

Mental Health System in Egypt

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INTRODUCTION

The WHO requested from the general secretariat of mental health of Egypt to share in the WHO-AIMS project. This project aimed to collect information on the mental health system of Egypt using the World Health Organization System (WHO-AIMS). The project was supported by the WHO Country Office in Egypt, the regional office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO), Cairo; the WHO head quarters as well the WHO-AIMS team. It took time and effort to accomplish this task. For that reason, we judged that it is mandatory to provide the whole document for our colleagues to get benefit of it. We thank the editors of the Egyptian Journal of Psychiatry for hosting the document. I have to thank also my colleagues who assisted me in the production:

- Dr. Sawsan Mourad, Training coordinator in the general secretariat of the mental health
- Professor Zeinab Lotfy, Dean of Nursing Faculty, Ain Shams University
- Dr Ahmed Youssef, Director of mental health in the MOHP
- Dr Ahmed Heshmat, Head of the Finish Project for Upgrading Mental health services in Egypt.

Finally, it is worthful to mention that the document is available at the following website:

http://www.wlio.mt/mental_health/evidence/WHO-AIMS/en/index.html

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The World Health Organization Assessment Instrument for Mental Health Systems (WHO-AIMS) was used to collect information on the mental health system of Egypt.

The project in Egypt was implemented by the WHO-AIMS country team composed by: Mohamed Ghanem, Professor of Psychiatry, Ain Shams University and previous general secretary of mental health of Egypt; Sawsan Mourad, Training coordinator in the general secretariat of mental health; Zeinab Lotfi, Dean of Nursing Faculty, Ain Shams University; Ahmed Youssef, Director of mental health in the Ministry of Health and Ahmed Heshmat, Head of the Finnish project for

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The World Health Organization Assessment Instrument for Mental health Systems (WHO-AIMS) has been conceptualized and developed by the Mental Health Evidence and Research team (MER) of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (MSD), World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva, in collaboration with colleagues inside and outside of WHO.

Please refer to WHO-AIMS (WHO, 2005) for full information on the development of WHO-AIMS at the following website. <http://www.who.int/mentalhealth/evidence/WHO-AIMS/en/index.html>. The project received financial assistance and/or seconded personnel from: The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) (under the National Institutes of Health) and the Center for Mental Health Services (under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA]) of the United States; The Health Authority of Regione Lombardia, Italy; The Ministry of Public Health of Belgium and The Institute of Neurosciences Mental Health and Addiction, Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

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