# KASIM ESKENDER HASSAN ABDULAZIZ     kasim.abdulaziz@uod.ac

**Curriculum Vitae**     0750-733-7651

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Lecturer**     2015 - 2016
College of Health Sciences, University of Duhok, Duhok, Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
Course title: Research Methodology (4th level students)

**Assistant Lecturer**     2015 - 2016
College of Health Sciences, University of Duhok, Duhok, Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
Course title: Scientific Debate (1st level students)

**Assistant Lecturer**     2015 - 2016
College of Health Sciences, University of Duhok, Duhok, Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
Course title: Medical Ethics (1st level students)

**Assistant Lecturer**     2014 - 2015
**Postgraduate studies**, University of Duhok, Duhok, Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
Course title: Biostatistics (postgraduate students)

**Assistant Lecturer**     2014-2015, 2015-2016
College of Health Sciences, University of Duhok, Duhok, Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
Course title: Biostatistics (3rd level students)

**Assistant Lecturer**     2014 - 2015
College of Pharmacy, University of Duhok, Duhok, Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
Course title: Scientific Debate I & II (1st level students)

**Assistant Lecturer**     2014-2015, 2015-2016
College of Health Sciences, University of Duhok, Duhok, Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
Course title: Computers (Theory and 4 labs) (1st level students)

**Assistant Lecturer**     2014 - 2015
College of Health Sciences, University of Duhok, Duhok, Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
Course title: Community Medicine (2nd level students)

**Assistant Lecturer**     2014 - 2015
College of Nursing, University of Duhok, Duhok, Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
Course title: Research Methods (4th level students)

**Assistant Lecturer**     2014-2015, 2015-2016
College of Nursing, University of Duhok, Duhok, Kurdistan Region (Iraq)
Course title: Biostatistics (4th level students)

# EDUCATION

**MSc in Epidemiology -** University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada - Graduated March 2014
**BSc in Computer Science -** University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada - Graduated April, 2006
**BSc in Biology -** University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada - Graduated April, 2003
**High School Diploma** – Laurentian High School, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada – June, 1999

**MSc Thesis Project:** National Survey of Physicians on the Need for and Required Sensitivity of a Clinical Decision Rule to Identify Elderly Patients at High Risk of Functional Decline Following a Minor Injury
Supervisor: Dr. Jeffrey Perry
- Primary Data Collection
- Project phases: protocol preparation, REB approvals, key informant interviews, cognitive interviews, design and implementation of questionnaire tool using modified Dillman Technique, mailing of surveys including incentives and special contact, database development and data collection, data analyses and dissemination

**Graduate Courses:**
- Epidemiology I
- Biostatistics I
- Population Health Risk Assessment I
- Interventional Studies in Health Research
- Epidemiological Research Using Large Databases
- Epidemiological Methods
- Epidemiological Applications
- Applied Logistic Regression
- Applied Longitudinal & Clustered Data Analysis
- Health Technology Assessment
- Outcome Measures in Health Research
- Survival Analysis in The Health Sciences

**SAS training/courses taken with SAS Canada:**
- SAS Programming 1: Essentials
- SAS Programming 2: Data Manipulation Techniques
- SAS Macro Language 1: Essentials
- SQL Processing with SAS

**CIHI In-House Training Courses and Workshops**
Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) – 2009 - 2011
- **Some of the topics covered by the courses and workshops**:
  Technical Writing Workshop, Privacy and Confidentiality, SAS skills, Meeting skills, Leadership and management/planning skills, Presentation skills, Analyst Forums/Small Talks (to learn from other program areas), Trainings on ICD-10-CA/CCI, other trainings.

**Clinical Research Training Courses and Clinical Epidemiology Program Rounds/Seminars**
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI) – 2006 - 2009
- **Some of the topics covered by the OHRI courses**:
  Basics of Clinical Research, Research Ethics, Informed Consent, Privacy & Research,

Statistics for Clinical Research, Randomized Controlled Trials, Standard Operating Procedures, Knowledge Translation

## PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

**Publications:**

**Abdulaziz K**, Perry JJ, Taljaard M, Émond M, Lee JS, Wilding L, Sirois MJ, Brehaut J. *National Survey of Geriatricians to Define Functional Decline in Elderly People with Minor Trauma*. Can Geriatr J. 2016 Mar 31;19(1):2-8.

