetic, Epigenetic and Nutrition), Familial Adenomatous Polyposis (FAP), Congenital gastrointestinal anomalies and Familial Mediterranean fever (FAP).

#### Main goals:

- 1- Qualitative and quantitative development of basic, clinical and epidemiological research in gastrointestinal and liver diseases
- 2- Effective presence in relevant scientific societies and prestigious journals
- 3- Launching evidence-based education at all levels of gastrointestinal and liver diseases
- 4- Launching a comprehensive system for recording information on gastrointestinal and liver diseases
- 5- Launching a subspecialty department for gastrointestinal and liver diseases



• **Zohreh Sanaat**  
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### Hematology - Oncology Research Center

H-index: 42  
Citations: 8476  
Published Papers: 599  
International Papers: 20%

As the greatest research and educational center of hematology-oncology in the northwest of Iran, our prophetic, religious, and national goals are:

1. Developing research opportunities in educational, hygienic, and therapeutic fields
2. Sounding and programming policies on hematology and oncology topics
3. Producing new information for promoting healthcare
4. Promoting full partnership in order to raise Iran's scientific status in international associations and organizations
5. Conducting collaborative studies to reduce the incidence of morbidity and mortality in order to increase the span and quality of life
6. Providing attention to patients in poor conditions
7. Coordinating collaborative and research between national and international scientific and research associations to improve the conditions of deprived patients

#### Strategic topics:

1. Creating research opportunities and capacities of center
2. Promoting cooperation between different departments, especially the basic science department.

#### Enormous goals:

1. Equipping and using center laboratories in order to achieve research goals along with accredited responsibilities.
2. Increasing the number of facilities
3. Improving and increasing the skills and participation of center constituents
4. Expanding joint responsibilities first with the basic science department before any clinical and molecular biology trials
5. Summoning other departments for collaboration in research center activities and policies



• **Bina Eftekharsadat**  
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### Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Research Center

H-index: 27  
Citations: 2588  
Published Papers: 266  
International Papers: 25%

"Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Research Center" operates as one of the research centers of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences and a subgroup of the Aging Research Institute. This center was approved by the vote issued in the 200th meeting of the Council for the Development of Medical Sciences Universities and obtained approval in principle in February 2010 and officially started its activity in April 2010 in commemoration of Dr. Mohammad Sadegh Sediq Mostofi and with the efforts of the founding board (Dr. Seyed Kazem Shakouri, Dr. Yaqoub Salek Zamani, Dr. Vahidah Topchizadeh, Dr. Bina Eftekharsadat, and Dr. Fariba Eslamian).

Then this center was recognized as one of the definitive research centers by the Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education in December 2016, while receiving definitive approval. In these years, with the cooperation of faculty members and researchers and extensive scientific relationships have been established with various domestic and foreign academic and clinical research centers. As a result, many outstanding scientific articles have been published or are being published in prestigious scientific databases of the world. The purpose of establishing the center is to compile and implement study and research programs on physical medicine and rehabilitation and produce new technologies in musculoskeletal disorders. With the tireless efforts and cooperation of its faculty members, experts, and researchers.

This center aims to work as a dynamic and impressive organization in such a way to be a reference and innovation center in the field of research related to physical medicine, rehabilitation, and geriatric medicine, and importantly a leader in the field of production and of new technologies in neuro-muscular disorders with a valid and suitable position both regionally and nationally.

This center is fully prepared to implement the plans needed by the society. Its purpose is to help the policy makers in planning to improve the society health, to solve the serious society problems in these fields in different dimensions. The Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Research Center of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences intend to promote inter-departmental and intra-departmental cooperation and effective communication with other research centers in the university, the country, and research centers abroad through creating a suitable research platform for basic and applied research. Supporting research projects and improving the quality and quantity of research in rehabilitation and geriatric medicine, and using research results to improve the provision of community health services are other important goals of the center.

With the positive view of the Research Vice Chancellor of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences and with the cooperation of faculty members and researchers of the center, this center is ready to review and support research projects and scientific-research cooperation with respected researchers all over the country.

