

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY  
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,  
UNAM, PRESENT



THE NETWORK  
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



# TUFH2020 MEXICO

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"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH  
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SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED  
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2020

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## TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	<b>The reality of sign language acquisition for the deaf in developing countries</b>
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment</i>
Presenting Author	NURA BAKHET
Co-Authors	
Country	Sudan
Abstract N°	TUFH476
Content	<p>background: Two-thirds of the world's population -466 million- of individuals with disabling hearing loss live in low- and middle-income developing countries where lack of sufficient resources to support sign language instruction, along with long-standing stigmas, play a role in limiting deaf children's access to sign language. The official number of Deaf individuals in Sudan by 2008 was (48,862), only (10,000) of which acquire Sign-Language. Objective: the study aims towards defining the reality of deaf individuals in Sudan, emphasizing Sign-Language acquisition's importance, and shedding light on underlying reasons behind its illiteracy in Sudan. Agenda: addressing the needs and challenges of deaf individuals in developing countries and the importance of sign-language acquisition. Method: A qualitative study, performed by a medical student, through direct structured interview with the Sudanese National Society of the Deaf, record keeping and focus groups surveys. Result: The Sudanese National Society of the Deaf established 22 branches and 14 institutes since the 1970s towards the education of the deaf, yet a large number of the deaf in Sudan remain illiterate to any language due to the lack of awareness and socioeconomic circumstances of developing countries. conclusion: evident efforts are put towards the special education of deaf individuals, raising the public's awareness, sign-language incorporation in the curriculum, and assignment of sign-language interpreters in health-care facilities and other institutes where communication is required are all steps towards empowering and enabling the deaf in developing countries to lead an independent fulfilled life.</p>