

American University of Beirut
 Faculty of Medicine
 Department of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Physiological
 Sciences
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I- EDUCATION AND TRAINING

July 30-August 8 (2010)	Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory	Cold Spring Harbor, New York
	Stem Cells Biology Course	
2007-2011	National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health	Bethesda, Maryland
	Post-doctoral fellow	
2003-2007	Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Yeshiva University	Bronx, New York
	Doctor of Philosophy	
2003-2005	Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Yeshiva University	Bronx, New York
	Masters in Science	
2001-2003	American University of Beirut	Beirut, Lebanon
	Masters in Biology	
1996-2000	The Lebanese University	Beirut, Lebanon
	Bachelor of Science and Teaching Diploma in Biology	

II- WORK EXPERIENCE AND RESEARCH

2022 – Present	American University of Beirut, Faculty of Medicine	Beirut, Lebanon
	Title: Director of Graduate Student Affairs	
2021 – 2025	American University of Beirut, Faculty of Medicine	Beirut, Lebanon
	Title: Chair of MED II Class Teaching Committee	
2024 (Sep) – Present	American University of Beirut, Faculty of Medicine	Beirut, Lebanon
	Department of Anatomy, Cell Biology, and Physiological Sciences	
	Title: Professor	
2017 – 2024 (Aug)	American University of Beirut, Faculty of Medicine	Beirut, Lebanon
	Department of Anatomy, Cell Biology, and Physiological Sciences	
	Title: Associate Professor	
2011 – 2017 (Aug)	American University of Beirut, Faculty of Medicine	Beirut, Lebanon
	Department of Anatomy, Cell Biology, and Physiological Sciences	
	Title: Assistant Professor	
2012 - 2015	Lieber Institute for Brain Development	Baltimore, Maryland
	The Basic Sciences Division	
	Title: Adjunct Assistant Professor	
2007 - 2011	National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health	Bethesda, Maryland
	Center for Cancer Research, Cell and Cancer Biology Branch	
	Title: Post-doctoral Fellow (PI: Dr. Kathleen Kelly)	
2003 - 2007	Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Yeshiva University	Bronx, New York
	Department of Anatomy and Structural Biology	
	Title: Pre-doctoral Fellow (PI: Dr. Dianne Cox)	
2001-2003	American University of Beirut	Beirut, Lebanon
	Department of Biology	
	Title: MS student (PI: Dr. Hala Gali-Muhtasib)	
2000-2001	American University of Beirut	Beirut, Lebanon
	Department of Physics	
	Title: Research Assistant (PI: Dr. Malek Tabbal)	

III- PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS
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Only selected publications. Full list of publications (Pubmed.gov): [Abou-Kheir W - Search Results - PubMed](#)