#### Research priorities

- a) Pain Medicine (intra-articular injections, epidural, injections, acupuncture, biofeedback in myofascial pain syndromes and physical modalities)
- b) Electrodiagnosis in neuromuscular disorders, hereditary neuropathic/myopathic disorders and acquired neuropathic disorders
- c) Rehabilitation and treatment of musculoskeletal disorders
- d) Rehabilitation in neurological disorders (after stroke, spinal cord and brain injuries)
- e) Cardiopulmonary rehabilitation
- f) Musculoskeletal and interventional ultrasound
- g) Lifestyle modification, nutritional supplements and interventions
- h) New technologies and inventions in physical medicine, biomechanics, prescription of orthoses and clinical kinesiology



• **Alireza Khabbazi**  
Professor of Internal Medicine - Rheumatology  
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### Connective Tissue Diseases Research Center

H-index: 19  
Citations: 1402  
Published Papers: 201  
International Papers: 16%

Connective Tissue Diseases Research Center of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences started its official activity in November 2013, after obtaining the approval of the research vice chancellor of the university, under the chairmanship of Dr. Alireza Khabbazi (specialist in rheumatology) and the cooperation of other rheumatology professors. Rheumatology is one of the super-specialized branches of internal diseases that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of rheumatic diseases including joint diseases, soft tissue diseases, autoimmune diseases, vasculitis and hereditary diseases of connective tissue. Connective tissue is a tissue that protects and supports other body tissues. Cartilage, bones and blood are part of connective tissue. In addition to protecting and supporting other tissues, this tissue creates a connection between the structures of the body and plays a role in the exchange of nutrients and tissue repair. Currently, extensive research is being done in connection with various types of connective tissue diseases and common autoimmune diseases in the connective tissue diseases research center.

This center aims to take a big step in the development and application of new knowledge in the field of "connective tissue diseases" by using its facilities and manpower and to carry out fundamental and clinical research in this direction. This center provides its services to the medical community by collecting, organizing and classifying related articles and documents and publishing them. Also, by persuading, encouraging and employing researchers, it tries to train human resources in the field of "connective tissue diseases". Also, the effort of this center is to attract attention and scientific cooperation with other research and educational centers and so far it has taken valuable steps in this direction.



• **Khalil Ansarin**  
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### Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases Research Center of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences

H-index: 34  
Citations: 6051  
Published Papers: 463  
International Paper: 36%

The Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases Research Center of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences started its activity in 1998 after obtaining approval for the establishment of the center based on the vote issued in the 118th meeting dated of the Development Council of Medical Sciences Universities.

Currently, the head of the Center is Prof. Khalil Ansarin (Subspecialist in lung diseases and sleep disorders), the research assistant of the Center is Dr. Haleh Mikaili (Superspecialist in lung diseases), and the executive vice president of the center is Dr. Majid Khalili (specialized doctorate in history of medical science and technology - traditional medicine texts).

#### Distinctive abilities of the center:

This center considers participation and conducting applied research needed by the society in various fields of the country's health system as its most important mission, along with conducting basic research in order to produce science, as well as providing guidance and consultation to policy makers and those in charge of research affairs in order to improve the health of the society.

This center was established for basic and fundamental research in the field of lung diseases and sleep disorders, and it works by promoting scientific research skills and research in various

aspects of lung and sleep diseases, as well as cooperation in the education of different levels of medical and paramedical fields.

#### The goals of this center are as follows:

- Conducting research in the field of lung diseases and special care, sleep disorders, diseases caused by environmental factors, thoracic surgery and respiratory therapy.
- Planning and implementation of effective domestic and international workshops and conferences
- Active participation and cooperation in the training of committed and efficient subspecialty doctors in the field of respiratory diseases, special care, thoracic surgery, respiratory therapy and sleep disorders.
- Developing effective and constructive communication with domestic and international scientific research centers
- Attracting all kinds of research grants from domestic and foreign organizations and institutions outside the university in order to advance priority research.
- participation, cooperation and support of research projects related to Iranian medicine and traditional Iranian medicine texts
- Launching a scientific research journal in English on a quarterly basis
- Specialized doctorate and post-doctorate programs

#### Facilities and goals:

Clinical-molecular research related to lung diseases  
The most important goal is to carry out and participate in the field of practical and innovative clinical research in the field of lung diseases including:  
Asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), lung cancer, pulmonary hypertension (PAH) and other diseases related to lung and molecular biology. This center conducts extensive research in the advancement of diagnosis, prevention, treatment and control of these diseases in order to take acceptable steps in promoting national and global health. In this field, by providing the necessary facilities, it helps master and doctoral students, in conducting research in order to achieve the above-mentioned goals.

