

Dr. Maha Abbas
PhD, MSc, B.Sc.
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Key Skills

- Advanced problem solving and numeracy skills
- Accomplished communication skills, both written and verbal in English, German and Arabic which are developed through numerous essays and presentations given during my time at college
- Ability to take the initiative and work well under pressure, ensuring strict deadlines are met, as successfully demonstrated during work experience placement project
- Flexibility, whilst maintaining enthusiasm and commitment to each project
- Proficiency in all areas of Microsoft Office, including Access, Excel, Word and PowerPoint
- Proficiency in software programs for sequence data correction e.g GAP, PREGAP, BIOEDIT and MEGA programs.
- Proficiency in software programs for phylogenetic analyses e.g PHYLIP3.36, MEGA5.05. and GENTle Program for Protein Analyses

Employment/Professional Experiences:

1. University Lecturer / Al-Qasim Green university/ Iraq

(January 2016 until present)

Responsibilities:

- Supervised undergraduate students (L6) with their research project which is one of the requirements to obtain Bachelor in science.
- Expert in supervising practical sessions in molecular biology for post graduate (Master in Science)
- I got involved in designing and planning study program and learning activity for the undergraduate (3rd stage).
- Delivered several modules including: Applied Bioscience, Virology and Bioinformatics.
- Supervised undergraduate students to conduct their bachelor thesis.

2. Full time university Lecturer / Biomedical Analyses dep. In Al- Esraa University College/ Baghdad (L4,5 and 6)

(August 2014- 2016)

Responsibilities:

- Expert in designing and planning study program and learning activity for the level 4,5 and 6.
- Several modules were delivered e.g; Medical bacteriology, medical mycology and medical virology

3. Part time/ Biomedical Scientist in ALANSEGA medical lab (Private association)/ Baghdad/Iraq

(January 2014 -2015)

Responsibilities:

- Full knowledge of medical analyses and Lab management. My duties in the medical lab was as follows: Sample registration and preparation for desired clinical lab analyses, Performing lab analyses e.g; GSE, GUE, SFE, Blood analyses, liver panel test, kidney panel tests, etc.
- As a representative for LAMAR Trade company for Modern Laboratory instruments, my role was to plan, design and make advertising brochures for the company products. I was also conducting regular meetings with the clinicians (from Hospitals, clinics, private labs) for advertising and explaining about the company products.

4. Lecturer and Research scientist in the Virology Lab; Molecular Virology in Hohenheim University in Stuttgart/ Germany.

(August 2007 – December 2013)

Responsibilities:

- Active contributor in writing scientific papers and participating in conferences.
- Supervising Bachelor and master students at the institute of Virology.
- Supervising Master and Bachelor students through their dissertation.
- Expert in routine lab work which involve:
- Sample preparation for desired clinical lab analyses (oral, cloacal swabs, tissues, autopsies, Serum).
- Screening hundreds of daily coming clinical samples for several viruses (Paramyxo, Adeno, Reo and Influenza viruses) using several molecular, Immunological, and cell culture techniques.
- Performing Molecular techniques: RNA, DNA preparation, PCR, conventional and real time PCR, RT-PCR, Optimization trials, Genome sequencing.
- Immunological techniques: Eliza, Haemagglutination (HA test). HA Inhibition test, Neutralization test (NT), NT Inhibition test.
- cell culture techniques: virus titration and cultivation
- Genome Sequencing: Genome correcting, Editing, Aligning using several software program in Bioinformatics: STADEN PACKAGE, BioEdit. Then Conducting Phylogenetic analyses using MEGA 6.

5. Part time/ Biomedical analyst / Bacteriologist in the Al-Shaab medical clinic /Ministry of Health in Baghdad

(June 2005 – June 2006)

6. Full time/ Academic researcher and Instructor/ Food and industry microbiology lab/ College of Science/dep. of Biology/ Al-Mustansiriyah university/Bagdad

(Oct. 2002 – April 2006)

- Expert in examining fresh and canned food for bacterial and fungal contamination. Food samples were cultured on several media (solid, semi solid and liquid media), checked and reported for any contamination.