Perry JJ, Losier JH, Stiell IG, Sharma M, **Abdulaziz K**. *National Survey of Emergency Physicians for TIA Risk Stratification Consensus and Appropriate Treatment for a Given Level of Risk*. CJEM. 2016 Jan;18(1):10-8.

Perry JJ, Losier JH, Stiell IG, Sharma M, **Abdulaziz K**. *National Survey of Neurologists for Transient Ischemic Attack Risk Stratification Consensus and Appropriate Treatment for a Given Level of Risks*. J Stroke Cerebrovasc Dis. 2015 Nov;24(11):2514-20.

**Abdulaziz K**, Brehaut J, Taljaard M, Émond M, Sirois M-J, Lee JS, Wilding L, Perry JJ. *National Survey of Emergency Physicians to Define Functional Decline in Elderly Patients with Minor Trauma*. CJEM. 2015 Nov;17(6):639-47.

**Abdulaziz K**, Brehaut J, Taljaard M, Émond M, Sirois M-J, Lee JS, Wilding L, Perry JJ. *National Survey of Physicians to Determine the Effect of Unconditional Incentives on Response Rates of Physician Postal Surveys*. BMJ Open. 2015 Feb 18;5(2):e007166.

Arcand J, **Abdulaziz K**, Bennett C, L'abbé MR, Manuel DG. *Developing a Web-based dietary sodium screening tool for personalized assessment and feedback*. Applied Physiology, Nutrition, and Metabolism. 2014 Mar;39(3):413-4.

**Submitted for Publication:**

Lise M. Bjerre, Kasim Abdulaziz, Steven Hawken, Michal Abrahamowicz, Carl van Walraven. *Predicting the risk of Repeat Emergency Department Visit: Derivation and validation of the REV score*. October 2013.

**Manuscripts in Final Stages for Publications:**

Kasim Abdulaziz, Jeffrey J Perry, Jamie Brehaut, Monica Taljaard, Marcel Émond, Marie-Josée Sirois, Jacques Morin. *Survey of Family Physicians on Outcome Measures for a Clinical Decision Rule to Identify Elderly Patients at High Risk of Functional Decline Following a Minor Injury*.

Lise M. Bjerre, Kasim Abdulaziz, Steven Hawken, Michal Abrahamowicz, Carl van Walraven. *The Effect of Post-discharge Outpatient Care on unplanned Readmissions: the EPOC-readmission study*.

Lise M. Bjerre, Kasim Abdulaziz, Steven Hawken, Michal Abrahamowicz, Carl van Walraven. *The Effect of Post-discharge Outpatient Care on unplanned repeat visits to the Emergency Department*.

**Abstract and Poster Presentations:**

Laura Wilding; Kasim Abdulaziz; Jamie Brehaut; Monica Taljaard; Marcel Émond; Marie-Josée Sirois; Jeffrey J Perry. *Geriatric emergency management nurse views on prediction and management of functional decline in older adults after a minor trauma*. Abstract to be presented by Dr. Jeff Perry at the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP) Annual Conference. Edmonton, AB. May 2015

Helewa R, Fung-Kee-Fung M, Mamdani M, Auer R, Hawken S,
Abdulaziz K, Haggar F, Boushey R. *Making sense of collaboration and quality in colorectal cancer surgery - The Ottawa Communities of Practice (TO-CoP) Model*. Abstract to be presented by Dr. Ramzi Helewa at the American Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS) Annual Scientific Meeting. Boston, MA. May 2015.

Lise Bjerre; Kasim Abdulaziz; Stephen Hawken; Carl Van Walraven; Michal Abrahamowicz. *An Index to Predict the Risk of Repeat Emergency Department Visit or Early Death: Derivation and Validation of the REV Score*. Poster presented by Lise Bjerre at the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) Annual Conference. Ottawa, ON, November 2013.

Lise Bjerre; Kasim Abdulaziz; Stephen Hawken; Carl Van Walraven; Michal Abrahamowicz. *The Effect of Outpatient Care on the Risk of Unplanned Repeat Emergency Department (ED) Visits*. Poster presented by Lise Bjerre at the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) Annual Conference. Ottawa, ON, November 2013.

