

# Daniel Turnberg UK/Middle East Travel Fellowship Scheme

## 142 Successful Fellowships Awarded

**The Daniel Turnberg Travel Fellowship Programme is a unique scheme that encourages scientific interchange and international understanding between the UK and Israel and the Middle East.**

The programme, set up by Edna and I in memory of our son Daniel, is now entering its sixth year. Daniel was a lecturer in medicine whose twin passions were research and promoting greater understanding between the UK and the Middle East.

The programme offers travel Fellowships that provide wonderful opportunities for young medical researchers to meet experts in their field and plan research collaborations. Fellows maintain interaction with their host Departments after the Fellowship and many joint publications, grant applications and research projects have been reported.

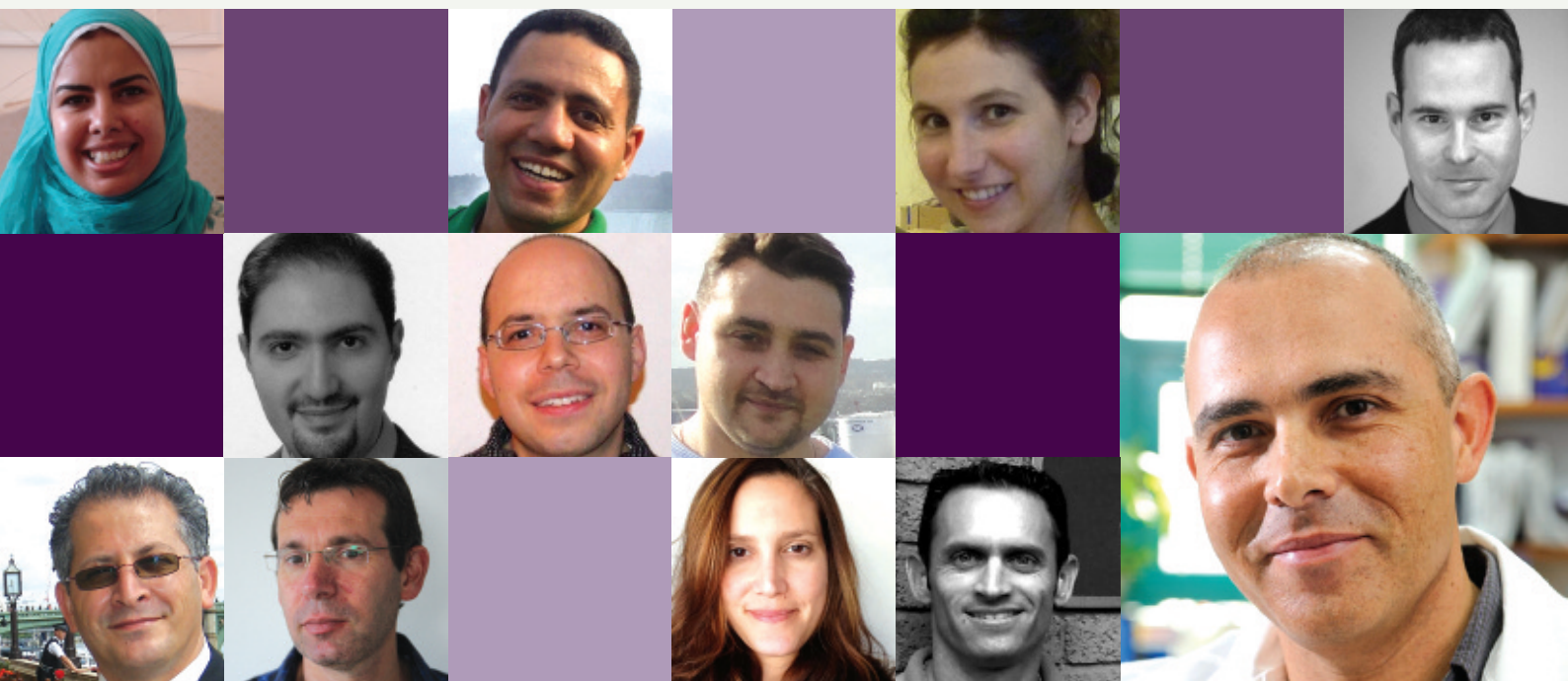
Feedback from researchers and their home institutions has been overwhelmingly positive and benefits have extended well beyond

the original placement. It is particularly pleasing to hear that personal as well as scientific bonds have been formed and further visits have followed. We can think of few better ways of fostering International understanding.

