

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

Approved by the Regents

May 17, 2007

The University of Michigan
School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology

Amr S. Soliman, assistant professor of epidemiology, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of epidemiology, with tenure, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1992	University of Arizona
M.P.H.	1985	Cairo University, Egypt
M.D.	1981	Cairo University, Egypt

Professional Record:

2003-present	Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, University of Michigan School of Public Health
1999-2003	Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center
1996-1999	Research Associate, Department of Epidemiology, University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center
1995	Visiting Scientist, Department of Biomathematics, University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center
1993-1994	Research Associate, Department of Family & Community Medicine, University of Arizona
1988-1999	Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Menofeia University, Egypt
1984-1987	Research Coordinator, The National Diarrheal Disease Project, Cairo, Egypt
1983-1988	Demonstrator of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, Menia University, Egypt

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – To meet the growing needs of Epidemiology MPH students in the International Health (IH) Program, Professor Soliman developed EPID 664, "Research Methods for Epidemiology in Developing Countries," which is now a required course in that program. Dr. Soliman also teaches EPID 621, "Introduction to Cancer Epidemiology," which he revised and expanded from two to three credit hours. Dr. Soliman received an award in September 2006 from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to fund an R25 research training grant on "Cancer Epidemiology Education in Special Populations." This five-year training grant has enhanced the department's training objectives, since it will support 50 MPH students doing summer internships in underdeveloped countries and in minority U.S. populations. Dr. Soliman has developed three new 1-credit-hour cancer courses for trainees in that program (EPID 622, 631, and 632). Dr. Soliman has consistently received excellent student evaluations and is considered an innovative and creative teacher and mentor.

Last year, Dr. Soliman supervised four MPH students. This year, in collaboration with Dr. Mark Wilson, he is supervising five IH students who completed summer internships in Egypt and Tanzania. He also served on the committees of two doctoral students and is now chairing the committees of four new doctoral students.

Research – Dr. Soliman's area of expertise is multidisciplinary, encompassing molecular and genetic epidemiology of cancer in ethnically diverse populations characterized by appreciable exposures to known and potential environmental carcinogens and/or by unique genetic susceptibilities. He has a particular interest in underserved populations in the United States and developing countries. Dr. Soliman's transition from descriptive epidemiology to molecular and genetic epidemiology began 10 years ago through an investigation of an unusually high incidence of young-onset colorectal cancer in Egypt. To that end, he has established strong collaborations with a team of scientists and clinicians at the University of Michigan, the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, and other U.S. and international research centers with expertise in molecular pathology, carcinogenesis, toxicology, oncology, and

endocrinology. His current research focuses on three cancer sites: colorectal, pancreatic, and breast cancers.

Since his appointment as assistant professor, Dr. Soliman has succeeded in obtaining funding for seven research grants, including four R03 grants from NCI, a grant from the American Association for Cancer Research, and a five-year Career Development Award from NCI. These grants have funded 85% of his annual salary since 2003. Last year, he submitted four grant applications to NCI. The first of these was an R03 grant funded in September 2006, entitled "Biomarkers of Heavy Metal Exposures Related to Pancreatic Cancer Genetic Mutations."

As of January 16, 2007, Dr. Soliman has a total of 28 articles published or accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals. Of these, 19 were published or accepted since his appointment as assistant professor in 1999, and 11 were published since his appointment at UM in 2003. Of the latter group, Dr. Soliman was the first author on seven. Several other manuscripts have been recently submitted and are under review. In addition, he has co-authored three chapters and presented his work at several conferences and workshops, including five presentations at national and international meetings since starting at UM. Dr. Soliman's publications emphasize the ways that both developing and developed countries can benefit from cancer epidemiology research in international and ethnically diverse populations in the United States.

