

JORDAN

Lubna Tahtamouni

Biology

Lubna Tahtamouni is known for her work in developmental biology and cancer research. She is the head of the Department of Biology and Biotechnology at Hashemite University in Zarqa.

Since cancer arises from changes in basic cell functions, her laboratory studies the cellular alterations that lead to cancer. The aim is to gain a better understanding of the initiation and development of the disease in order to help create and improve cancer treatments. She works alongside other researchers interested in basic, translational and clinical science.

Tahtamouni has won multiple awards for her work on breast cancer, which accounts for 35% of all cancer deaths in Jordan. She has also received a L'Oréal-UNESCO Women in Science Fellowship, and the OWSD Award for Young Women Scientists in the Developing World.

In 2015, she was selected for the Women in Science Hall of Fame by the US Embassy in Jordan and was one of the BBC's 100 Women in Science in 2016.