Kasim Abdulaziz; Jeffrey Perry; Jamie Brehaut; Monica Taljaard; Marcel Émond. *National Survey of Physicians on the Need for and Sensitivity of a Clinical Decision Rule to Identify Elderly Patients at High-Risk of Functional Decline Following a Minor Injury*. Poster presented by Jeff Perry at the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP) Annual Conference. Vancouver, BC. June 2013.

# WORK EXPERIENCE

**Methodologist**                                                                 March 2014 - Present
Clinical Epidemiology Program, Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI), Ottawa, Ontario
- Collaborate with physicians and scientists on health research projects
- Develop research plans, study design and analysis plans
- Use advanced SAS skills to transform and prepare data for analysis
- Conduct statistical analysis of the data including model building
- Produce reports, graphical presentations for manuscripts
- Review scientific literature for different projects and cite references
- Write and publish manuscripts
- Manage, direct, and implement algorithms and risk tools for the general public

**Systems Analyst**                                                               March 2014 - Present
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI), Ottawa, Ontario
- Work with researchers to develop quality applications to meet their research needs
- Develop and maintain clinical research databases
- Develop secure web-based multi-site applications to be used across the country and internally using PHP
- Help the organization choose relevant and up-to-date technology for higher quality data
- Provide technical expertise and training to other colleagues
- Import data into SAS (from MS Excel and other sources), clean and manipulate the data for reporting and quality assurance
- Analyze and provide statistical reports on data
- Respond to user requests for data and reports
- Implement data transfer mechanisms between database formats

**Methodologist**                                                    November 2011 - February 2014
Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI), Ottawa, Ontario
- Collaborated with physicians and scientists on health research projects
- Developed research plans, study design and analysis plans
- Used advanced SAS skills to transform and link data from large databases
- Conducted statistical analysis of the data including model building
- Produced reports, graphical presentations and manuscript writing
- Developed macros to help in reusability of code
- Managed, directed, and implemented algorithms and risk tools for the general public

**Lead Methodologist on the Following Projects:**

**The Effect of Post-discharge Outpatient Care on unplanned readmissions: the EPOC-readmission study**
- Project looked at the effect of post-discharge outpatient visits on death or readmission.
- Analyses included data transformations and modeling building using time-dependent Cox modeling. The project also involved writing portions of a manuscript.

**Predicting the risk of Repeat Emergency Department Visit: Derivation and validation of the REV score**

- Project involved developing a prediction model and a scoring system for the prediction of repeat emergency department visits.
- Analyses included data transformations and modeling building using logistic regression. The project also involved writing portions of a manuscript.

**The Effect of Post-discharge Outpatient Care on unplanned repeat visits to the Emergency Department**
- Project looked at the effect of post-discharge outpatient visits on repeat emergency department visits. The project involved integrating the prediction scores created for previous projects into this project.
- Analyses included data transformations and modeling building using time-depending Cox modeling. The project also involved writing portions of a manuscript.

**Predicting and Meeting the Needs for Long Term Care in Ontario**
- Project looked at the association between different variables and long-term outcomes.
- Analyses included cohort creation, data transformations and descriptive statistics.

**Patient health outcomes and professional practice following the implementation of a colorectal community of practice (CoP) model**
- Project looked at the effect of the colorectal community of practice implementation on patient health outcomes such as death, readmission, and complications for both colon and rectal surgeries.
- Analyses included cohort creation, data transformations, analyses of association between interventions and outcome and significance tests.

**Sodium Intake E-Health Tool**
- Project involved design and implementation of a web-based sodium tool for the general public.
- The tools obtained media attention nationally and internationally.
- Collaboration with scientists from the University of Toronto.

**Sodium Validation Study**
- Project involved design and implementation of a sodium tool for the validation of the existing sodium tool. Random subject IDs were generated for the tool and for labeling urine collection from a sample of University of Toronto students.
- Collaboration with scientists from the University of Toronto.

**Life Expectancy E-Health Tool**
- Web-based tool that provides simple patient-centered estimates of individual life expectancy based on user responses to demographic and health behaviour questions.
- Project involved design and implementation of the tool using web technologies.
- The tool made national media headlines upon its release in April 2012 with more than half a million life expectancy calculations performed by the tool within the first few months.

