



شراكة الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية والشرق الأوسط
لمكافحة سرطان الثدي ونشر الوعي والبحوث

US-MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP FOR
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS AND RESEARCH

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Oncology Nursing Society Joins U.S.-Middle East Partnership for Breast Cancer Awareness and Research

Newest Partner to Provide Training, Enriched Curricula

Washington, D.C.—The U.S.-Middle East Partnership for Breast Cancer Awareness and Research welcomes its newest partner, the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), to further enhance curricula and training for nurses throughout the Middle East and North Africa.

“Medical and advocacy leaders in our partner countries across the Middle East identified the lack of specialized training for nurses on breast cancer care and treatment as a critical gap in tackling breast cancer in the region” said Madelyn Spirnak, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, U.S. Department of State. “ONS, with more than 37,000 registered nurses and a renowned training program, has valuable resources they are eager to share with the Middle East and North Africa through the Partnership.”

To expedite the delivery of the most current disease information, ONS will make its *Site Specific Cancer Series: Breast Cancer*, a comprehensive text on breast cancer care, available to be translated into Arabic and shared with nurses in the Middle East. In addition, the Partnership is working with ONS to develop a pilot Training of Trainers workshop to enhance the skills of experienced nurses and nurse educators throughout the Middle East. The adapted course materials and syllabus will equip workshop participants to return to their institutions and expand the number of nurses trained in the materials at their local institutions.

“We are excited about joining the Partnership and sharing our educational resources and expertise to help improve the quality of the work by nurses in the partner countries,” said ONS CEO Paula Trahan Rieger, RN, MSN, AOCN[®], FAAN. “Together, we can enhance care and raise awareness of the importance of nursing contributions to caring for patients with cancer.”

The U.S.-Middle East Partnership for Breast Cancer Awareness and Research was created in direct response to calls from women in the Middle East who are leading the fight against breast cancer. Through the Partnership, launched in June, 2006, participants have increased clinical research collaboration efforts, public awareness about the importance of early detection, implementation of outreach strategies, and distribution of treatment information. In addition to ONS, key U.S.-based partners include Susan G. Komen for the Cure® and The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. This project is funded through the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, Office of the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI). MEPI supports efforts to expand political participation, strengthen civil society and the rule of law, empower women and youth, create educational opportunities, and foster economic reform throughout the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). In support of these goals, MEPI works with non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and academic institutions, as well as governments. More information about MEPI can be found at: www.mepi.state.gov.

The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), based in Pittsburgh, PA, is a professional organization of more than 37,000 registered nurses and other healthcare professionals. ONS is committed to excellence in oncology nursing and to leading the transformation of cancer care by initiating and actively supporting educational, legislative, and public-awareness efforts to improve the care of people with cancer. ONS provides nurses and healthcare professionals with access to the highest quality educational programs, cancer-care resources, research opportunities, and networks for peer support. Learn more at www.ons.org.

ICF International facilitates the U.S.-Middle East Partnership for Breast Cancer Awareness and Research through a cooperative agreement with MEPI. Through this agreement ICF International develops and implements cutting-edge models for US – MENA public-private partnerships intended to engage women in the MENA region. As the Partnership provision of health education and awareness information to women of this region grows, ICF continues to unite breast cancer advocates, doctors, nurses, survivors and researchers and increase breast cancer awareness and research opportunities.

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