

FACULTY PROFILE



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Professional Summary

Dr. Walid Alali is an Associate Professor of Epidemiology at the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, Faculty of Public Health, Kuwait University (KU). He is also seconded at Dasman Diabetes Institute- Department of Population Health, in Kuwait. His research interests are in the epidemiology of communicable and non-communicable diseases. Prior to joining KU in September 2018, Dr. Alali worked at United Arab Emirates University (Al Ain, UAE: 2017-2018) and Hamad bin Khalifa University (Qatar Foundation, Doha, Qatar: 2014-2017) as an Associate Professor and Graduate Coordinator. In the USA, he was an Associate Professor of Epidemiology (with tenure) at the Center Food Safety, University of Georgia (2008-2015). Dr. Alali has published more than 50 peer-reviewed papers (25 as a senior author), 3 book chapters, and delivered over 35 invited talks (nationally and internationally). He collaborated with international and national organizations (WHO, PHAO, CDC, FDA, USDA) and academic institutions in many countries worldwide on scientific research and capacity building projects. Dr. Alali received multiple prestigious awards that recognized his research activities and leadership skills. He has taught, supervised and trained graduate and undergraduate students as well as international scientists in epidemiology and public health.

Education and Training

- D.V.M, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Jordan University of Science & Technology, Irbid, Jordan, 2000
- M.S., Epidemiology, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas, USA, 2003
- Ph.D, Epidemiology, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, USA, 2007
- Post-doctorate Research Associate in Molecular Epidemiology, Texas A&M University and Ohio State University (2007-2008)

Research Interests and Projects

Dr. Alali's research interest has been focused on infectious disease epidemiology; particularly in the areas of zoonoses, and foodborne disease, and antimicrobial resistance. He is currently working on research projects focused on the epidemiology infectious diseases and non-communicable diseases regionally and globally.

Selected Publications

[§]Corresponding author; *Graduate student's mentor

1. Al-Rifai, R. H., K. Chaabna, T. Denagamage, **W.Q. Alali**[§]. **2020**. Prevalence of non-typhoidal *Salmonella* enterica in food products in the Middle East and North Africa: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Food Control*. (In press)
2. Alfouzan, W., M. Al Fadhli, N. Abdo, **W. Alali**, R. Dhar. **2019**. Surgical Site Infection Following Cesarean Section in a General Hospital in Kuwait: Trends and Risk Factors. *Epidemiology and Infection*. 147, e287, 1–5.
3. Al-Rifai, R. H., K. Chaabna, T. Denagamage, **W.Q. Alali**[§]. **2019**. Prevalence of enteric non-typhoidal *Salmonella* in humans in the Middle East and North Africa: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Zoonoses and Public Health*. In press.
4. Beier, R., R. Harvey, T. Poole, M. Hume, T. Crippen, L. Highfield, **W.Q. Alali**, K. Andrews, R. Anderson, D. Nisbet. **2019**. Interactions of organic acids with vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus faecium* (VRE) isolated from community wastewater in Texas. *J App Micro*. 126(2):480-488.
5. Eltai, N.O., Asmaa A. Al Thani, Marwan A Abu Madi, Ahmed Ismail, Emad Ibrahim, Hadi M. Yassine, **Walid Q. Alali**[§]. **2018**. Prevalence of antibiotic resistant *Escherichia coli* isolates from fecal samples of food handlers in Qatar. *Antimicrobial Resistance & Infection Control*. 7:78.
6. Guran, H.S., D. Mann, **W.Q. Alali**[§]. **2017**. *Salmonella* prevalence associated with chicken parts with and without skin from retail establishments in Atlanta metropolitan area, Georgia. *Food Control*. 73: 462–467.
7. **Alali, W.Q.**[§], C. Celik, D. Wu, Y. Cui, H.S. Guran, D. Mann. **2016**. The relationship between *Salmonella* levels in chicken spleen and mechanically separated ground chicken. *Food Control*. 66: 250–255.
8. Peng, Y.* , X.Y. Deng, M.A. Harrison, and **W.Q. Alali**[§]. **2016**. *Salmonella* levels associated with turkey skin. *J. Food Prot*. 79 (5): 801-805.
9. Cui, Y.* , H.S. Guran, M.A. Harrison, C.L. Hofacre, **W.Q. Alali**[§]. **2015**. *Salmonella* levels in turkey neck skins, drumstick bones, and spleens in relation to ground turkey. *J. Food Prot*. 78 (11): 1945-53.
10. Jarquin, C., D. Alvarez, O. Morales, A.J. Morales, B. Lopez, P. Donado, M.F. Valencia, A. Arevalo, F. Munoz, I. Walls, M.P. Doyle, **W.Q. Alali**[§]. **2015**. *Salmonella* on raw poultry in retail markets in Guatemala: Levels, antibiotic susceptibility, and serovar distribution. *J. Food Prot*. 78 (9): 1642-1650.
11. Wu, D.* , **W. Q. Alali**[§], M. A. Harrison, C. L. Hofacre. **2014**. Prevalence of *Salmonella* in neck skin and bone of chickens. *J. Food Prot*. 77 (7): 1193–1197.
12. Yang, B., Y. Cui, C. shi, J. Wang, X. Xia, M. Xi, X. Wang, J. Meng, **W. Q. Alali**[§], I. Walls, M. P. Doyle. **2014**. Counts, serotypes, and antimicrobial resistance of *Salmonella* isolates on retail raw poultry in China. *J. Food Prot*. 77 (6): 894-902.
13. Ta, Y. T., T. T. Nguyen, P. B. To, D. X. Pham, H. T. H. Le, G.N. Thi, **W.Q. Alali**[§], I. Walls, M. P. Doyle. **2014**. Quantification, serovars, and antibiotic resistance of *Salmonella* isolated from retail raw chicken meat in Vietnam. *J. Food Prot*. 77 (1): 57-66.
14. Trimble, L. M.* , **W. Q. Alali**[§], K. E. Gibson, S. C. Ricke, P. Crandall, D. Jaroni, M. Berrang, M. Y. Habteselassie. **2013**. Prevalence and concentration of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in the processing environment of small-scale pastured broiler farms. *Poul. Sci*. 92: 3060-3066.
15. **Alali, W. Q.**[§], D.W. Schaffner. **2013**. Relationship between *Listeria monocytogenes* and *Listeria* spp. in seafood processing plants. *J. Food Prot*. 76 (7):1279-1282.
16. **Alali, W. Q.**[§], C. L. Hofacre, G. F. Mathis, G. Faltys. **2013**. Effect of essential oil compound on shedding and colonization of *Salmonella enterica* serovar Heidelberg in broilers. *Poul. Sci*. 92:836-841.
17. **Alali, W. Q.**[§], R. Gaydashov, E. Petrova, A. Panin, O. Tugarinov, A. Kulikovskii, D. Mamleeva, I. Walls, Michael P. Doyle. **2012**. Prevalence of *Salmonella* on retail chicken meat in Russian Federation. *J. Food Prot*. 75(8):1469-1473.

Professional Affiliations

- International Association for Food Protection (IAFP)
- Global Foodborne Infectious Network-World Health Organization (WHO-GFN).
- European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) EFSA’s Expert Database
- Member of Editorial Board for Peer-Reviewed Journals: Journal of Food Protection (2011-present), Guest Associate Editor, Frontiers in Sustainable Food System-Agro Food Safety (2018-2019), and Guest Associate Editor, Frontiers in Microbiology (2016-2017).