



WEILL CORNELL MEDICAL COLLEGE IN QATAR



PRESS RELEASE

TOP WEILL CORNELL FACULTY VISIT HMC

Doha, Qatar

January 29, 2005

Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q) opens the spring semester this week with a series of visits by leading figures from Weill Cornell Medical College in New York (WCMC-NY.) Foremost among them will be the Dean of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences and the Chairmen of the Departments of Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Pediatrics.

A full program of events is scheduled for the visiting experts. They will present Grand Rounds at the Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) and meet senior officials and clinicians there. They will also deliver lectures, conduct seminars, and meet faculty and students at WCMC-Q, as well as leaders of Qatar Foundation and higher education institutions in Education City.

Over the next few months, further senior personnel from Weill Cornell in New York will arrive in Qatar.

The increasing number of visits by eminent academics, clinicians and researchers at WCMC-NY follows the inauguration of the Medical Program at WCMC-Q in September 2004, and the signing of an Affiliation Agreement between HMC, Weill Cornell Medical College and its partner hospital, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital (NYPH.) Such contacts will further the cooperation between the organizations in medical education, patient care, and clinical research.

Many of the visitors have dual professional roles, as both chiefs of clinical service at NYPH and chairmen of the corresponding academic clinical departments at Weill Cornell in New York. They have also published extensively in the medical literature. Dean of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, David P. Hajjar, Ph.D., is a distinguished researcher in vascular biology, with particular expertise in cardiovascular disease, and he will bring the perspective of a pre-eminent scientific investigator to his presentations in Qatar.

In order of arrival in Doha, the visiting experts are:

Frank A. Chervenak, M.D. Dr. Chervenak is the Given Foundation Professor and chairman of obstetrics and gynecology at WCMC-NY, and obstetrician and gynecologist-in-chief at NYPH. He is also director of Maternal-Fetal Medicine at NYPH, a section that specializes in the care of high-risk and complicated pregnancies. Dr. Chervenak will present Grand Rounds at HMC, January 30 at 7:00 a.m., entitled: "Patient choice Cesarean: The role of evidence and ethics."

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David P. Hajjar, Ph.D. Dr. Hajjar is Executive Vice Dean, Vice Provost and Dean of the Weill Graduate School of Medical Sciences of Cornell University. His academic appointments are as Frank H.T. Rhodes Distinguished Professor of Cardiovascular Biology and Genetics, and professor of biochemistry and pathology. Dr. Hajjar is also director of the Cornell Center of Vascular Biology. The title of Dr. Hajjar's Grand Rounds on February 1st (11:00 – 12 noon) is: "The pathogenesis of atherosclerosis."

Fabrizio Michelassi, M.D. Dr. Michelassi is Lewis Atterbury Stimson Professor and chairman of surgery at WCMC-NY. He is also surgeon-in-chief at NYPH. A specialist in the field of inflammatory bowel disease and surgical oncology, he will present Grand Rounds at HMC, February 3rd, (7:00 a.m.) on the subject of: "Recent advances in the surgical treatment of abdominal complications in Crohn's disease."

Gerald M. Loughlin, M.D. Dr. Loughlin is Nancy C. Paduano Professor and chairman of pediatrics at WCMC-NY. He is also pediatrician-in-chief at NYPH. A pediatric pulmonologist, Dr. Loughlin is an authority on disorders such as sleep apnea, asthma and cystic fibrosis. Dr. Loughlin will present Grand Rounds at a date to be announced.

For more information, please contact Michael Vertigans, phone 4928650 or Mohammed Jasim Al-Jasim, HMC, phone 4863001/4

NOTES TO EDITORS

Established in partnership with the Qatar Foundation, WCMC-Q is a branch campus of Weill Cornell Medical College in New York, the first American institution to offer its M.D. degree overseas. WCMC-Q offers a complete and integrated educational program, comprising the two-year Pre-medical Program, followed by the four-year Medical Program, with teaching by Cornell faculty.

There are separate admission processes for each Program, guided by the standards of admission in use at Cornell University in Ithaca, and its Medical College in New York.

Website: www.qatar-med.cornell.edu

The Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private, nonprofit, chartered organization founded in 1995 aiming to develop and utilize human potential through a network of centers and campuses. In 1997 the foundation set out on a strategic plan to create an Education City that is composed of a number of research centers, branch campuses of world-class educational institutions and a Science Park that acts as an incubator for research, responds to the immediate needs of industry and anticipates future necessities for development. In October 2003, Education City was officially inaugurated and it is now home to branches of some of the world's leading universities and research centers.

Website: www.qf.edu.qa/

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