

## Aya Awwad

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### Education

**Harvard University** Cambridge, MA  
MMSc in Clinical Investigation and Translational Science July 2022-May 2024  
(Awarded the *Gordon Williams Gold Medal* for best overall graduate)

**Technion Institute of Technology** Haifa, Israel  
Doctor of Medicine (*Summa Cum Laude*) October 2017-February 2022

**Technion Institute of Technology** Haifa, Israel  
Bachelor of Science in Medical Sciences (*Summa Cum Laude*) October 2014-October 2017

### Experience

**Taking time off to spend with family** April 2024- Present

**Mass General Hospital, Metabolism unit** Boston, MA  
**Research fellow** June 2024-March 2026

- Conducting analyses for the **REPRIEVE Trial**, integrating biostatistical, epidemiological, and bioinformatic approaches to investigate cardiovascular risk in people with HIV.
- Drafting detailed statistical analysis plans and defining data harmonization strategies for large-scale clinical datasets.
- Harmonizing data from different clinical trials.
- Collaborating with epidemiologists, statisticians, and clinical investigators at CBAR (Center for Biostatistics in AIDS Research).
- Applying advanced statistical modeling (e.g., Cox regression, machine learning) to examine relationships between biomarkers and cardiometabolic outcomes.
- Preparing abstracts, figures, and manuscripts for presentation at national conferences and submission to peer-reviewed journals.
- Mentoring junior trainees and contributing to methodologic discussions on study design, variable selection, and model interpretation.

**Mass General Hospital, Kidney research lab** Boston, MA  
**Graduate student researcher** September 2022- May 2024

- Investigated the role of carbamylation and related post-translational modifications in morbidity and outcomes among patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD).
- Designed and authored research protocols and statistical analysis plans for biomarker discovery and validation studies.
- Conducted comprehensive statistical analyses of high-dimensional metabolomic and phenotypic datasets using R and bioinformatics pipelines to identify predictors of disease progression.
- Collaborated with nephrologists, biostatisticians, and molecular scientists to translate findings into clinically relevant insights.
- Presented research findings at national and international scientific conferences.

**Rambam Healthcare Centre- Department of Internal Medicine** Haifa, Israel  
**Intern and General physician** February 2021-June 2022

- Managed admissions, evaluations, and acute treatment plans in a 40-bed internal medicine ward with a six-bed step-down ICU, functioning at the level of a resident.
- Collaborated with multidisciplinary teams to deliver high-quality patient care and ensure continuity across a high-acuity clinical service.

## Academic Activities

### Teaching

Teaching assistant and data science mentor at Harvard Medical School for the following courses:

- ‘Computationally Enabled Medicine’ a course offered for medical students by the bioinformatics department, exploring the interface between AI and medicine.
- BMI708: Precision Medicine- integrating genomic and phenotypic data.
- CI760: investigative models for translational research- This course introduces translational researchers to key investigative models across the translational research spectrum, highlighting the advantages and limitations of each. Through case studies and practical sessions, participants learn to design rigorous research questions, apply appropriate analytical methods, and understand both bench and in silico experimental approaches.

### Peer-review (May 2023- present)

- **Peer-Reviewed Scientific Articles** in leading academic journals, including *Circulation*, *Journal of the American Heart Association (JAHA)*, *American Journal of Kidney Diseases (AJKD)*, *PLOS Digital Health*, *BMC Medicine*, *EBioMedicine*.
- **Editorial Experience:** Served as a Guest Editor for *PLOS Digital Health*.

### Talks and Presentation

- Invited talk at Harvard medical school Master’s program research symposium where I shared my work about the role of carbamylation as a biomarker for chronic kidney disease progression. (April 2024)
- Invited talk at MIT-IBM Watson AI lab- where we shared preliminary findings of our work on StructEase- a framework to optimize clinical data classification using expert input. (April 2025)

## Leadership & Volunteering

**Harvard Medical School – master’s Students Council**  
**Head of advocacy and policy**

**Boston, MA**

July 2023-July 2024

- Shaped the direction of a developing student council by establishing organizational policies and strengthening partnerships with the Office of Postgraduate Education and the Dean’s Office.
- Led advocacy initiatives and professional development programs, including panel discussions with industry leaders and projects to enhance the graduate student experience.
- Represented student perspectives in policy discussions to improve transparency, community engagement, and academic support within the HMS graduate ecosystem.

### Aafaq more.

**Educational Content Developer**

**Tamra, Israel**

03/2018 – 05/2021

- Co-founded an educational initiative that developed and published preparation materials for the YAEL exam, Israel’s Hebrew proficiency test (equivalent to the TOEFL).
- Designed curricula and study resources to support non-Hebrew-speaking university applicants and promote equitable access to higher education.
- Collaborated with educators and peers to create linguistically and culturally accessible content, facilitating smoother integration of underrepresented students into Israeli academia.
- Strengthened skills in curriculum design, community engagement, and educational advocacy through sustained volunteer leadership.

## Awards & Scholarships

- **Fulbright Scholarship** – U.S. Department of State  
*Awarded for academic excellence and leadership potential in advancing global health research.*
- **Gordon Williams Gold Medal for Research Excellence** – Harvard Medical School  
*Recognized for outstanding achievement in clinical investigation and translational research.*

- **Summa Cum Laude (with highest honors)** – Technion Institute of Technology, Faculty of Medicine  
*Graduated top of class for academic distinction and clinical performance.*
- **All of Us Research Scholar** – National Institutes of Health (NIH) via Baylor college of Medicine  
Selected for the biomedical researcher fellowship program.
- **Career Catalyst Program Fellow** – Massachusetts General Hospital / Harvard Medical School  
*Selected for competitive mentoring program supporting physician-scientist career development.*

### Continued Education and Certificates

- **University of São Paulo - 08.2023**

Innovation and Science Diplomacy School on Global Circulation of Research Data (InnScid SP), São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP), with the duration of 60 hours. (sponsored)

- **Big Data in Healthcare Workshop, Tel-Aviv, IL - 01.2022- 06.2022**

Theoretical and hands on experience of the application of AI in medicine.

- **Vanderbilt University- 05.2023**

Regression Modeling Strategies Short Course, Frank Harrell

- **Harvard University - 06.2021-01.2022**

Foundation of Clinical Research program- a Certificate Program

- **Brown University – 02.2020**

The Technion Dean’s Award for Clinical Excellence- a clinical exchange program and collaboration with Rhode Island hospital-infectious disease department.

- **ECFMG certified.**

### Skills & Interests

**Technical:** R programming, python, RedCap.

**Language:** Arabic (native), Hebrew (fluent), English (fluent)

### Publications

A list of the full publication can be found in my [google scholar](#).