

# Session 1: 16:50 – 17:05

## The Mycetoma Research Centre, University of Khartoum Volition Is the Seed of Success



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### Short CV

Prof. Fahal trained in medicine at the University of Khartoum, Sudan. He then pursued his post-graduate surgical training in Khartoum and London, leading to a consultant surgeon position at Soba University Hospital and a professor of Surgery, University of Khartoum, Sudan.

Prof. Fahal is the founding Director of the Mycetoma Research Centre (MRC), University of Khartoum. He is a high volume researcher in mycetoma, has published and presented extensively his original research in mycetoma has become a world reference. He published more than 230 peer-reviewed articles and edited a book on mycetoma and many textbooks' chapters, booklets and clinical guidelines in a number of themes in surgery, mycetoma and medical education.

One of his major achievements, he in collaboration with the Ministry of Health in Sudan and other organizations, has managed to include Mycetoma as Neglected Tropical Disease at the WHO/NTD list in 2016; Resolution no. 69:21. He is currently a Member of the WHO/NTD Diagnostic Technical Advisory Group (DTAG), Skin NTDs subgroup, Geneva.

With his team at the MRC, he is currently conducting the first-ever double-blind clinical trial study on a new treatment for Mycetoma and the first study on a Mycetoma field-friendly point-of-care diagnostic test for Mycetoma.

He has served as the Director of Educational Development Centre for Medical & Health Professionals, University of Khartoum. He was the Founding Director of the Self Evaluation and Quality Enhancement Administration, University of Khartoum, and the University of Khartoum Academic Secretary. He is currently the President of the Scientific Research and Innovation Agency, Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research, Sudan and advisor for the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific research, the Republic of Sudan.

### Abstract

[The Mycetoma Research Center](#) (MRC), University of Khartoum, is one of its kind globally. It started as a small clinic at Khartoum Teaching Hospital in 1991. Then it moved to Soba University Hospital as a small research unit at the annexe of the abandoned endoscopy suite consisting of three bedded ward, a small side laboratory and an office. Then it moved to a dedicated place, and it gradually progressed to a cutting edge international center dedicated to high-quality patient care and research, devoted community engagement activities and excellent professional training and development.

The MRC journey was challenging, tough and exciting with zero budget, meagre experience, and deficient collaboration as mycetoma is the most neglected of the neglected tropical diseases nationally and worldwide.

Now the MRC has dedicated expert staff, numerous national and international links, a super research infrastructure. It has two sister centers in highly endemic villages where patients are seen and managed locally, community engagement activities are conducted, health education is conveyed.

It conducted [the first-ever double-blind clinical trial](#) on a new mycetoma treatment. It collaborated with [23 international research centres and NGOs](#), produced more than 250 scientific articles, and qualified more than 30 post-graduate students.

MRC has established [EL Hassan Centre for Neglected Tropical Diseases Clinical Trials](#) with outstanding facilities. Moreover, it had established [the Mycetoma Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Centre](#) with the aims to create an enabling environment for the mycetoma amputees and disabled persons to learn and develop income-generating skills, perform and upgrade their talents, and be prepared to lead a new life of being productive, self-reliant and confident.

The MRC is presently the only [WHO Collaborating Centre on Mycetoma](#), world authority of mycetoma management and research due to its staff dedication, commitment, devotion, enthusiasm, clear vision and objectives, and determination. We believe on **Volition is the Seed of Our success**