This year we have awarded our first three-month Fellowships, in addition to the normal one-month awards, to increase the flexibility of the programme. The recent cohort of Fellows covered a wide range of fascinating research projects, including brain tumours in children, parasites in drinking water, Alzheimer's Disease, Hookah (or Shisha) smoking and lung cancer, molecular biology of cancer cells, the use of implanted motorized nano-robots to study brain activity, severe mental illness and viral infections.

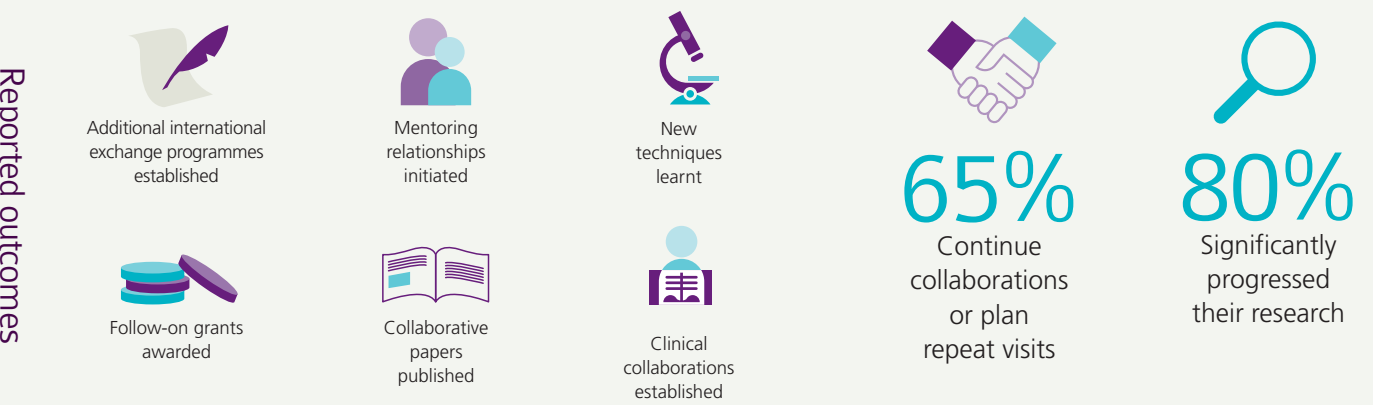
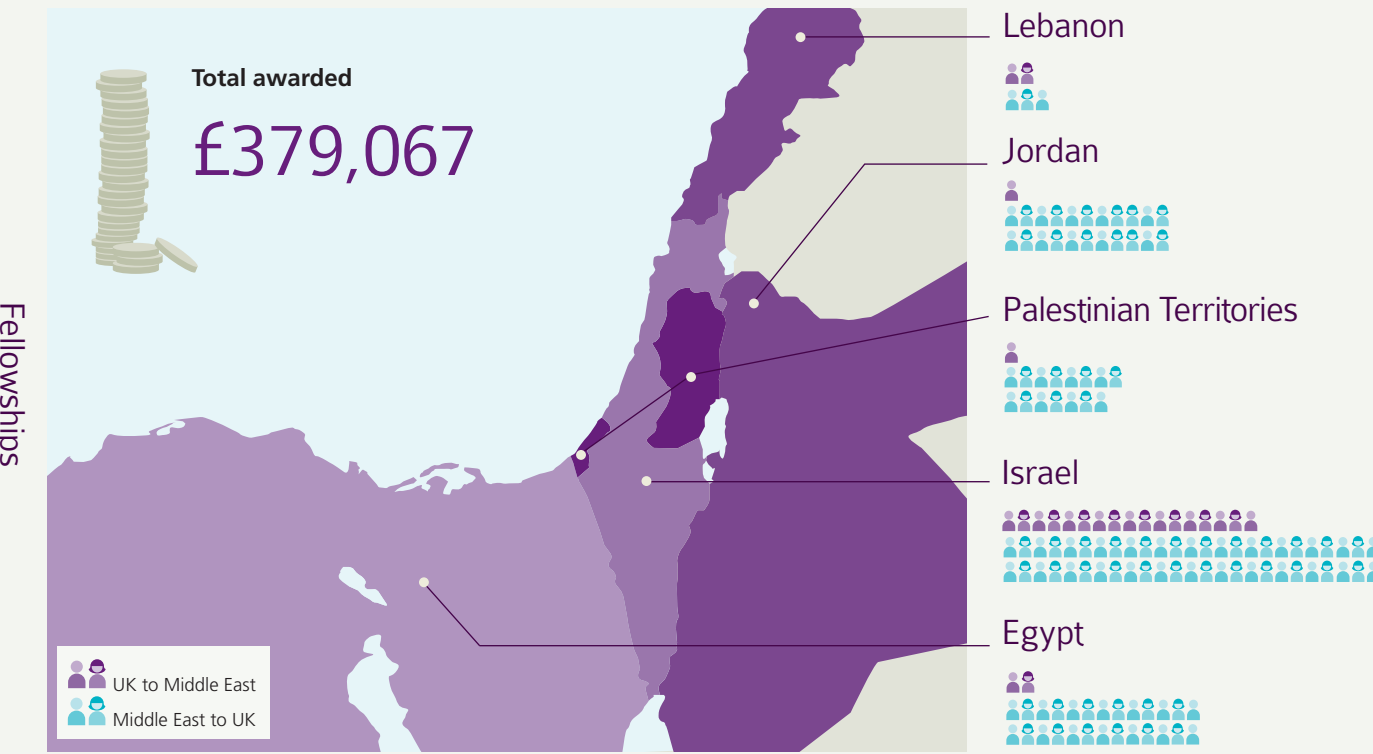
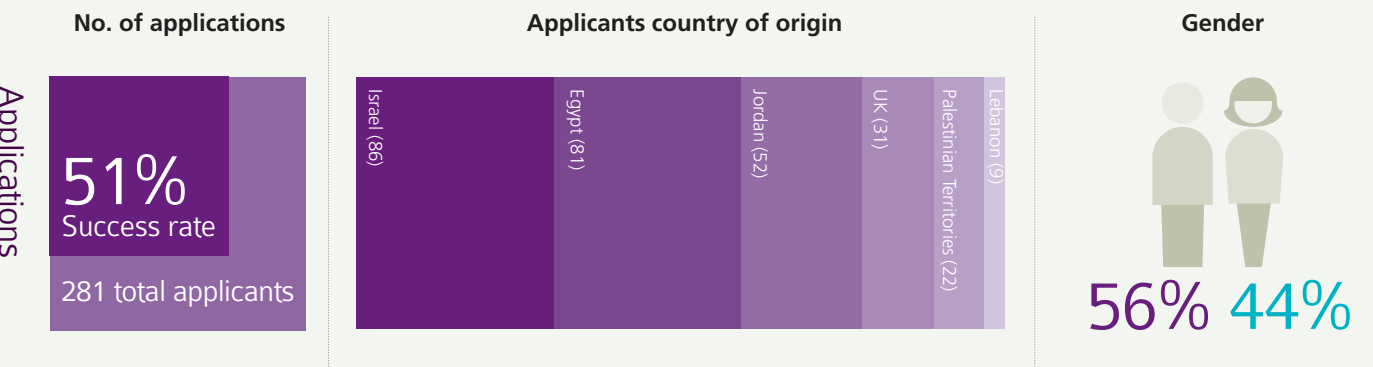
We are extremely grateful to our many generous supporters who have made these fellowship awards possible. Your support makes the prospects for increasing collaboration and understanding a reality.

