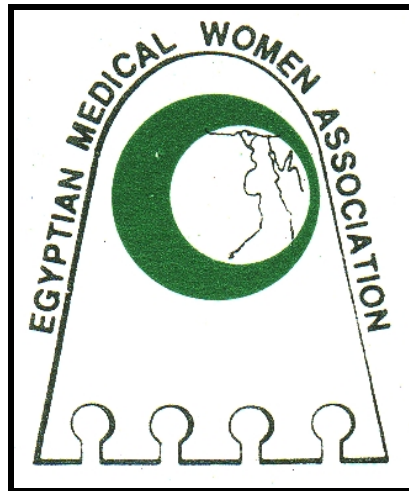


# The Egyptian Medical Women Association

(EMWA)



- The Egyptian Medical Women Association (EMWA) is a non governmental organization. It has a growing membership (over 500 members) of medical women from different disciplines; Academics, Researchers and Service providers in variable specialties all over Egypt. The Egyptian Medical Women Association has 15 executive board members. It was founded in 1966 and registered at the Ministry of Social Affairs with No. 82.
- EMWA is affiliated to the Medical Women International Association (MWIA) which provides an International Forum to more than 2000 medical women members from 70 different countries, MWIA was established in 1919 and is represented in the Advisory board of WHO. EMWA is also affiliated to The African Women Association.
- EMWA is a member of the National NGO Federation and is represented in the National NGO Commission for Population and Development.

- EMWA believes that its members as women and as physicians representing every specialty, have a unique contribution to improving our Nations Health Status. The EMWA is dedicated to promoting women's health and increasing the influence of women in the medical profession. Of grave concern to the organization is the need for better Reproductive Health Care. EMWA greatly advocates integrating health issues with sociocultural activities responding to community needs.
- They exert considerable effort to improve the status of women and actively participate in problem solving of the women health and related issues through community mobilization activities as well as production and distribution of educational material. Also, through support of the National Programs that foster promotion of health of mother and children in Egypt.

### **Objectives of EMWA**

- To provide opportunities for medical women to reach the community and actively participate in problem solving of women, children and adolescent health and related issues.
- To address the needs and concerns of women especially in deprived areas and those facing difficult life situation.
- To support National programs that foster promotion of mother and child health.
- To stimulate young medical women enrollment and encourage identification of their needs and contribute to fulfillment of their expectations. Also it encourages volunteer's contributions.
- To initiate networking with other NGOs which facilitate sustainability of many projects.
- To build alliances with the social sector and affiliated organizations.

## **I) Projects of EMWA in childhood**

### **1. Profile of girl-child in Egypt (1995)**

- Sponsored by Bejine Trunst Fund in preparation for the Fourth International Conference for Women Bejine 1995.
- It has three strategies:
- The 1<sup>st</sup> is development of conceptual research framework.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> was: development of assessment model through interview questionnaire.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> is promotion of women (200) towards healthy lifestyle (TOT) for their children.

### **2. Preparation of some Egyptian Hospitals as “Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative” (BFHI). Sponsored by UNICEF (1969-2000)**

It was carried on two stages:

- A. Capacity building of EMWA members to adopt the initiative (BFHI) and to be National Assessors.
- B. To prepare some Governmental, Educational and Private Hospitals to be (BFHI) (40 hospitals in Great Cairo and Upper Egypt govern orates.

### **3. Capacity building of health team and social workers (1996-2000) on:**

- Environmental health issues.
- Safe mnotherhood and childhood.
- Skills of communication.
- FGM and its consequences.
- It was sponsored by two agencies:
  - DANIDA for Sohag and Qana Project-20 Persons as targets (1996).
  - International Medical Women Association for University Hospitals 150 members as targets (2000).

#### ***4. Health promotion of young Egyptian women using Behavioral Changes Towards Better Quality of Life (1998-2004) in deprived areas.***

- It contained Reproductive Health issues e.g.: Nutrition, infectious diseases, immunization, environment, life decisions, home safety, family planning and population and youth problems.
- It was done on two levels:
  - A. NGOs leaders (TOT) (200 participants).
  - B. Target illiterate women (800 women).
- It was repeated two times and sponsored by:
  - Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP).
  - American Embassy in Egypt.

#### ***5. Promotion of primary health care services (200-2002)***

- It was collaborated work with Health Recovery Program of MOHP and National Organization for Adult Education to train 500 voluntary youth group in seven governorates (Kafr El-Shick-Minia, Sohag, Minufia, Sharkia, Behera and Assuit).
- The training package was prepared by EMWA experts. It includes all Health Issues of primary health care elements with special concept relates health to education.

#### ***6. EMWA participated in development of national Hotline for care of child at Risk (16000) (2005) with National council for mothers and children.***

#### ***7. For prevention and management of AIDs, EMWA sharing in development of Egyptian Network for NGOs working Against AIDs (ENNA) (2003).***

## II) Other activities:

- EMWA board members (as medical experts) participated in many activities related to child care and development programs and projects: e.g.:

- Adaptation of IMCI program and its implementation in some Egyptian governorates.

- Expanded program of immunization.

- Healthy mother healthy child.

- Prevention and control of child injuries and substance abuse.

- Environmental safety and home accidents.

- EMWA have an associate members in Education (Ms. Seham Negm) and social activities (Prof. Ekbal El-Ameer) beside its access to other community influential groups.