Dr. Soliman's resourcefulness for developing research collaborations has improved and extended research infrastructures at Wayne State University and Egypt and Tunisia, and other North African countries like Algeria and Morocco. Other research collaborations established by Dr. Soliman in the past few years involve the NCI-funded International Network for Cancer Treatment and Research (INCTR) in Brussels, breast- and pancreatic-cancer researchers at the UM Comprehensive Cancer Center, breast-cancer researchers in the University of Arizona Cancer Center, and laboratory researchers in EHS at the UM and the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. These collaborations are also providing data and support for MPH internships and Ph.D. dissertations.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Soliman AS**, DiGiovanni J, Eissa S, Vulimiri S, Mahgoub KG, Wang X, Johnston DA, Do K-A, Seifeldin I; Boffetta P, Bondy ML. Serum organochlorine levels in patients with breast cancer in Egypt. *Environ Research* 92:110-7, 2003.
- Soliman AS**, Vulimiri SV, Kleiner HE, Shen J, Eissa S, Seifeldin I, Morad M, Taha H, Lukmanji F, Ismail S, Li D, Johnston DA, Lo S, Lau S, DiGiovanni J, Bondy ML. High levels of oxidative DNA damage in lymphocyte DNA of premenopausal breast cancer patients from Egypt. *Int J Environ Health Sci* 14:121-34, 2004.
- Chan AO, **Soliman AS**, Zhang Q, Rashid A, et al. Differing DNA methylation patterns and gene mutation frequencies in colorectal carcinomas from Middle Eastern countries. *Clin Cancer Res* 11:8281-87, 2005.
- Kriegel AM, **Soliman AS**, Zhang Q, El-Ghawalby N, Ezzat F, Sultana A, et al. Serum cadmium levels in pancreatic cancer patients from the east Nile delta region of Egypt. *Environ Health Perspect* 114:113-9, 2006.
- Soliman AS**, Wang X, Stanley J-D, El-Ghawalby N, Bondy ML, et al. Geographical clustering of pancreatic cancers in the northeast Nile delta region of Egypt. *Arch Environ Contam Toxicol* 51:142-8, 2006.
- Soliman AS**, Bondy ML, Webb CR, Schottenfeld D, Bonner J, El-Ghawalby N et al. Differing molecular pathology of pancreatic Adenocarcinoma in Egyptian and United States patients. *Int J Cancer* 119:1455-61, 2006.
- Shah NM, **Soliman AS**, Banerjee M, Merajver SD, Ismail K, Seifeldin I, Hablas A, Zarzour A, Abdel-Aziz A, Ben Ayed F, Chamberlain RM. Knowledge gained after a brief CME module on breast cancer diagnosis. *J Cancer Educ* 21:169-74, 2006.
- Soliman AS**, Zhang Q, Saleh T, Zarzour A, Selim M, Fattah M, Abbruzzese. Pancreatic cancer mortality in Egypt: Comparison to the United States pancreatic cancer mortality rates. *Cancer Detection & Prevention* 30:473-9, 2006.

Service – Dr. Soliman has served on several departmental, school, and university committees including the Epidemiology Curriculum Committee, the SPH Global Health Steering Committee, the University Cancer Prevention Protocol Committee, the Cancer Epidemiology Working Group, and the Barbour Fellowship Selection Committee. He has also served on the Executive Committee of the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, which contributed to his research infrastructure development in Algeria and Morocco. While Dr. Mark Wilson is on sabbatical during the 2006-07 academic year, Dr. Soliman is serving as acting director of the Global Health Interdepartmental Concentration.

Last year, Dr. Soliman was invited to serve on the NCI panel on opportunities for cancer epidemiology in North Africa. He is also working with a research group at the Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics at NCI to investigate the epidemiology of inflammatory breast cancer in North Africa. He was invited by IARC to chair a session, give a presentation, and discuss research opportunities for cancer epidemiology using population-based registries sponsored by NCI in the Middle East.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): "He has been quite successful in obtaining extramural funding for his research. His papers have been published in prominent journals in the epidemiology field and his findings regarding cancer risk in younger populations from Egypt are quite important. ...my estimation is that he would be promoted to Associate Professor and granted tenure in my institution."

Reviewer (B): "I am impressed with his scholarly and professional accomplishments. I have no doubt that he has considerable promise for sustained scholarly activity and I strongly endorse his promotion to Associate Professor with tenure."

Reviewer (C): "Dr. Soliman's work is very well-regarded by his peers, and he certainly has attained national and international recognition for his work in Egypt. I am pleased to support without reservation his promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor with tenure..."

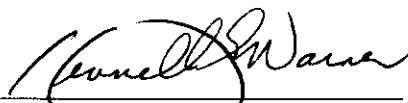
Reviewer (D): "Dr. Soliman has accomplished, at this stage in his career, an impressive amount of good-quality scholarly work. ...Professor Soliman's record is of a first-class academician whose work is characterized by excellence as a researcher, teacher, and citizen-scholar. He would, I believe, be a successful candidate for promotion and tenure at any of the major Schools of Public Health..."

Reviewer (E): "Amr Soliman...made the tradition from classical epidemiology to molecular and genetic epidemiology...very successfully, as evidenced by his superlative publications and strong track record of funding. ...he serves as a great role model for the graduate students who[m] he trains. Amr has in fact achieved national recognition...his work has been cited by cancer researchers worldwide."

Reviewer (F): "I find Dr. Soliman's work to be of exceptional quality. His research and scholarly work exceed that of other similar candidates around the country seeking promotion to Associate Professor. His leadership...in cancer epidemiology among special populations is urgently needed and appreciated at this time by his peers."

Summary of Recommendation:

Since joining the University of Michigan in 2003, Dr. Soliman has continued to establish a high level of achievement and resourcefulness, and produced a strong well-balanced program in the areas of teaching, research, and service. With the unanimous support of the Department of Epidemiology, the School of Public Health Advisory Committee on Academic Rank and the School of Public Health Executive Committee, I recommend Dr. Soliman for promotion to the rank of associate professor of epidemiology, with tenure, School of Public Health.



Kenneth E. Warner
Dean, School of Public Health

May 2007