Weill Cornell Medicine - Qatar (WCM-Q) was established in 2001 as a partnership between Cornell University and Qatar Foundation. It is part of Weill Cornell Medicine 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

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

EDUCATION

WCM-Q’s innovative six-year program of studies leads to the Cornell University M.D. degree. The two-year pre-medical curriculum focuses on basic sciences relevant to medicine. The four-year medical curriculum follows the highly successful program of Weill Cornell Medicine in New York.

CLINICAL CARE

WCM-Q works with its partners to educate physicians who will lead 21st century healthcare in Qatar. Through a strong partnership with Hamad Medical Corporation, the country’s main healthcare 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 WCM-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, WCM-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 healthcare issues such as diabetes, obesity and metabolic syndrome as well as reproductive biology, cardiovascular disease and vaccine development.

STUDENT STATISTICS (September 2015)

Medical Students

Class of 2016 (4th Year Medical)  46
Class of 2017 (3rd Year Medical)  47
Class of 2018 (2nd Year Medical)  41
Class of 2019 (1st Year Medical)  46

Number of Students

Medical Curriculum 180
Pre-medical Curriculum 93
Foundation Program 18
Total Number of Students 291

Entering Medical Students (Class of 2019)

Men  19
Women 27
Average Science GPA 3.3
Average MCAT Score
  Physical Science 9.6
  Biological Science 9.5

Entering Pre-medical Students

Men  17
Women 33
SAT 1 Math Score * 727
TOEFL Internet Based Test * 111

FACULTY STATISTICS (September 2015)

Academic Staff Resident in Qatar

Faculty 69
Other faculty 446
(Employed at affiliated and other institutions)

RESEARCH

Total employees (from 33 countries) 190
Number of active research laboratories 34
Non-faculty Academic 48
(Postdocs and Research Associates)
Papers published since 2010 >380

Eight core facilities: Genomics, Proteomics, Bioinformatics, Imaging, Vivarium, Biostatics, Clinical Research Support, and MicroRNA.

* Scores are for students admitted directly into the pre-medical curriculum.
Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar

FACT SHEET 2015-2016

WCM-Q AT A GLANCE

The establishment of Weill Cornell Medicine - 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 Medicine, Cornell University became the first US university to offer its M.D. degree overseas.

WCM-Q pioneered university-level coeducation in the country. Class size has grown rapidly from 25 pre-medical students in 2002 to 111 pre-medical and foundation students in 2015. Meanwhile, medical school enrollment has increased from 16 in the inaugural class to 46 in the class of 2019.

The WCM-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 9,000 eJournals, 21,777 eBooks, 3,346 print publications and 371 databases, in addition to other electronic media that are 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 Medicine - Qatar.

August 2002
First students enter WCM-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 Medicine, 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
WCM-Q’s research labs in use for the first time.

May 2008
Inaugural class graduates.

June 2008
Biomedical research program launched.

September 2008
First WCM-Q alumni begin residencies in Qatar and the US.

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

May 2009
WCM-Q researchers awarded 20 grants for advanced biomedical research projects through the National Priorities Research Program.

December 2009
WCM-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 Medicine.

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
WCM-Q celebrates the ten-year anniversary of its inauguration during which time it produced 112 new doctors.

December 2014
WCM-Q is accredited as a provider of continuing medical education and continuing professional development by the Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners of the Supreme Council of Health.

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