**Leslie Turnberg FMedSci**



# Daniel Turnberg UK/Middle East Travel Fellowships

## Application and Fellowship information 2008-2014



# Making it happen

**Turnberg grants provide airfare and a subsistence allowance of up to £3,500 for a period of one month or up to £9,000 for three months.**

**Although a relatively short period it provides enough time for awardees to meet prominent researchers, learn new techniques and build a continuing collaborative research programme.**

**This short, 'seedcorn', funding also allows us to support many more Fellows than would otherwise be possible and this spreads the impact of the scheme more widely.**

**Our thanks must go to our exceptional supporters.**

We would especially like to thank the following, for their continuing major donations:

The Wellcome Trust  
The Wolfson Family Charitable Trust  
The Isaac and Julia Haskel Trust  
The Royal College of Physicians  
The Pears Foundation

Plus, the very generous support over the years from:

The Gavron Trust  
Glaxo Smith Kline  
The Welton Foundation  
The Esme Fairbairn Foundation  
The Dorset Foundation  
The Wohl Foundation  
Shire Pharmaceuticals  
N and J Greenwood Charitable Trust  
The Kohn Foundation  
A and S Burton Charitable Trust  
Heathside Charitable Trust  
M and G Marks  
Peires Family Foundation  
Rosa Frankel Charitable Trust  
Leon Charitable Trust  
Rosetrees Trust  
The Wolfson Trust  
The Gatsby Foundation  
Imperial College, London

and the many other individuals who have supported the scheme through personal pledges, contributions and donations.



# Brief case reports

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## Dr Yael Goldberg



Yael Goldberg is at The Sharret Institute for Oncology in Hadassah Hospital, Jerusalem, where her research focuses on characterising the genetic causes of colon cancer in the Arab and Jewish populations. She spent her Fellowship at the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics in Oxford.

'The Fellowship enriched my professional activities in many ways. We are now testing the incidence and occurrence of another genetic syndrome that leads to colonic polyps and colon cancer amongst Ashkenazi Jews.'

## Dr Mario Giardini



Mario Giardini, currently a Lecturer in Digital Health at the University of Strathclyde spent his Fellowship at the School of Mechanical Engineering at Tel Aviv University.

'The activity supported by my Turnberg Fellowship has enabled milestone work. It has seeded a collaboration that goes well beyond the mere sum of the technological and scientific capital.'

## Dr Itzic Cooper



Itzic Cooper works at the Sheba Medical Centre in Israel on dementia and Alzheimer's Disease. He spent a month in the Social, Genetic and Developmental Psychiatry Centre at the Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London.

'My Fellowship was very fruitful and hopefully will lead to a publication in the field of epigenetics and Alzheimer's Disease. Since the Fellowship ended I have managed to receive two competitive young investigator awards from the Alzheimer's Association and from the American Federation for Aging Research.'

## Dr Mohammed Jawad



Mohammed Jawad is a Clinical Research Fellow at Imperial College, London. He spent a month at the American University of Beirut in Lebanon. His research interests are in Public Health, particularly in the impact of waterpipe, or shisha, smoking on lung cancer.

'I organised my visit to a place where my supervisors would be leading experts in waterpipe tobacco smoking. The trip could not have been more productive. I hit the ground running and was given a few datasets within the first week. I made unexpectedly fast progress, applying what I had learned in the UK and supplementing it with new research methods taught during the Fellowship. I was able to initiate six research projects and ended the Fellowship with three draft manuscripts.'



# Feedback from supervisors

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## Professor Mark Last

Department of Information Systems Engineering  
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel  
Hosted awardee from the UK

‘This has been a very productive visit, which undoubtedly will lead to more research projects involving UK and Israeli researchers. I would strongly recommend this funding scheme to my colleagues.’

