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Dr Yohannes is a reader (associate professor) in Physiotherapy at the Department of Health Professions, Manchester Metropolitan University. His specialist training was in Geriatric Medicine focusing on mood disorders and rehabilitation in patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. He obtained an MSc in Geriatric Medicine in 1997 and a PhD in Geriatric Medicine in 2002 both from the University of Manchester. In 2011, Dr Yohannes was awarded a Fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians (FCCP) for the significant contribution he has made to advance excellence in chest medicine.

Dr Yohannes' academic work primarily focuses on designing scales and understanding the mechanisms of mood and anxiety disorders in patients with chronic diseases in old age and interventions that enhance quality of life patients with chronic diseases. He has authored and co-authored more than 70 articles in the peer-reviewed medical journals, and presented over 85 papers at national and international conferences. He has contributed book chapters to several textbooks. He has given invited lectures on mood disorders, palliative care and pulmonary rehabilitation at international meetings. Dr Yohannes is an associate editor for the Health and Quality of Life Outcomes, BMC Geriatrics and Current Gerontology and Geriatric Research.