

Amal Yousfan, PhD

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Personal Statement:

I am Amal Yousfan, a dedicated lecturer in Pharmaceutics and Industrial Pharmacy at Damascus University and Al-Andalus University. My expertise lies in nanotechnology and advanced drug delivery systems. My Ph.D. research on intranasal chitosan nanoparticles for epilepsy treatment reflects my commitment to innovative healthcare solutions. I possess a robust skill set in the formulation, characterization, and analysis of nanoparticles, and my experience extends to conducting experiments involving diverse cell lines, particularly neurons and astrocytes.

Education:

- Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Pharmacy, Damascus University, 08/2016-08/2021.
- MSc in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Pharmacy, Damascus University, 10/2013-12/2015.
- BSc in Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Faculty of Pharmacy, Damascus University, 09/2002-09/2007.
- Baccalaureate Degree (A level equivalent), 09/2001-09/2002.

Professional Appointments:

- Visiting Researcher, Reading School of Pharmacy, University of Reading, 07/2023-10/2023.
- Visiting Researcher in Medicines Development, Institute of Pharmaceutical Science, King's College London, 07/2022-07/2023.
- Lecturer, Faculty of Pharmacy, Damascus University and Al-Andalus University, Syria, 08/2021-Present.

Research Interests:

- Nanotechnology in medicine.
- Polymeric nanoparticles for nose-to-brain delivery.
- Formulation and characterization of nano and microparticles.
- Drug delivery systems for neurological disorders.

Professional Experience:

- Nanotechnology Research: Specialized in the formulation and analysis of polymeric nanoparticles. Proficient in SEM, HPLC, EEG, and primary cell culture methodologies, particularly in neurons and astrocytes. Involved in collecting and analyzing data for machine learning projects predicting brain targeting efficacy of drug delivery systems. Key role in result validation and interpretation.
- Academic Skills - Lecturing: Taught pharmaceutics, industrial pharmacy, and pharmaceutical technology. Supervised final-year projects and organized scientific workshops.
- Private Hospital Pharmacy Management: Focused on patient care and drug management.

Speaker Engagements:

- Twenty-Fourth Conference of the Scientific Society of Faculties of Pharmacy in the Arab World, Damascus University, 2023.
- Twenty-Third Conference of the Scientific Society of Faculties of Pharmacy in the Arab World, Aleppo University, 2022.
- The Seventh Conference of Damascus Scientific Pharmaceutical Days, Syrian Pharmacists Association, 2022.

Training and Certifications:

- Bio-nanotechnology.
- Thin Films Fabrication.
- Bioinformatics.
- Genetic Transfection.

Publications:

"A comprehensive study on nanoparticle drug delivery to the brain: application of machine learning techniques", Molecular Pharmaceutics, 2023.

"A comprehensive study on nanoparticle drug delivery to the brain: application of machine learning techniques", Molecular Pharmaceutics, Amal Yousfan, Mhd Jawad Al Rahwanji, Abdulsamie Hanano, Hisham Al-Obaidi, 2023.

"Seroprevalence and Trends of Hepatitis B Virus, Hepatitis C Virus, and Human Immunodeficiency Virus in Syrian Blood Donors at Damascus University Blood Center between 2004 and 2021." Frontiers in Public Health, Alia Alassad, Mhd Jawad Al Rahwanji, Amal Yousfan, Sally Al-Moualem, Arwa Farhat and Lama A. Youssef, 2023

"Intranasal delivery of phenytoin-loaded nanoparticles to the brain suppresses pentylenetetrazol-induced generalized tonic-clonic seizures in epilepsy mouse model", Biomaterials science, Amal Yousfan, Noelia Rubio, Mohammad Al-Ali, Abdul Hakim Nattouf, and Houmam Kafa, Biomaterials Science, 2021

"Development and Evaluation of Phenytoin Loaded Chitosan Nanoparticles using Different Formulation Methods for Anti-epileptic and Intranasal Delivery Applications" Tishreen University Journal -Medical Sciences, Amal Yousfan, Houmam Kafa, Abdul Hakim Natouf, 2021

"Preparation and characterisation of PHT-loaded chitosan lecithin nanoparticles for intranasal drug delivery to the brain, Amal Yousfan, Noelia Rubio, Abdul Hakim Natouf, Aamal Daher, Nedal Al-Kafry, Kerrie Vennerd, and Houmam Kafa, RSC advances, 2020.

"Preparation and evaluation of levodropropizine suppositories", Yousfan A.* and Hasian J. Journal of Chemical and Pharmaceutical Research, 2015.