## Dr Sari Kovats

Department of Social and Environmental Health Research,  
Faculty of Public Health and Policy  
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK  
Hosted awardee from Israel

‘The visit was very successful and both partners benefited from the arrangement. We are currently finalising a joint publication on the research done during the visit.’

## Professor Elie Akl

Associate Professor of Medicine, Department  
of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine  
American University of Beirut, Lebanon  
Hosted awardee from the UK

‘We intend to maintain a collaboration by suggesting new project ideas.’

## Professor Cameron Alexander

Professor of Polymer Therapeutics and Head, Division of  
Drug Delivery and Tissue Engineering, Faculty of Science  
Nottingham University, UK  
Hosted awardee from Egypt

‘The awardee produced some excellent work, which has led to further travel scholarships within his University, and may lead to another study period. Several new project ideas emerged, and we intend to build on these further in new applications.’

## Professor Laurence Freedman

Director, Biostatistics Unit  
Gertner Institute for Epidemiology and Health Policy  
Research, Sheba Medical Center, Israel  
Hosted awardee from the UK

‘I was extremely happy with the visit and we are continuing to work together for a joint paper on our work. This first positive experience will lead to further collaborations in the future.’

## Dr John A Sayer

Institute of Human Genetics  
University of Newcastle upon Tyne, UK  
Hosted awardee from Egypt

‘The obvious benefit for me was to establish firm links with the Middle East and to facilitate an ongoing collaboration.’

# Fellowship recipients 2013

Name & home institution	Visit institution	Research area
Randa Abu-Youssef Alexandria University, Egypt	University of St Andrews, UK	Basic and clinical pharmacology
Areej Assaf University of Jordan, Jordan	Cardiff University, UK	Molecular and cellular immunology in relation to cancer therapy
Feras Darwish El Hajji Applied Science Private University, Jordan	Queen's University Belfast, UK	Clinical pharmacy and pharmacy practice
Riham El Sayed Cairo University, Egypt	Newcastle University, UK	Chemical pathology
Doron Kabiri Hadassah Hebrew University Hospital, Israel	University of Edinburgh, UK	Fertility preservation in cancer-affected prepubertal boys
Alon Livny Hadassah Hebrew University Hospital, Israel	King's College London, UK	Health promotion - dentistry
Mario Giardini University of St Andrews, UK	Tel Aviv University, Israel	Biomedical engineering, surgical robotics and medical photonics
Mohamed Shebl Amer Menoufiya University, Egypt	University of Leeds, UK	Physiology
Wesam Ghazi Ammari Al-Ahliyya Amman University, Jordan	King's College London, UK	Inhaled respiratory medicine & inhaler devices
Mohammed Jawad Imperial College London, UK	American University of Beirut, Lebanon	Public health - smoking
Mohamed Mandour Suez Canal University, Egypt	Newcastle University, UK	Immunology
Asad Zeidan American University of Beirut, Lebanon	University of Sheffield, UK	Hypertension
Israel Gotsman Hadassah Hebrew University Hospital, Israel	King's College Hospital, UK	Cardiology
Ibrahim Abbasi Al-Quds University, Palestinian Territory	University of Salford, UK	Parasitology
Sharon Aharoni Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel, Israel	Newcastle University, UK	Neuromuscular disorders
Adnan Al-Hindi Islamic University-Gaza, Palestinian Territory	University of Salford, UK	Cryptosporidiosis, giardiasis, amoebiasis & hydatid cyst disease
Bashar Altaani Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan	Queen's University Belfast, UK	Pharmaceutical technology
Mohammad Arafa Mansoura University, Egypt	University of Sheffield, UK	Gynaecological pathology
Georges Daoud American University of Beirut, Lebanon	University of Warwick, UK	Placental development
Mohamed El Zowalaty Zagazig University, Egypt	Anglia Ruskin University, UK	Microbiology
Moran Frenkel-Pinter Tel Aviv University, Israel	University of Manchester, UK	The role of glycosylation in Alzheimer's disease pathology
Zisis Kozlakidis King's College London, UK	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel	Viral diagnostic assays & infectious disease tissue sample biobanking
Amir Krivoy Geha Mental Health Centre, Israel	King's College London, UK	Severe mental illness
Rebecca Landy University of London, UK	Chaim Sheba Medical Center, Israel	Cancer prevention
Maya Negev Tel Aviv University, Israel	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK	Environmental health policy
Mahmoud Eid Soliman Ain Shams University, Egypt	University of Nottingham, UK	Advanced drug delivery