Education:

1. Hohenheim University/ Stuttgart/Germany

2008 – 2013

***Doctor (PhD)** in Science/ Major field: Microbiology. Main Field: Molecular Virology.

Evaluation: Magna cum Laude (Excellent).

PhD Dissertation titled: Diagnosis of *Paramyxovirus* and characterization of viral isolates based on gene sequences.

2. Hohenheim University/ Stuttgart/Germany

2006 – 2008

***Master (M.Sc)** in Biological science, Environmental Protection and Food Production

Evaluation: 3.4 out of 4 (Very good)

Master thesis title: `Accumulation and detection of *Influenzaviruses* in water flies *Daphnia magna* using Real time PCR

3. Al-Mustansiriyah University/ college of science/ Ministry Of Higher Education/ Bagdad

(1999 – 2002)

***Bachelor B.Sc** in Biology/ Microbiology/ Al-Mustansiriyah University

Evaluation: 82.99 out of 100 (Very good).

AWARDS & further educations

AWARDS:

DAAD scholarship for pursuing Master degree in Germany for the period 2006-2008.

DAAD scholarship for pursuing PhD degree in Germany for the period 2008-2013.

Further educations and awards:

2018	First Aid Workshop/ Red Cross/ Iraq
2018	ILETS preparation course / British consulate / USA
2014	National Academy/ certification of Business Management/ Dubai/ UAE
2012	Advanced English course in language centre, BTU Cottbus/ Germany
2006	Intensive German language course/Goethe-Institute/ Germany

Scientific achievements:

Abbas, M. D., 2014: Diagnosis of ferlaviruses in snakes and characterization of isolates based on gene sequences. PhD dissertation, Hohenheim University/ Stuttgart/ Germany,
Available at: <http://opus.uni-hohenheim.de/volltexte/2014/911/>. (Accessed 10/02/2019).

Abbas, M.D., Marschang, R.E., Schmidt, V., Kasper, A., Papp, T. 2011: A unique novel reptilian paramyxovirus, four atadenovirus types and a reovirus identified in a concurrent infection of a corn snake (*Pantherophis guttatus*). *Veterinary Microbiology* 150:70–79*. IF: 3.256
Available at: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378113511000149>. (Accessed 13/01/2019).

Abbas, M.D., Nazir, J., Stumpf, P. and Marschang, R.E. 2012^a: The role of water fleas (*Daphnia magna*) in the accumulation of avian influenza viruses from the surrounding water. *Entervirolgy*, 55:365-371* IF:1.889. Available at: <https://www.karger.com/Article/Abstract/334691>. (Accessed 23/03/2019).

Abbas, M.D., Ball, I., Rückova, S. and Marschang, R.E. 2012^b: The first Paramyxovirus infection in bearded dragons (*Pogona vitticeps*). *Journal of herpetology medicine and surgery*, 22(3-4)86-90. Available at: <https://www.jherpmedsurg.com/doi/abs/10.5818/1529-9651-22.3.86>. (Accessed 24/02/2019).

Al Janabi, S., **Abbas, M. D.**, Mohammed, N. F. 2017: preparation of wet and permanent mount stain for intestinal parasites in one step procedure. *Al Taqni*, 30(2). PP: E14-E26
Available at <https://www.iasj.net/iasj?func=article&ald=136659>. (Accessed on 19/06/2019)

Ball, I., Stöhr, A., **Abbas, M.D.** and Marschang, R.E. 2013: Detection and partial characterization of an adenovirus in a common agama (*Agama agama*). *Journal of Herpetology medicine and surgery* 22(1): 12-16.
Available at: <https://www.jherpmedsurg.com/doi/abs/10.5818/1529-9651-22.1-2.12>. (Accessed on 13/02/2019)

Hadi, Z. S., **Abbas, M. D.**, Rasheed, M. N., Nadi, M. I. 2014: Bacteraemia screening of children and the first detection of coliforms in blood using PCR targeting a partial sequence of the LacZ gene. *Global journal of bioscience and biotechnology*. 3 (3) 2014. Available at: <https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/BACTEREMIA-SCREENING-OF-CHILDREN-AND-THE-FIRST-OF-A-Hadi-Abbas/23723d87c086e436cc02861e261266a7811ee3af>, (Accessed on 19/06/19).

