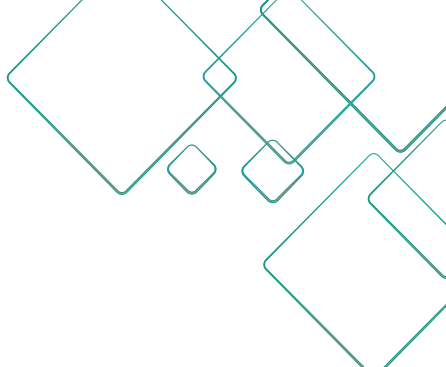




Research Relevance and Potential Impact

Cancer is now the second leading cause of death worldwide and the third in UAE after cardiovascular diseases and injuries (i.e. traffic accidents) and is recognized as a major healthcare problem. The control of this disease and development of novel therapies benefits enormously from studying the basic mechanisms of gene regulation. With the experiments applied in this research, we are bringing new technology and know-how to conduct cutting-edge basic research in the field of Molecular Biology in the UAE. This opens excellent opportunities for training of local students to participate and should be beneficial for many new future studies in various areas. Thus, the practical and potential for applications of this research project are enormous.

Relevant Publications

- Chalissery J, Jalal D, Al-Natour Z, Hassan AH. Repair of Oxidative DNA Damage in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (2017). DNA Repair 51:2-13. doi: 10.1016/j.dnarep.2016.12.010.

Career Aspirations

During my PhD, I studied about the role of chromatin remodelers in DNA damage repair pathways and I wish to use this knowledge and my skills in molecular biology to unravel cellular mechanisms that lead to cancer development and progression with the hope of better understanding this debilitating disease and development of new targeted drug therapies to fight it. This could be achieved by continuing my career in research as a postdoctoral fellow initially followed by a position as an independent investigator.