



WEILL CORNELL
MEDICAL COLLEGE IN QATAR



PRESS RELEASE

Affiliation Agreement Signed between Hamad Medical Corporation, Weill Cornell Medical College and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

Doha, Qatar

October 11, 2004

On Monday, October 11, 2004, Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Weill Cornell Medical College (WCMC) and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital (NYPH), will sign an Affiliation Agreement. The Agreement will serve to formalize the three-way partnership which was initiated the previous Spring, following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by the institutions in May, 2004.

The intent of the Agreement is to advance and promote medical education, clinical care and research in the State of Qatar.

Signatories to the Agreement are: Latifa Al-Houty, Ph.D., Chairperson of HMC Board of Directors; H.E. Turki Al-Khater, Managing Director, HMC; Antonio M. Gotto, Jr., M.D., D.Phil., Provost for Medical Affairs and Stephen and Suzanne Weiss Dean of WCMC; Daniel R. Alonso, M.D., Dean of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q); and Steven J. Corwin, M.D., Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at NYPH.

The Agreement establishes a partnership between the institutions, with each party remaining an independent entity. As part of the Agreement, HMC will make its hospitals and primary health care centers available as clinical education training sites for WCMC-Q students. There will also be opportunities for training and educational exchange between personnel of the three institutions, including clinicians, researchers and students.

Dr. Latifa Al-Houty welcomed this important step in bringing the institutions closer: "It is an honor to be affiliated with Weill Cornell Medical College and NewYork- Presbyterian Hospital. This step will further enhance Qatar's position as a center of educational excellence, according to the vision of His Highness the Emir, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani and Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned."

Dean Antonio M. Gotto, Jr. commented on the significance of the three-way partnership: "The Agreement signed today is for the exchange of knowledge, the education of future physicians and the provision of an excellent level of clinical care, as well as the development of cooperation between the institutions in the field of biomedical research. It will be of great benefit to the Medical College and its students, to the Hospitals and to the people of Qatar."

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Dr. Steven J. Corwin said that the Affiliation Agreement assured the advancement of cooperation between clinicians and researchers in New York and Doha. "As the University Hospital of Weill Cornell Medical College, with many chiefs of clinical services in the Hospital holding chairmanships of the corresponding academic departments within the Medical College, NYPH is ideally placed to work with HMC and WCMC-Q in developing opportunities for the exchange of knowledge and training between Doha and New York."

Dean Daniel Alonso said that HMC would provide unique opportunities for the clinical education of WCMC-Q students: "This fall, our students will have their first opportunity to directly observe medicine being practiced in the Hamad General Hospital and primary health care centers. Thereafter they will receive much of their clinical education in the HMC's facilities, which offer an excellent breadth of inpatient and outpatient services."

H.E. Turki Al-Khater reaffirmed the importance of educating the doctors of the future: "We are committed to providing the highest quality of care to our patients, and this partnership will enable us to work together to train personnel and upgrade services. We welcome WCMC-Q students as they begin their clinical education, and we look forward to welcoming them back as physicians in the future."

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