Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q) was established in 2001 as a partnership between Cornell University and Qatar Foundation. It is part of Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City. Pre-medical teaching began in Doha in 2002. The medical program began in 2004, and the inaugural class graduated in 2008. The biomedical research program was launched the same year.

- Forging high-level partnerships with Qatar Foundation, Hamad Medical Corporation and the Supreme Council of Health
- Pioneering the education of Qatar’s first local physicians
- Restoring the region’s historic scientific tradition through the establishment of an outstanding biomedical research program

A TRIPLE MISSION OF EXCELLENCE

WCMC-Q shares the tripartite mission of Weill Cornell Medical College: a dedication to excellence in education, top-quality clinical care and research at the frontiers of biomedical science.

EDUCATION

WCMC-Q’s innovative six-year program of studies leads to the Cornell University M.D. degree. The two-year pre-medical program focuses on basic sciences relevant to medicine. The four-year medical program follows the highly successful curriculum of Weill Cornell Medical College in New York. There are separate admission processes for each program.

CLINICAL CARE

WCMC-Q works with its partners to educate physicians who will lead 21st century health care in Qatar. Through a strong partnership with Hamad Medical Corporation, the country’s main health care provider, students gain clinical experience with patients from their first year of medical school. Further, the partnership with Aspetar Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Hospital provides WCMC-Q students with experience and training in orthopedic and rehabilitation medicine. With Sidra Medical and Research Center students will have access to one of the most technologically advanced medical and research facilities in the world.

RESEARCH

Working closely with Qatar Foundation, Hamad Medical Corporation, the Supreme Council of Health and other organizations, WCMC-Q researchers are conducting basic science, clinical and translational studies that will build the country’s infrastructure and make Qatar an international center of excellence in biomedical research. The studies are based largely on molecular and genetic medicine and stem cell biology and are designed to address pressing national and regional health care issues such as diabetes, obesity and metabolic syndrome as well as reproductive biology, cardiovascular disease and vaccine development.

STUDENT STATISTICS (September 2013)

Medical Students
- Class of 2014 (4th Year Medical) 37
- Class of 2015 (3rd Year Medical) 53
- Class of 2016 (2nd Year Medical) 41
- Class of 2017 (1st Year Medical) 41

Medical Program
- Pre-medical Program 92
- Foundation Program 20

Entering Medical Students (Class of 2017)
- Men 22
- Women 19
- Average Science GPA 3.5
- Average MCAT Score
  - Physical Science 10
  - Biological Science 10

Entering Pre-medical Students
- Men 14
- Women 30
- SAT 1 Math Score * 723
- TOEFL Internet Based Test * 110

FACULTY STATISTICS (September 2013)

Academic Staff Resident in Qatar
- Faculty 67
- Other Faculty 276
- (Employed at affiliated and other institutions)
- Non-Faculty Academic 48

Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar
Education City, P.O. Box 24144, Doha, Qatar

* Scores are for students admitted directly into the pre-medical program.
WCMC-Q AT A GLANCE

The establishment of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar is part of Cornell University’s commitment to the discovery, preservation and dissemination of knowledge around the world. With the establishment of the Qatar campus of Weill Cornell Medical College, Cornell University became the first US university to offer its M.D. degree overseas.

WCMC-Q pioneered university-level coeducation in the country. Class size has grown rapidly from 25 pre-medical students in 2002 to 112 pre-medical and foundation students in 2013. Meanwhile, medical school enrollment has increased from 16 in the inaugural class to 41 in the class of 2017.

The WCMC-Q student body is diverse, with students from more than 30 countries.

The facilities, provided by Qatar Foundation, include lecture halls that are wired for laptops, distance learning and audiovisual technology, extensive teaching laboratories, and seminar rooms designed for small group work.

The Distributed eLibrary (DeLib) — accessible from approximately 300 computers in-house and more via remote access — provides a vast array of information resources, including more than 8,211 eJournals, 17,968 eBooks, 3,820 print publications and 345 databases, in addition to other electronic media that is continually updated and expanded. The library recently acquired electronic access to the entire collection of the New England Journal of Medicine, dating back to January, 1812.

The medical college has the region’s first clinical skills center. With six fully equipped exam rooms, audio-visual equipment, computerized medical mannequins, and a standardized patient educator program, it is a state-of-the-art resource for the specialized training of physicians.

MILESTONES ON OUR JOURNEY

January 2001
Cornell University and Qatar Foundation sign an agreement to establish Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

August 2002
First students enter WCMC-Q’s pre-medical program

October 2004
First White Coat Ceremony as inaugural class enters the medical program

October 2004
Affiliation agreement signed by Weill Cornell Medical College, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and Hamad Medical Corporation

June 2005
Opening of the Clinical Skills Center, the first in the region

July 2006
Third-year medical students begin clinical clerkships in Hamad Medical Corporation medical facilities

Summer 2006
WCMC-Q’s research labs in use for the first time

May 2008
Inaugural class graduates

June 2008
Biomedical research program launched

September 2008
First WCMC-Q alumni begin residencies in Qatar and the United States

February 2009
WCMC-Q signs clinical training and education agreement with Aspetar, Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Hospital

May 2009
WCMC-Q researchers awarded 20 grants for advanced biomedical research projects through the National Priorities Research program

December 2009
WCMC-Q takes part in Qatar’s first health congress

October 2010
Affiliation Agreement for Sidra Medical and Research Center signed by Qatar Foundation and Weill Cornell Medical College

August 2011
The Academic Health System (AHS) is launched as a partnership between Qatar’s leading learning and research institutions and healthcare providers

October 2012
WCMC-Q celebrates the ten-year anniversary of its inauguration during which time it has produced 112 new doctors