# Fellowship recipients 2014

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Name & home institution	Visit institution	Research area
Three month Fellowships		
Chervinsky Elena Emek Medical Center	University of Manchester	Paediatric genetic disorders
Al-Rahamneh Harran University of Jordan	University of Exeter	Exercise Physiology
Obeidat Wasfy University of Jordan	University of Kent	Pharmaceutics
One month Fellowships		
Afif Alaa Cairo University	King's College London	Molecular genetics
El-Badry Ayman Cairo University	University of East Anglia	Medical Parasitology
Foda Abd Al-Rahman Mansoura University	Imperial College London	Gastrointestinal Pathology
Hammam Nevin Assiut University	University of Leeds	Musculoskeletal Ultrasound
Samaka Rehab Menoufiya University	University of Nottingham	Pathology of diseases and tumors
Fixler Dror Bar-Ilan University	King's College London	Electro-Optics
Friedman Nir Weizmann Institute of Science	University College London	Systems Immunology
Gourevich Dana Tel Aviv University	University of Cambridge	Trans-Placental Transfer Studies
Livnat Galit University of Haifa	Royal Brompton Hospital	Paediatric Lung Disease
Meerson Ari MIGAL – Galilee Research Institute	University of Exeter	Molecular mechanisms of chronic disease
Revel-Vilk Shoshana Hadassah Hebrew University Hospital	University of Cambridge	Paediatric Haematology
Sammar Marei ORT Braude College of Engineering	University of Oxford	Fetal Medicine
Al-Saraireh Yousef Mu'tah University	University of Bradford	Pharmacology
Haddadin Randa Nayef University of Jordan	Queen's University Belfast	Antimicrobial & antibiofilm agents
Hammad Eman University of Jordan	University of Manchester	Clinical Pharmacy and Health Economics
Said Rana Faris Abd Nazzal Al-Ahliyya Amman University	Loughborough University	Pharmaceutical analysis
Southern Joanna Public Health England (PHE)	Sheba Medical Center	Vaccines and immunisation

# Supporting the scheme

We always receive many more high quality applications than we can support.

With your help we can expand the number of Fellowships we can offer and create vital networks and connections for the future.

For further information please contact the AMS Grants Team on 020 3176 2161 or visit: [www.acmedsci.ac.uk/turnberg](http://www.acmedsci.ac.uk/turnberg)



**Daniel Turnberg**

The Daniel Turnberg Memorial Fund was established by Edna and Leslie Turnberg following the loss of their son Daniel in a plane crash in Africa at the age of 37. Daniel had already made a mark as a bright young doctor and as a medical researcher and was destined for a future full of promise. A graduate of Leeds University, he trained first in hospitals in Yorkshire before starting his specialist training in renal medicine in a series of London teaching hospitals. He went on to obtain his PhD for his research into the role of the immune system in kidney disease at Imperial College and the Hammersmith Hospital before taking up a lectureship in renal medicine at the Royal Free Hospital in 2006.

But above all his academic achievements it was the universal view of his kind and gentle nature, his compassion for others and his sense of fun and enthusiasm for everything that life had to offer that earned him the love, respect and admiration of his patients, colleagues and wide circle of friends. In setting up this fund his parents hope to continue a keen interest he had in international medicine and in encouraging greater understanding between Israel, the Middle East and the UK.

 **The Academy of  
Medical Sciences**

