

Letter to the Editor

Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to two errors in the editorial entitled *Mental health services in the Arab world*, which was published in your journal Vol. 5, No. 2, 1999:223–30.

1. In Table 1 “Medical personnel in relation to population in selected Arab countries”, two columns are wrongly titled: “Number of doctors per capita” and “Number of nurses per capita”. Evidently the correct titles should have been “Number of population for one doctor” and “Number of population for one nurse”.

2. Table 2 suggests that Kuwait spends 62.4% of its gross domestic product on military expenditure. I have returned to the budget of 1997 and found that the military expenditure in Kuwait totalled 22.9% of the general budget for the fiscal year 1996–97. There is no reason to believe that that proportion has been multiplied by 3 in the past couple of years.

You may wish to check these statements and take appropriate action.

Salim M. Adib, MD, DrPH
Community Medicine Department
Faculty of Medicine
Kuwait University, Kuwait

Correction

Editorial: Mental health services in the Arab World by A. Okasha. EMHJ Vol. 5 No. 2 March 1999, page 223.

In Table 1, “Medical personnel in relation to population in selected Arab countries”, the headings of columns 2 and 3 should read “Number of population for one doctor” and “Number of population for one nurse” respectively.