



HYBRID MEETING 2023

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MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA (MEA) REGIONAL REPORT

Eunice Orekha



PICTORAL VIEW OF THE MEA REGION



PATIENT ORGANISATIONS IN MEA REGION

Algeria	Egypt	Ethiopia	Ghana	Iraq	Kenya
Lebanon	Madagascar	Morocco	Niger	Nigeria	
Palestine	Saudi Arabia	Senegal	South Africa	Sudan	
Togo	Tunisia	Uganda	Yemen	Zimbabwe	



DISCUSSION AREAS

Transportation Access

PCR Testing

TFR Trials

Capacity Building



DISCUSSION

Access to treatment has greatly improved in many countries in the region with the exception of Morocco and Tunisia. Despite broadened access, challenges such as transport costs to centralized points of care and diagnostics still prevent patients from actually receiving drugs where available.

High cost of PCR testing is still prevalent in the region with many patients unable to afford it. No diagnostics , No Access to treatment.

Lack of infrastructure for TFR trials as well as patients unwillingness to attempt it. Issues such as;



DISCUSSION

- Access to affordable testing
- Cost of travel and time away from home and work
- Initial cost investment for patients is unaffordable (test, travel and time off work)

Even where a few patients have attempted it, the withdrawal symptoms are much too steep a price to continue.



DISCUSSION

Succession planning for patient groups to remain active even when the main lead is no longer available.

Capacity building required amongst patient advocates.

- Managing a group
- Advocacy and policy change
- Disease Education

More representation of the region on the CML CAB

- The region consists of over 73 countries and only **2** representatives on CML CAB



RECOMMENDATIONS

Institution of quarterly meetings (virtual) within the year (to serve as a platform for sharing best practises), with one slated for December 2023

The need for patient organisations to collaborate with other groups involved in cancer advocacy in country to learn, network, gain more visibility and have more impact.

Need to explore onboarding non patient with specific skills and passion as advocates/patient leaders in countries where stigma and victimization is still quite prominent



QUESTIONS