**Health Calculators - Engaging Canadians in Healthy Living**
- Design and development of a Web Services infrastructure, enabling access to patient centered health risk calculators which focus on the contribution of health behaviours to

different outcomes (life expectancy, cardiovascular disease, etc.).
- Partnered with Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada to allow health organizations including Heart and Stroke Foundation to integration and make use of our health algorithms for different purposes including Risk tools, integration with electronic medical records and mobile applications.

**Senior Analyst**                                                                 January 2009 - October 2011
Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), Ottawa, Ontario
- Worked with large databases using SAS software including use of advanced SAS skills to transform and link data as well as development of SAS macros to be used on daily basis
- Performed statistical analyses on the data and wrote reports
- Developed project plans and test cases
- Took lead role on the processing of data files and data quality efforts
- Active participation in activities that identified innovative approaches to data quality, indicator and reporting of ambulatory care data
- Ensured accuracy and overall continued improvement of the NACRS database by leading annual evaluations of NACRS data using CIHI's Data Quality Framework
- Actively participated in activities related to product expansion and the development of innovative and enhanced products and services
- Lead a team of analysts to do analytical review of our databases
- Worked with MicroStrategy BI tools to develop e-reports on the CIHI Portal
- Provided analytical support to ad-hoc data and media requests
- Supported and trained colleagues

**Database Programmer**                                                            May 2006 - September 2009
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI), Ottawa, Ontario
- Worked with researchers to develop quality applications to meet their research needs
- Helped the organization choose relevant and up-to-date technology for higher quality data
- Provided technical expertise and training to other colleagues
- Setup and work on an IBM Cognos Business Intelligence Server for analysis and reporting
- Followed Good Clinical Practice guidelines for clinical research
- Developed and maintain clinical research databases
- Imported data into SAS (from MS Excel and other sources), clean and manipulate the data for reporting and quality assurance
- Analyzed and provide statistical reports on the data using SAS
- Responded to user requests for data and reports
- Developed secure web-based multi-site applications to be used across the country and internally using ASP.NET 2.0 and SQL Server 2000 technology
- Developed standalone applications
- Developed and maintain application documentations (SOPs, requirements, status)
- Developed Audit mechanisms
- Implemented data transfer mechanisms between database formats

Sample of Specific Research Projects (programming, study protocol, analysis)
- Type 1 Diabetes Aerobic and Resistance Exercise (Dr. Ron Sigal)
- Resistance Exercise in Already-active Diabetic Individuals (Dr. Ron Sigal)
- Renal Transplant Project (Dr. Greg Knoll)

- Mood and Anxiety Research Program for the Royal Ottawa Health Care Group (Dr. Owen Kelly)
- Regional Cancer Model (Dr. Jim Watters)
- Progressive Renal Insufficiency Project (Dr. Ayub Akbari)

**Web Developer**                                                    June 2005 - September 2005
The University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario
- Designed, implemented and tested the Career Services administration web interface system
- This project involved working in a group of five and involved the use of software engineering techniques including requirements analysis, verification, design, implementation and validation/testing

# TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Epidemiological Research
- Statistical/Analysis: SAS, SPSS, MS Excel
- Database: MS SQL 2000/2005, MS Access, MySQL, PostgreSQL
- Web Development: ASP.NET (Frameworks 2.0 and 3.5), HTML, XHTML, XML, XSL, Web Services, UML, CSS, PHP, JSP, JavaScript, MS IIS, Apache and Tomcat servers
- Programming Languages: SAS, C#, C, C++, Objective-C, Java, VB, Scheme, Prolog, Perl, Assembly, SQL
- Operating Systems: MS DOS, MS Windows, Unix (Linux), Mac OS X
- GUI Design: Visual Studio (.NET C#, VB.NET), VB6 and Java Swing
- Business Intelligence Technology: IBM Cognos BI Server, MicroStrategy
- Word Processors: MS Office Suite Software, OpenOffice
- Smartphone Programming: iPhone/iPod Touch application development with Xcode

# VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

**Programming Tutor (Private)**                                              Summer 2005
University of Ottawa, Ontario
- Tutored Java programming language to a student and taught good programming skills

**Patrol Leader**                                                            1997 - 2000
Scouts Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- Led scouts in various types of programs including teaching first-aid, outdoor activities, community development such as planting trees, and educated the scouts on different technological devices

**Languages**: Fluent in English and Kurdish, some Arabic, some Turkish

References Available Upon Request