NAME: Sawsan FEKI

DATE /PLACE OF BIRTH: May 19th, 1981 in Tunisia

LANGUAGE SKILLS: Arabic, French, English

CURRENT POSITION /TITLE: MD / PhD - Professor in Immunology

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EDUCATION/TRAINING

| INSTITUTION AND LOCATION | DEGREE (if applicable) | Start Date MM/YYYY | Completion Date MM/YYYY | FIELD OF STUDY |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Ministry of education (TUNISIA) | Baccalaureate degree with honors | ------- | 06/2000 | Scientific section |
| Medical career: Faculty of Medicine and University of Sfax/ Tunisian University Hospitals / Ministry of Health, Tunisia | | | | |
| | | 09/2001 | 12/2007 | Pre-graduated medical studies and internship |
| | | 11/2007 | General Medicine |
| | | 01/2008 | 12/2010 | Medical Biology |
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| | | 01/2008 | 12/2010 | Medical Biology/Immunology |
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| | | 03/2012 | Immunology |
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| | | 06/2012 | Immunology |
| | | 12/2018 | Immunology |
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| | | 12/2023 | Immunology |
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| Scientific career: National School of Engineers of Sfax, Tunisia/ Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Tunis, Tunisia | | | | |
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| | Bio-engineering studies | 09/2010 | 06/2011 | Bio-engineering |
| | Research Master in Bioengineering | ------- | 11/2013 | Immunogenetics |
| | PhD thesis dissertation/ Degree | 01/2018 | 12/2022 | Neurosciences/Neuroimmunology |
| INSTITUTION AND LOCATION | DEGREE (if applicable) | Start Date MM/YYYY | Completion Date MM/YYYY | FIELD OF STUDY |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Current Affiliation as a Professor in Immunology (University of Sfax): | | | | |
| - Faculty of Medicine of Sfax (TUNISIA) | | | | |
| - Clinical Immunology Department, Habib Bourguiba UH of Sfax (TUNISIA) | | | | |
| - Research Laboratory “Autoimmunity, Cancer and immunogenetics”LR18SP12 | | | | |

A. Positions, Scientific Appointments, and Honors

1. Positions and Scientific Appointments

2015 – Present: Member of the executive Board of the "Tunisian Society of Immunology TSI": Deputy secretary general / Coordinator of training and scientific education
2021-Present: Member of the board of the Tunisian College of Immunology, Tunisian Ministry of Health
2021- Present: Member of the board of directors of the Medical Research Committee, Faculty of Medicine of Sfax
2021- Present: Coordinator of the “Certification in Medical Biology” for post-graduate students, Faculty of Medicine of Sfax
2022- Present: Head of the Immunology Section (pre- and post graduate medical studies), Faculty of Medicine of Sfax
2022-Present: Member of the coordination team of the Research Master in Bioengineering, Faculty of Medicine of Sfax, Tunisian Ministry of Health
2021-Present: Coordinator of the e-Learning Platform for Medical thesis candidates, Faculty of Medicine of Sfax
2023- Present: Member of the Scientific Doctorate Committee, Faculty of Medicine, University of Sfax
2017-2023: African “Immunopaedia” Ambassador and Rapporteur (https://www.immunopaedia.org.za/our-ambassadors/africa/)
2015-Present: Coordinator of the ASSOCIAMED training in Immunology, Faculty of Medicine of Sfax

2. Academic honors and certifications:

2024: Title of Professor in Medicine (Immunology), Tunisian Ministry of Health
2023-Present: Diploma in “Immunotherapy”: Sorbonne University (in progress)
2022: PhD Degree in Neurosciences, National School of Engineers of Sfax / Ministry of education, Tunisia
2022: Award of the Best Research project - MENACTRIMS 2022
2022: Diploma in “Pedagogy of e-Learning”
2021: Tunisian / American Diploma in “English for Communication”
2018: Title of Associate Professor in Immunology
2017: Diploma in "Medical English"
2016: Diploma in "Management and Quality Assurance in Health system"
2013: Master’s Degree in Bioengineering, National School of Engineers of Sfax / Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Tunisia
2015: Certification in "Medical Pedagogy"
2012: Title of Assistant in Immunology
2012: Medical specialization diploma in Clinical Biology and Immunology, Tunisian Ministry of Health
2012: Certification in "Immuno-Allergology"
2010: Doctorate Degree in medicine (Medical Biology-Immunology)
B. Contributions to Science

1. **Reviewer** in several high impact scientific journals (Frontiers, MSRD…).

2. **Recent Publications (2017-2024)**

**Neurosciences:**

*Intrathecal B cell-related markers for an optimized biological investigation of multiple sclerosis patients.*

Sawsan FEKI, M DAMAK, S SAKKA, Y BEN ALI, et al. Nature Portfolio: Scientific Reports: Sci Rep 12, 16425 (2022). [https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-19811-3](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-19811-3)

*Infrequent patterns in cerebrospinal fluid isofocusing test: Clinical significance and contribution of IgG index and Reiber diagram to their interpretation.*

M Maaloul, S Mejdoub, S Sakka, H Hachicha, M Dammak, F Koubaa, C Mhiri, H Masmoudi, Sawsan Feki. Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders, 2024, 105509, ISSN 2211-0348, [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.msard.2024.105509](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.msard.2024.105509).

