

Supplementary file 1: *Motivations and Limitations of Pursuing a Career in Psychiatry among Psychiatrists in the United Arab Emirates Questionnaire*

**Section A: Sociodemographic**

**Q1. Age (years):**

**Q2. Gender:**

1. Male
2. Female

**Q3. Number of siblings:**

1. < 5
2. > 5

**Q4. Order amongst siblings:**

1. Firstborn
2. Middle child
3. Youngest
4. Only child
5. Oldest

**Q5. Nationality:**

1. Emirati
2. Non-Emirati
3. Others (Specify country)

**Q6. Emirate:**

1. Abu Dhabi
2. Dubai
3. Sharjah
4. Ajman
5. Umm Al Quwain
6. Fujairah
7. Ras Al Khaima
8. Others (Please specify)

**Q7. Your marital status at the time of your starting your residency:**

1. Single
2. Engaged
3. Married
4. Divorced/Separated
5. Widowed

**Q8. Parents' marital status at the time of your starting your residency:**

1. Married
2. Divorced/Separated
3. Widowed

**Q9. Father's level of education:**

1. Primary
2. Secondary
3. College Graduate
4. Postgraduate

**Q10. Mother's level of education:**

1. Primary
2. Secondary
3. College Graduate
4. Postgraduate

**Q11. Monthly family income-total (UAE Dirhams):**

1. >60,000
2. <60,000

**Q12. Graduating University:**

1. Dubai Medical College
2. College Of Medicine and Health Sciences - UAEU
3. College of Medicine - University of Sharjah – UOS
4. RAK Medical & Health Sciences University - RAK
5. Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences- MBRU
6. Gulf Medical University
7. Medical College (College of Medicine) - Ajman University
8. Outside the UAE (Specify country)

**Q13. High school marks:**

1. 90-100% (A student)
2. 80-90% (B student)
3. 70-80% (C student)

**Q14.Location of your residency:**

1. Al Ain
2. Abu Dhabi
3. Dubai
4. Other/Abroad (specify)

**Q15.Clinical setting of residency:**

1. Teaching hospital (e.g., Al Amal, Al Ain hospital, SKMC)
2. Specialized Centers (e.g., NRC, Erada)
3. Other (Please specify)

**Section B: Psychiatry Selection factors**

**Q16. Which of the following was the most important factor when you made your decision?**

1. A specialty I liked/enjoyed as a student
2. A specialty I liked as an intern
3. High-income specialty
4. Low physical demand specialty
5. Low-risk specialty (risk to self)
6. Easy specialty (content-wise)
7. High-risk specialty
8. Rare specialty
9. Nationally needed specialty (high demand)
10. High human interaction specialty
11. Low human interaction specialty
12. Specialty with low chances of making mistakes

**Q17. When did you decide to specialize in psychiatry?**

1. High school
2. Preclinical years at medical school
3. Clinical Years at medical school
4. As an intern

**Q18. Do you know anybody (family/friends) who is a psychiatrist?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. If you answer (yes) specify the relationship.

1. Family
2. Friend

**Q19. Does any of your parents used to work/still working in the health care sector?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. If you answered (yes), specify 'write one from the list below in the comment box.'
  1. Psychiatrist
  2. Psychologist
  3. Mental Health Nurse
  4. Allied Health Professionals (e.g., Occupational therapists)
  5. Social worker
  6. Other Clinical Specialties

**Q20. Was pursuing psychiatry your first choice?**

6. Yes
7. No
8. If you answered (no), what was your first choice (please write one from the list below in the comment box)?
  1. Surgery
  2. Pediatric
  3. Gynecology & Obstetric
  4. Internal medicine
  5. Family medicine
  6. Pathology/Microbiology
  7. Radiology
  8. Emergency medicine

9. Anesthetics

**Q21. Were you ever reluctant to choose psychiatry for social/professional reasons?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. If you answered yes, please clarify why by choosing one from the list below and writing it in the comment box)?
  1. Stigma
  2. Nature of work
  3. It does not feel like medicine.
  4. It is not glamorous.
  5. The income is not satisfactory in comparison with other specialties.

**Q22. Have you ever experienced mental health problems in the past?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. If you answered yes, please specify in the comment box.

**Q23. Have you been in a care role? (Caring for a person with mental illness)?**

1. Yes
2. No

**Q24. Did anyone help you make the decision?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. If you answered yes, please indicate who?
  1. Family

2. Friend

**Q25. Which of the following factors inspired you to become a psychiatrist?**

1. A doctor who taught you in medical school
2. A doctor who taught you in your internship year
3. A TV series about mental health
4. Movie
5. A book
6. Social media influencer
7. Other (please specify)

**Q26. Were you married/engaged when you made your decision regarding your specialty in medicine?**

1. Yes
2. No

**Q27. At any point during your residency, did you regret choosing psychiatry as a specialty?**

4. Yes
5. No
6. If you answered (yes), what was the reason for regretting the specialty you chose?
  1. Workload
  2. Emotional stress
  3. Unsatisfactory income
  4. Family pressure (opposition)
  5. Stigma
  6. Relocation



7. Other reasons (specify)

**Q28. If you answered yes to the above questions, in what year of your residency did you feel that way?**

1. R1
2. R2
3. R3
4. R4

**Q29. Did anybody oppose your decision to specialize in psychiatry?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. If you answered yes to the above question, please clarify why?
  1. Workload
  2. Emotional stress
  3. Unsatisfactory income
  4. Family pressure (opposition)
  5. Stigma
  6. Relocation
  7. Other reasons (Specify)

**Q30. Will you recommend psychiatry as a career to your family and friends?**

1. Yes

2. No