1. Issa K, Badawe H, Kenaan K, Zeidan A, Chu J, Obeid M, **Abou-Kheir W**, Khraiche M. **Low-Intensity Ultrasound and Neural Repair: Unlocking Brain Plasticity and Functional Recovery**. *Ultrasound Med Biol*. 2025 Oct 16:S0301-5629(25)00354-0.
2. Fouani M, Scalia F, Mangano GD, Rappa F, **Abou-Kheir W**, Leone A, Lawand N, Barone R. **Exploring the Role of Heat Shock Proteins in Neuroimmune Modulation in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Insights from a Rat Model**. *Int J Mol Sci*. 2025 Oct 7;26(19):9743. doi: 10.3390/ijms26199743.
3. El Masri J, El Masri D, Ghazi M, Afyouni A, Finge H, El Ahdab J, Tlayss M, Al Chaar S, **Abou-Kheir W**, Salameh P, Hosseini H. **Description of the Risk Factors for Ischemic Stroke in the Lebanese Population: Their Association with Age at First Stroke Incidence and the Predictors of Recurrence**. *J Clin Med*. 2025 Mar 17;14(6):2034. doi: 10.3390/jcm14062034.
4. Doumit M, El-Mallah C, El-Makkawi A, Obeid O, Kobeissy F, Darwish H, **Abou-Kheir W**. **Vitamin D Deficiency Does Not Affect Cognition and Neurogenesis in Adult C57Bl/6 Mice**. *Nutrients* 2024 Sep 2;16(17):2938.
5. Darwish B, Chamaa F, Awada B, Lawand N, Saadé NE, Abou Fayad AG, **Abou-Kheir W**. **Urinary Tract Infections Impair Adult Hippocampal Neurogenesis**. *Biology (Basel)*. 2022 Jun 9;11(6):891.
6. Chamaa F, Bahmad HF, Darwish B, Kobeissi JM, Hoballah M, Nassif SB, Ghandour Y, Saliba JP, Lawand N, **Abou-Kheir W**. **PTSD in the COVID-19 Era**. *Curr Neuropsychopharmacol*. 2021;19(12):2164-2179
7. Chamaa F, Darwish B, Nahas Z, Al-Chaer ED, Saadé NE, **Abou-Kheir W**. **Long-term stimulation of the anteromedial thalamus increases hippocampal neurogenesis and spatial reference memory in adult rats**. *Behav Brain Res*. 2021 Mar 26;402:113114.
8. Bahmad HF, Elajami MK, Daouk R, Jalloul H, Darwish B, Chalhoub RM, Assi S, Chamaa F, **Abou-Kheir W**. **Stem Cells: In Sickness and in Health**. *Curr Stem Cell Res Ther*. 2021;16(3):262-276.
9. Alkhunizi SM, Fakhoury M, **Abou-Kheir W***, Lawand N*. **Gadolinium Retention in the Central and Peripheral Nervous System: Implications for Pain, Cognition, and Neurogenesis**. *Radiology*. 2020 Nov;297(2):407-416. * *Co-Senior authors*.
10. Bahmad HF, Darwish B, Dargham KB, Machmouchi R, Dargham BB, Osman M, Khechen ZA, El Housheimi N, **Abou-Kheir W***, Chamaa F*. **Role of MicroRNAs in Anesthesia-Induced Neurotoxicity in Animal Models and Neuronal Cultures: a Systematic Review**. *Neurotox Res*. 2020 Mar;37(3):479-490. * *Corresponding authors*.
11. Malaeb W, Bahmad HF, **Abou-Kheir W***, Mhanna R*. **The sulfation of biomimetic glycosaminoglycan substrates controls binding of growth factors and subsequent neural and glial cell growth**. *Biomater Sci*. 2019 Oct 1;7(10):4283-4298. * *Corresponding authors*.
12. Darwish B, Chamaa F, Al-Chaer ED, Saadé NE, **Abou-Kheir W**. **Intranigral Injection of Endotoxin Suppresses Proliferation of Hippocampal Progenitor Cells**. *Front Neurosci*. 2019 Jul 3;13:687.
13. Ismail JN, Badini S, Frey F, **Abou-Kheir W**, Shirinian M. **Drosophila Tet Is Expressed in Midline Glia and Is Required for Proper Axonal Development**. *Front Cell Neurosci*. 2019 Jun 4;13:252.
14. Chamaa F, Bahmad HF, Makkawi AK, Chalhoub RM, Al-Chaer ED, Bikhazi GB, Nahas Z, **Abou-Kheir W**. **Nitrous Oxide Induces Prominent Cell Proliferation in Adult Rat Hippocampal Dentate Gyrus**. *Front Cell Neurosci*. 2018 May 17;12:135.
15. Chamaa F, Bitar L, Darwish B, Saade NE, **Abou-Kheir W**. **Intracerebroventricular injections of endotoxin (ET) reduces hippocampal neurogenesis**. *J Neuroimmunol*. 2018 Feb 15;315:58-67.
16. Ghazale H, Ramadan N, Mantash S, Zibara K, El-Sitt S, Darwish H, Chamaa F, Boustany RM, Mondello S, **Abou-Kheir W***, Soueid J*, Kobeissy F*. **Docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) enhances the therapeutic potential of neonatal neural stem cell transplantation post-Traumatic brain injury**. *Behav Brain Res*. 2017 Nov 7. * *Corresponding authors*.
17. Chamaa F, Sweidan W, Nahas Z, Saade N, **Abou-Kheir W**. **Thalamic Stimulation in Awake Rats Induces Neurogenesis in the Hippocampal Formation**. *Brain Stimul*. 2016 Jan-Feb;9(1):101-8.
18. Amaly Nokkari1*, Tarek H. Mouhieddine, Muhieddine M. Itani, **Wassim Abou-Kheir***, Georges Daoud, Rui Zhu, Yehia Meshref, Jihane Soueid, Moustafa Al Hariri, Stefania Mondello, Ayad Jaffa, Firas Kobeissy*. **Characterization of The Kallikrein-Kinin System Post Chemical Neuronal Injury: An in vitro Biochemical and Neuroproteomics Assessment**. *PLoS One*, 2015 Jun 5;10 (6):e0128601. * *Corresponding authors*.

IV- HONORS, AWARDS, and INVITATIONS

- Abdul Hameed Shoman Award for Arab Researchers (2025)
- Dean's Excellence Award for Research- AUBFM (2025)
- EACR Travel Grant Award (2025)
- The Arab-American Frontiers Fellowship Award (2023)
- IBRO World Congress Travel Grant Award (2023)
- The Farouk Jabre Grant Award (2023)
- Best poster award- The Academy of Medical Sciences- The Daniel Turnberg Alumni Conference (2019)
- TYAN Collaborative Grant Award- The World Academy of Sciences (2019)
- Editorial Board - Plos One Journal (2018-present)
- Workshop on Cancer Stem Cells at TWAS Young Affiliate Network (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2018).
- Chair for Neuro-Oncology nanosymposium at SFN (San Diego, USA, 2018)
- The Arab-American frontiers fellowship award (2017)
- The Daniel Turnberg Travel Fellowship Award-The Academy of Medical Sciences (2017)
- The Farouk Jabre Grant Award (2016-2017)
- The International Society for Stem Cell Research Travel Award (ISSCR, 2015)
- Selected as The World Academy of Sciences-TWAS- Young Affiliate (2013-2017)
- Program Projects in Biomedical Research Award- AUB-FM (2013)
- Innovative Biomedical Research Award- AUB-FM (2013)
- Cover image of Center for Cancer Research Magazine, CCR Connections (2011)
- The American Society for Cell Biology Travel Award (2006)