Mahdee, L.H., Salman, I., Mhesen, M.D., **Abbas, M.D.** 2008: The effect of *Citrus aurantium* leaves extracts *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *E. Coli* that were isolated from contaminated wounds. *Al-Mustansiriya science Journal*, 19(7):80-87.

Nazir, J., Haumacher, R., **Abbas, M.D.** and Marschang R. E. 2010: Use of filter carrier technique to measure the persistence of avian influenza viruses in wet environmental conditions. *Virological methods*, 170: 99–105* IF:2.650
available at: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0166093410003204> (Accessed on 10/10/2018).

Naji, M. Z., **Abbas, M. D.**, Naif, M. H., Hassani, H. H., Alhamdani, G. F. 2016: Molecular Characterization of Fusion and Glycoprotein Genes of RSV Genotype a in Infants Suffering From Influenza Like Symptoms in Iraq, International Journal of Science and Technology. 5 (11) 2016.

Papp, T., Farkas, SZ.L., **Abbas, M.D.**, Apfelbacher, N. and Marschang R. E. 2011: Reptiles *Paramyxovirus* infections, Novel findings of the last years. Allatorvosok,133:551-661# IF:0.30 Available at: <https://hungary.pure.elsevier.com/en/publications/paramyxovirus-infections-in-reptiles-novel-findings-of-the-last-y>. (Accessed 01/02/2019).

Papp, T., Gál, J., **Abbas, M.D.**, Marschang, R.E. and Farkas, S.L. 2013: A novel type of paramyxovirus found in Hungary in a masked water snake (*Homalophis buccata*) with pneumonia supports the suggested new taxonomy within the proposed *Ferlavirus* genus. Veterinary Microbiology, 162, 195–200*. IF: 3.256
Available at: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378113512004610>. (Accessed 01/02/2019).

Pees, M., Schmidt, V., Papp T., Gellert A., Abbas M. D., Starck, J.M., et al. 2019: Three genetically distinct ferlaviruses have varying effects on infected corn snakes (*Pantherophis guttatus*). PLoS ONE 14(6): e0217164. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0217164>. (Accessed 12/03/2019).

Rösler, R., **Abbas, M.D.**, Papp, T. and Marschang, R.E. 2013: Detection of antibodies against paramyxoviruses in tortoises. Journal of zoo and wildlife medicine, 44(2):333-9*. Aa IF: 0.427
Available at: <https://www.zoowildlifejournal.com/doi/abs/10.1638/2012-0149R.1>. (Accessed on 12/04/19).

Schmidt, V., Marschang, R. E., **Abbas, M.D.**, Ball, I., Szabo, I., Helmuth, R., Plenz, B., Spargser, J. and Pees, M. 2012: Detection of infectious pathogens in Boidae and Pythonidae with and without respiratory disease. Veterinary Record. DOI:10.1136/vr.100972* aa IF:0.482.
Available at: <https://veterinaryrecord.bmj.com/content/172/9/236.full>. (Accessed on 14/03/2019).

Conferences and Workshops participation:

Abbas, M.D., Papp, T., Marschang, R.E. 2010: Diagnosis and characterization of paramyxo, Reo- and Adenoviruses in a group of snakes (*Pantherophis guttatus*). 4th European Congress of Virology, Como, Italy, 7-11. April, 2010.

Abbas, M.D., Romanova, I. Ruckova, Z. Öffner, S. Stöhr, A. Marschang, R.E. 2012: Concurrent infection of bearded dragons (*Pogona vitticeps*) in Germany with paramyxo- and adenoviruses. 22. Annual Meeting of the Society for Virology, Essen, Germany, 14-17. März, 2012.

Abbas, M.D., Papp, T., Marschang, R.M. 2013: Prevalence of paramyxovirus infections in snakes in the last years and evaluation of RT-PCR method (Ahne et al., 1999) and its efficiency as a standard diagnostic method. 16th International Symposium of the World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (WAVLD), Berlin, Germany, 05-08. June, 2013.

Al-Janaby S. and **Abbas M.D.** 2013: The first wet and permanent one step staining solution for identification of intestinal parasites. 16th International Symposium of the World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (WAVLD), Berlin, Germany, 05-08. June, 2013.

