



Press Kit

Table	of Co	ontents:
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INTRODUCTION	2
PRESS RELEASE	3
FACT SHEET	5
CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA, NEW YORK STATE, U.S.A.	6
WEILL CORNELL MEDICAL COLLEGE, NEW YORK CITY, U.S.A.	7
WEILL CORNELL MEDICAL COLLEGE IN QATAR, DOHA, QATAR	8
EDUCATION PROGRAMS	9



INTRODUCTION

The MoU paves the way for an educational affiliation among the Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Weill Cornell Medical College (WCMC) and the NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital (NYPH). It was signed for HMC by Latifa Al-Houty, Ph.D., Chairperson of the Board of Directors, and H.E. Turki Al-Khater, Managing Director. The MoU was also signed by Dean of Weill Cornell Medical College in New York, Antonio M. Gotto, Jr., M.D., D.Phil., and Dean of Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Daniel R. Alonso, M.D.; and by Herbert Pardes, M.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of NYPH (who was not present at the ceremony.)





Memorandum of Understanding Hamad Medical Corporation Weill Cornell Medical College The NewYork - Presbyterian Hospital

PRESS RELEASE

On Monday, May 10, 2004 at 9:00 am the Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), the Weill Cornell Medical College (WCMC) and The NewYork - Presbyterian Hospital (NYPH) will sign a memorandum of understanding. The signatories to the memorandum include: Latifa Ibrahim Al Houty, Ph.D., Chairperson, 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 the WCMC; Daniel R. Alonso, M.D., Dean, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q); and Herbert Pardes, M.D., President and Chief Executive Officer, NYPH.

The memorandum of understanding represents a general expression of intent between the three parties to enter into an agreement of affiliation to advance medical education, clinical care and research in the State of Qatar. It should be noted that each of the three parties to the agreement shall maintain their corporate independence.

As part of the agreement, the HMC will make its hospitals and primary health care centers available to provide clinical education training sites for WCMC-Q students. In addition, the affiliation includes an agreement to explore the establishment of training and educational exchange opportunities between HMC and NYPH physicians, fellows and residents.

Dr. Latifa Ibrahim Al-Houty expressed her support by stating: "We look forward to this partnership that will assure the delivery of high quality medical education in Qatar. This affiliation does not represent a business transaction but rather an educational partnership for the transfer of knowledge."

Dean Antonio Gotto, Jr. noted the value to WCMC-Q of the mission that brought the parties together: "This is a significant partnership aimed at providing high quality clinical training sites for WCMC-Q medical students while furthering our triple mission of education, clinical care and research."

Dean Daniel Alonso concurred with his colleagues and noted that: "This agreement will offer WCMC-Q a clinical setting appropriate for the educational experience of Qatari and regional physicians of tomorrow."



H.E. Turki Al-Khater commented: "We expect that this partnership will stimulate our commitment to continuous quality improvement in the management of our hospitals and primary health care centers in Qatar maintaining them as an environment conducive to a superior level of clinical education."

End of Press Release





Memorandum of Understanding Hamad Medical Corporation Weill Cornell Medical College The NewYork - Presbyterian Hospital

Fact Sheet

- The purpose of the affiliation is to advance medical education, clinical care and research in the State of Qatar.
- The means to accomplish these goals shall be through an educational affiliation among the Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Weill Cornell Medical College (WCMC) and The NewYork Presbyterian Hospital (NYPH).
- Each party within the affiliation relationship shall maintain its corporate independence.
- This affiliation does not represent a business transaction but a partnership for education.
- The affiliation will provide clinical education training sites for Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q) students.
- The training sites are to include the HMC Hospitals and Primary Health Care Centers.
- The affiliation also seeks to provide enhanced training opportunities for HMC physicians, fellows, and residents at the NYPH





Cornell University

Ithaca, New York State, U.S.A.

"I would found an institution where any person can find instruction in any study." These words of Ezra Cornell – farmer, mechanic and educational pioneer - lie at the heart of the inspiration behind the foundation of Cornell University in the 1860s. They remain just as relevant today.

Cornell University is, in the words of its eleventh president, Jeffrey S. Lehman, the "birthplace of the integration of theory and application within American higher education, champion of the equal dignity of humanism and science, exemplar of openness to all peoples and to the critical examination of ideas."*

Established as the federal land grant institution for the state of New York through the dedication of Ezra Cornell and Andrew Dickson White, and endowed also with private funds, Cornell University received its charter in 1865.

Since then, Cornell has built up a reputation as one of the leading universities in the United States. It is a member of the prestigious Ivy League, an elite group of universities renowned worldwide for their academic excellence.

By the year 2000, the University comprised seven undergraduate units and four graduate and professional units in Ithaca, and two medical graduate and professional units in New York City, the Weill Graduate School of Medical Sciences and the Weill Cornell Medical College (both private institutions.)

While 412 students were present at Opening Day ceremonies in 1868, the most recent figure for the student body totals some 20,000.

The University has a long tradition of engagement at the international level: tens of thousands of overseas students have studied at Cornell, while its faculty and students have travelled far and wide in pursuit of their research and studies.

Cooperation with institutions across the world has been an important part of the University's work. In 2001, Cornell signed an agreement with the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development to set up the Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, thereby becoming the first American university ever to offer its M.D. degree overseas.