*Vitamin D deficiency in relation with the systemic and central inflammation during multiple sclerosis*

Sawsan Feki, Manel Naifar, Mariem Dammak, Sabrina Majdoub, et al. J Med Biochem 42: 1–12, 2023

*The intrathecal polyspecific antiviral immune response (MRZ reaction): a potential cerebrospinal fluid marker for multiple sclerosis diagnosis.*

Sawsan Feki, Saba Gargouri, Sabrina Mejdoub, Mariem Dammak, et al. Journal of Neuroimmunology 321 (2018) 66–71

*Antinuclear antibodies positivity is not rare during multiple sclerosis and is associated with relapsing status and IgG oligoclonal bands positivity.*

S Mejdoub, S Feki, N Farhat, M Dammak, H Hachicha, et al. Rev Neurol (Paris). 2022 Oct;178(8):812–816. doi: 10.1016/j.neurol.2021.11.016. Epub 2022 May 16.

*Neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorders in South of Tunisia: A rare entity with low seroprevalence of anti-aquaporin 4 autoantibodies.*

S Mejdoub, S Feki, M Dammak, N Farhat, et al. Rev Neurol. 10.1016/j.neurol.2019.08.009. (2019).

*Traditional risk factors and combined genetic markers of recurrent ischemic stroke in adults.*

M’barek L, Sakka S, Megdiche F, Farhat N, Maalla K, Turki D, Feki S, et al. J Thromb Haemost. 2021 Oct;19(10):2596-2604. doi: 10.1111/jth.15448. Epub 2021 Aug 16.

**Allergy:**

*Recent advances in selective allergies to mammalian milk proteins not associated with Cow's Milk Proteins Allergy.*

Lajnaf R, Feki Sawsan, Ben Ameur S, Attia H, Kammoun T, Ayadi MA, Masmoudi H. Food Chem Toxicol. 2023 Aug; 178:113929. doi: 10.1016/j.fct.2023.113929. Epub 2023 Jul 3. PMID: 37406758.

*Cow's milk alternatives for children with cow's milk protein allergy - Review of health benefits and risks of allergic reaction.*

Roua Lajnaf, Sawsan Feki, Salma Ben Ameur, Hamadi Attia, Thouraya Kammoun, Mohamed Ali Ayadi, Hatem Masmoudi. International Dairy Journal ,Volume 141, 2023,105624, ISSN 0958-6946, [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.idairyj.2023.105624](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.idairyj.2023.105624).

*IgE-mediated food allergy in South Tunisian children: Contribution of foodspecific IgE and component-resolved diagnosis.*

A. Jerbi, Sawsan Feki, S. Ben Ameur, H. Hachicha, L. Gargouri, A. Mahfoudh, T. Kammoun, H. Masmoudi, Revue Française d'Allergologie, Volume 63, Issue 5, 2023, 103686, ISSN 1877-0320, [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.reval.2023.103686](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.reval.2023.103686).

*Characteristics of Cow Milk Proteins and the Effect of Processing on Their Allergenicity.*

Roua Lajnaf, Sawsan Feki, Hamadi Attia, Mohamed Ali Ayadi and Hatem Masmoudi. In: Chaiyabutr, N. , editor. Milk Protein - New Research Approaches [Internet]. London: IntechOpen; 2022 [cited 2023 Jan 06]. Available from: [https://www.intechopen.com/chapters/80325 doi: 10.5772/intechopen.102494](https://www.intechopen.com/chapters/80325 doi: 10.5772/intechopen.102494)
Autoimmunity:

Vitamin D status and CYP27B1-1260 promoter polymorphism in Tunisian patients with systemic lupus erythematosus. Raouia Fakhfakh, Sawsan Feki, Aida Elleuch, Manel Neifar, et al. Mol Genet Genomic Med. 2021;9:e1618

Genetic association and phenotypic correlation of TLR4 but not NOD2 variants with Tunisian inflammatory bowel disease. Feki Sawsan, Bouzid D, Abida O, Toumi A, et al. Journal of Digestif Diseases. 2017 Nov;18(11):625-633. doi: 10.1111/1751-2980.12552

Pemphigus herpetiformis in South Tunisia: A clinical expression of pemphigus foliaceus? Jerbi A, Hachicha H, Feki S, Bahloul E, et al. International Journal of Dermatology, 2018

South Tunisian pemphigus patients beyond 60 years: epidemiological profile and evolution. Jerbi A, Hachicha H, Bahloul E, Feki S, et al. Int J Dermatol. 2019 Nov;58(11):e219-e220

HLA Class III: A susceptibility region to systemic lupus erythematosus in Tunisian population. Hachicha H, Mahfoudh N, Fourati H, Elloumi N, Marzouk S, Feki S, et al. PLOS ONE. June 18, 2018

3. Scientific organization:

2015- 2024: Contribution as a member of the Scientific/ Organizing committee of several Tunisian (TSI), Maghrebin, African (FAIS) and International (IUIS) scientific events.

4. Scientific supervision:

-Medical and Scientific Theses / Research Masters projects in Neurosciences, Autoimmunity and Oncology
-Postdoctoral projects in Allergy