#### Presentable achievements:

- Verification of the efficacy of Bromhexine-hydrochloride in treatment of patients with COVID19 disease by DR. Ansarin
- Investigating the effect of losartan in patients with 2019 coronavirus disease, by Dr. Sharifi
- Studying the effect of Beneh (turpentine sap) on Helicobacter pylori and its role in gastric reflux in patients with chronic cough by Dr. Khalili
- Investigating the comparative therapeutic effect of tissue plasminogen activator (tPA) and anticoagulant therapy in the treatment of critically ill patients with covid-19 by Dr. Rashidi
- Investigating the incidence of thrombotic events in patients who have recovered from Covid-19, by Dr. Rashidi
- Patent of Exhaled Breath Condensate Analysis device by Dr. Ansarin
- Monitoring of exhalation biomarkers (hydrogen peroxide and malondialdehyde) in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease patients, by Dr. Khob Nesab



• **Farzad Najafipour**  
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### Endocrinology Research Center

H-index: 20  
Citations: 1331  
Published Papers: 130  
International Papers: 26%

The Endocrinology Research Center which was called Bone Research Center in the beginning initiated its activity in 1990 by getting the approval of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education in Imam Reza General Hospital and then renamed the Endocrinology Research Center in 1993.



• **Hadi Hamishekar**  
Professor of Clinical Pharmacy  
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### Clinical Research Development Unit

Activities of this unit have been initiated since January 2019 under the leadership of Prof. Hadi Hamishekar, professor of clinical pharmacology. In order to make (continue on next page)



**(Hadi Hamishehkar cont.)**

research purposeful in hospitals dependent on medical universities and help to meet the country's research needs in the area of medicine and life sciences, the clinical research development unit was established. All the affairs of this unit are managed according to these requirements. The goal of this unit is to provide a suitable platform for research in a wide range of educational and medical services to the community and publish them to inform the related organizations from the acquired results of this research.



**•Samad Shams Vahdati**  
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 Research Center  
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**Trauma and Emergency Care  
 Research Center**

Since September 2013, the Emergency Medicine Research Center of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences has started its activities in the form of a research team and since the winter of 2014, it has been actively continuing research activities in the form of a research center. The goal of this center is to research the fields of emergency, trauma, and incidents related to emergencies. Our main goal is to develop research capabilities at the national and regional levels and improve knowledge. In this center, activities like carrying out research projects, guiding and counselling for student proposals are actively done. Furthermore, other activities are carried out in cooperation with other basic and clinical educational groups including Internal Medicine Department, Anesthesiology Department, Neuroscience Research Center and etc.

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**Infectious and Tropical Diseases  
 Research Center**

H-index: 38  
 Citations: 6943  
 Published Papers: 572  
 International Papers: 21%

The Research Center of Infection Diseases (RCID) was founded by Tabriz University of Medical Sciences in 2004. RCID has well-equipped laboratories to carry out research on medical microbiology and mycology fields including new diagnostic methods, antibiotic susceptibility testing, Mechanisms of bacterial resistance to antimicrobial agents and epidemiology of bacterial and fungal infections in susceptible hosts. This center provides research facilities, research programs and guidance to all post graduate students through expert staff, too. Microbial resistance (including bacteria, parasites, viruses and fungi) - Epidemiology - Different methods of control and prevention (new drug, vaccine and rapid diagnosis), new technologies and methods of diagnosis and treatment of microbial infections (including bacteria, parasites, viruses and fungi), Nosocomial infections and control methods.

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**Some of the Valuable  
 Published Papers by Prof. Behrooz  
 Naghili in Cooperation with International  
 Institutions (Multicenter Study)**

- 1- Profiles of multidrug-resistant organisms among patients with bacteremia in intensive care units: An international ID-IRI survey. (Journal of European Journal of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, IF: 2.837)
- 2- Self-reported antibiotic stewardship and infection control measures from 57 intensive care units: An international ID-IRI survey. (Journal of Infection and Public Health, IF: 7.537)
- 3- Managing adult patients with infectious diseases in emergency departments: international ID-IRI study. (Journal of Chemotherapy, IF: 2.385)

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