Marschang, R.E., **Abbas, M.D.**, Pees, M., Schmidt, V., Seybold, J., Frost, J.W., Blahak, S., Papp, T. 2009: Detection and partial characterization of paramyxoviruses from reptiles. Proceedings ESVV 8th International Congress of Veterinary Virology, Budapest, Hungary, 23-26. August, 2009.

Rösler, R., **Abbas, M.D.**, Marschang, R.E. 2011: Characterization of tortoise paramyxovirus based on partial Fusion (F) and full Hemagglutinin (HN) gene sequences. Proceedings 21st Annual Meeting of the Society for Virology, Freiburg, Germany, 23-26. March, 2011.

Marschang, R.E., Abbas, M.D., Ball, I., Stöhr, A., Ruckova, Z. 2012: Detection of multiple viral infections in reptiles. Proceedings Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians, Oakland, CA, USA, 21-25. Oktober, 2012.

Marschang, R.E., Papp, T., Abbas, M.D., Schmidt, V., Pees, M. 2010: Comparison of methods for the detection of paramyxovirus infections in snakes. Proceedings International Conference on Reptile and Amphibian Medicine, Munich, Germany, 04-07. March, 2010.

Papp, T., Abbas, M.D., Pees, M., Schmidt, V., Seybold, J., Frost, J.W., Blahak, S., Farkas, S., Gal, J., Marschang, R.E. 2010: PCR sequence characterization of paramyxoviruses from reptiles: supporting the establishment of a new genus and revealing concurrent infections. Proceedings 8th International Symposium on Viruses of Lower Vertebrates, Santiago de Compostela, Spain, 26-29. April, 2010.

Marschang, R.E., Rösler, R., Abbas, M.D., Papp, T. 2011: Detection of antibodies against paramyxoviruses in tortoises. Proceedings Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians, Seattle, WA, USA, 6-12. August, 2011.

Nazir, J., Haumacher, R., Abbas, M.D., Marschang, R.E. 2010: Use of filter carrier technique to measure tenacity of avian influenza viruses under wet environmental conditions. 3rd International influenza conference "Zoonotic influenza and human health" St. Hilda College, Oxford, UK, September 21-23, 2010.

Funk, R.S., Marschang R.E., Romanova, I., Abbas M.D. 2011: Survey of native Arizona rattlesnakes for viral infections. Biology of the Rattlesnakes, Tucson, AZ, USA, 20-23 July 2011.

Marschang, R.E., Abbas, M.D., I. Ball, A.C. Stöhr, Z. Ruckova (2012): Detection of multiple viral infections in reptiles. Proceedings Association of Reptilian and Amphibian Veterinarians, Oakland, CA, USA, 21.-25. Oktober, 2012.

Marschang, R.E., R.S. Funk, I Romanova, Z. Ruckova, Abbas, M.D. 2012: Detection of antibodies against adenoviruses and paramyxoviruses in native Arizona rattlesnakes. Joint 61st WDA/10th biennial EWDA conference "Convergence in Wildlife Health", Lyon, France, 23.-27. March, 2012.

Theses Supervision:

-2010-2011: Master Thesis in Biotechnology (Dipl.) Field I, Paramyxoviruses in Tortoises: Detection of antibodies against four different reptilian PMV and characterization of a tortoise paramyxoviruses. Hohenheim university- Stuttgart/ **Germany**

-2011-2012: Master thesis in tropic and subtropics: Detection of antibodies against paramyxoviruses in reptiles and screening of reptiles for the presence of sunshine virus in Germany. Hohenheim university- Stuttgart/ **Germany**

-2016-2017: Bachelor research project in the college of Bio technology: screening of pathological samples of Iraqi patients in Baghdad for the most common bacteria and pathogens using a new technique "LIOFILCHEN Italian Kit". Al Qasim Green University/**Iraq**.

-2018-2019: Bachelor research project in the college of Bio technology, Serological screening of women with miscarriages for *Cytomegalvirus and Parvovirus* in the south of Iraq. College of Biotechnology. Al Qasim Green University/**Iraq**

Languages:

English; "fluent"

German; "Fluent"

Arabic / Mother Language