Website: <u>www.cornell.edu</u>

*Speaking during the ceremony to mark the start of his inauguration week at WCMC-Q on October 12, 2003





Weill Cornell Medical College

New York City, U.S.A.

An educational philosophy that emphasizes the importance of combining a strong basic foundation in the medical sciences with extensive clinical training in patient care has been central to the mission of the Weill Cornell Medical College since its inception.

Established in 1898, Cornell University Medical College (as it was known for the first 100 years) was generously endowed through the gifts of Colonel Oliver H. Payne. The Medical College rapidly became a national leader in medical education; it was also one of the country's first coeducational medical schools.

From the outset, Colonel Payne required that it should be a university medical school; however, it was established in New York City, rather than Ithaca, in order to provide students with opportunities for clinical learning and laboratory-oriented instruction that were rare at the time.

The Medical College developed close links with The New York Hospital from as early as 1913. This culminated with the opening of the New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center on Manhattan's Upper East Side in 1932, confirmation of the integration of university and hospital in one academic medical center, with a triple mission of education, research, and patient care.

The hospital was renamed New York Presbyterian Hospital in 1998. In the same year, the Medical College was renamed the Joan and Sanford I. Weill Medical College of Cornell University, in recognition of the many years of service to Cornell, and particularly to the Medical College, by the Weills.

At the heart of a world-famous center of medical education, biomedical research and health care in Manhattan, Weill Cornell physicians and scientists have made – and continue to make – major contributions to medical research in key areas. They have paved the way for such advances as the Pap test for cervical cancer, the first 'double-blind' controlled experiment to test the efficacy of drugs, and the synthesis of penicillin.

Research efforts are currently focussed on three critical areas: structural biology, genetic medicine and neuroscience.

Website: <u>www.med.cornell.edu</u>





Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

Doha, Qatar

In an unprecedented expansion of American higher education, Cornell University and the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, a private organization set up in 1995 by Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, announced on April 9, 2001 the establishment of the Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar.

WCMC-Q aims to bring the same quality of education offered by Cornell University in the United States to students in Qatar and the Middle East. Through an accelerated, integrated program of study comprising the two-year Pre-medical Program and the four-year Medical Program, it offers a complete medical education leading to a Cornell University M.D. degree.*

Admission requirements are the same as those at Cornell in the U.S, teaching is by Cornell faculty and academic standards are very high. While the Pre-medical Program comprises courses specially selected for the two-year time-scale, the Medical Program uses the innovative and highly successful curriculum introduced at Weill Cornell in New York in 1996, with its emphasis on problem-based learning and exposure to clinical practice from an early stage.

The first pre-medical classes opened in September 2002 in temporary facilities within Education City, a huge and visionary campus dedicated to education and research, established by the Qatar Foundation near Doha, the capital city of Qatar.

Within a year, the Medical College moved to new, purpose-built premises nearby. Designed by renowned architect Arata Isozaki, the new building was formally dedicated by Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned, wife of the Emir and chairperson of the Qatar Foundation, and Cornell president, Jeffrey S. Lehman, on October 12, 2003.

WCMC-Q is the first medical college and the first coeducational higher learning environment in the State of Qatar. It opens up new opportunities for the young people of the region to access a world-class medical education without having to travel thousands of miles from home. In addition, there are plans to carry out research into certain genetic diseases, such as diabetes, which are of major concern in the region.

Website: www.med.cornell.edu/qatar

(*It should be noted that there is a separate admission process for each Program.)





EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q) offers a six-year integrated program of study, comprising the two-year non-degree awarding Pre-medical Program, followed by the four-year Medical Program leading to the Cornell University M.D. degree. There are *separate* admission processes for each Program.

The Pre-medical Program at WCMC-Q opened in September 2002. Rigorous and challenging, the Program features:

- A curriculum that comprises the sciences basic to medicine: biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics.
- Teaching by Cornell faculty, supported by teaching assistants (TAs) appointed from among recent graduates. Most TAs are graduates of Cornell University.
- An excellent ratio of staff to students.
- A range of teaching methods including lectures, laboratory sessions and problem-based learning.

• Lectures and interactive conferences with faculty in Ithaca and New York, made available through a system of streaming video.

Students are encouraged to take part in extra-curricular activities that explore the reality of working in the medical profession, and there may be the chance to experience laboratory-based research during a summer period spent at Cornell University in Ithaca or Weill Cornell Medical College in New York.

The Medical Program will start in September 2004. It will offer students a four-year program of study specifically designed to develop their problem solving and critical thinking skills, with exposure to patient care from an early stage. This highly successful curriculum was developed at Weill Cornell in New York under the guidance of Daniel R. Alonso, M.D., who is now Dean of WCMC-Q. The main features are, in brief:

• Years one and two: six consecutive, integrated basic sciences courses. Additional courses both introduce students to the doctor-patient relationship, and provide an introduction to the clinical years.

• Year three: clerkship rotations in the principal clinical disciplines, and additional short courses of study.

• Year four: Selective and elective courses, advanced basic science course and sub-internships.

For more information, visit the WCMC-Q Website at <u>www.med.cornell.edu/qatar</u>