Stanford



Siwaar Abouhala

- MD Student with Scholarly Concentration in Biomedical Ethics & Medical Humanities / Surgery, expected graduation Winter 2030
- Haas Graduate CELC, Haas Center for Public Service

Bio

BIO

Siwaar Abouhala [pronounced: Sea-waar Ah-bu-ha-la] (she/her) is an incoming first-year medical student, a Knight-Hennessy Scholar, and a Leadership in Health Disparities (LHDP) researcher at Stanford Medicine. Siwaar is a health equity researcher and leader, with interests in community-engaged methods, maternal and child health, minoritized health disparities, and implementation science.

She graduated summa cum laude from Tufts University in May 2023 with triple majors in community health (highest thesis honors), biology, and Arabic language and cultural studies. There, she founded MARCH: Maternal Advocacy and Research for Community Health, the largest undergraduate student-run maternal health organization in the United States, as well as the Arab Maternal Health in Ohio Study, the first qualitative maternal health assessment among Arab American mothers.

After graduation, Siwaar conducted extensive biomedical and public health research to further health equity, including at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard [Founder of Project MENA PEDIGREE: Middle Eastern or North African Progressing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Genetic Research, Education, and Empowerment], Tufts Medicine [Founder of Project INSPIRE: Improving New Somerville Parent and Infant Resiliency and Engagement], the Arab American Health Network Alliance (AAHNA), and the Rare Disease Diversity Coalition (RDDC).

Siwaar plans on training as a physician-advocate at Stanford, with research and health innovation serving as a necessary bridge between both roles.

Website/ Blog: https://www.siwaarabouhala.com/

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Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Equity-focused implementation to enhance access to rare disease genomic research and understand diverse perspectives** *GENETICS IN MEDICINE*
  Martinez, E., Serrano, J., Abouhala, S., Neale, A., VanNoy, G., Rehm, H. L., O'Leary, M., O'Donnell-Luria, A., Wojcik, M. H.
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- **GREGoR: accelerating genomics for rare diseases.** *Nature*
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- **Facilitators and Barriers to Health Research Knowledge and Participation Among Arab/Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) Patients in the US.** *Journal of community health*
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- **"Our Voices Will Get Louder": A Qualitative Exploration of Factors Influencing Arab/Middle Eastern North African (MENA) American Patient Participation in US-Based Health Care and Health Research.** *Journal of racial and ethnic health disparities*
  Abouhala, S., Abdulle, A., Aziz, G., Hussein, A., Zanial, N., Shalabi, I., Stiffler, M. J., Hawa, R., Tariq, M., Ady, G., Awad, G. H., Abuelezam, N. N.
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- **Beyond the exome: What's next in diagnostic testing for Mendelian conditions.** *American journal of human genetics*
  Wojcik, M. H., Reuter, C. M., Marwaha, S., Mahmoud, M., Duyzend, M. H., Barseghyan, H., Yuan, B., Boone, P. M., Groopman, E. E., Délot, E. C., Jain, D., Sanchis-Juan, A., Starita, et al
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