Washington Academy
For International Medical
Graduates (WAIMG)

Mohamed. A. Khalif, MBBS
Our background

- We are a non-profit organization consisting of 150 immigrant and refugee physicians living in Washington state.
- Based in Seatac, King county.
- We come from 30 different countries.
- We speak 18 different languages.
Our Mission

• To integrate internationally trained physicians into the Washington health care system.
• To advocate for immigrant and refugee patients.
• To protect our communities from unproven and exploitative therapy.
Our Structure

- 9 Board of directors
- Education Committee
- Community and Public Relations Committee
- Audit Committee
- Finance Committee
- 130 Volunteers
President- Dr. Mohamed Khalif

- Former President of the IMG Task Force
- Founder of the WAIMG
- Worked with the Somali Health Board to introduce SB5846
- Originally from Somalia
- Speaks 5 languages
Vice President- Dr. Hala Alyasiri

- Originally from Iraq
- Former IMG Task Force Vice Chair
- Currently Chairing the WAIMG Public Relations Committee
- Spends an average of 30 hours per week advocating for immigrant communities.
Secretary-Dr. Yulia Sledneva

- Originally From Russia
- Ph.D. in addition to her medical degree.
- Practiced as an Endocrinologists for many years.
- Advocated for the Russian community in Olympia after the measles outbreak.
- Speaks 4 languages
Treasurer- Dr. Anab Abdullahi

- Originally from Somalia
- Leads women’s health initiatives in immigrant communities.
- Currently Chairing the WAIMG Finance committee
- Case management skills
Chief Inspector- Dr. Marwa Abd Enlnabe

- Originally from Sudan
- Worked with the IRC to integrate immigrant and refugees.
- Currently chairing the WAIMG Audit committee
- Research Skills
Board Member- Dr. Mahmoud Omar

- Originally From Egypt
- Serves on the WAIMG Education committee
- Advocates for the middle eastern community in Olympia
- Oversees Research proposals at the WAIMG
Board Member- Dr. Badeea Qureshi

- From the United Kingdom
- Former Chair of the IMG Task Force
- Spends an average of 40 hours per week in advocacy and community engagement.
- WAIMG Education Instructor
- Works with the Redmond community and the Muslim Association of Puget Sound (MAPS).
Board Member- Dr. Volha Chapiolkina

- Originally From Belarus
- Chairs the WAIMG Membership committee
- Spends an average of 20 hours per week advocating for immigrants
- Multilingual in Russian, English and Belarusian.
Board Member-
Dr. Lamia
Mohamed

- Currently Chairing WAIMG Education Committee
- WAIMG Physician Trainer
- Former University Educator
- Workforce development experience.
- Participates in advocacy and community engagement.
- Ph.D. in addition to her medical degree
Helped pass Senate Bill 5846 which will create an international medical graduate assistance program.

Notified the attorney general on predators promoting unproven medical therapies to immigrant families.

Educated immigrant and refugee communities on unproven medical therapies.
We helped pass SB5846!
WAIMG’S fight against Unproven & Exploitative therapies

- A public lecture titled “Recent Advancement in Management of Autism” was held on June 22, 2019.
- Location of the event: Marriot/Courtyard Hotel in Seattle
- The event was massively advertised on Social Media.
- Objective: to recruit autistic kids and their parents to India.
- Organizer: Alok Sharma; a neurosurgeon from India.
- In 2018, he was condemned by Sri Lanka College of Pediatricians and alleged that he screened patients in a hotel room.
- The WAIMG conducted outreach against this unproven and exploitative therapy.
Review

- Dr. Alok Sharma; Director of NeuroGen, a center for cell therapy and neurorehabilitation in India.
- Claims over 100 publications.
- Most of these papers were published on a black listed and predatory journals by Beall’s List of Predatory Journals.
- Used case-study designs to prove effectiveness of a therapy.
- Uses uncontrolled and unproven experiments on vulnerable children
Recommendations

- To develop a prompt and extensive outreach on predators and unproven health therapies.
- Stakeholders should be proactive, strengthen their cooperation and double their commitment to protect and preserve the wellbeing of immigrant families.
- The WAIMG can help relieve some of the health disparities mentioned. We have over 130 active immigrant and refugee physicians who are committed to detect and warn the community against these predators. We need the support of our county to continue this important work.