



## WEILL CORNELL MEDICAL COLLEGE IN QATAR

10YR ANNIVERSARY



### PRESS RELEASE

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#### WCMC-Q HOLDS TRAINING SEMINAR FOR CLINICAL RESEARCHERS

Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q) has organized the region's first Human Research Protection Training Seminar, February 1 and 2, at the Intercontinental Hotel in Doha. The seminar is in preparation for the future start of the clinical research program in collaboration with Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC.)

The event is the first in a planned series of lectures and seminars offered to physicians, nurses, technicians and administrators of both institutions. Cornell University requires all health professionals and their support staff conducting research involving human subjects to complete this specialized training.

Daniel R. Alonso, MD, Dean of WCMC-Q, said, "This initiative represents an important stage in implementation of our triple mission of education, patient care and research here in Qatar. As we prepare to carry out biomedical research, we are working closely with colleagues at Hamad Medical Corporation to ensure that the program is implemented to the highest ethical standards."

One highlight of the two-day program is the presentation of the first Arabic translation of The Belmont Report, which provides the ethical framework for the planning and conduct of research involving human subjects.

Day one of the seminar focuses on the training program developed by a non-governmental organization titled Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research (PRIM&R). This organization promotes the highest ethical standards in the field. Case studies and discussion

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sessions will complement the lectures on ethical principles. Robert J. Levine, MD, of Yale University and Helen McGough, MA, CIP, of the University of Washington will present these sessions.

Day two of the seminar will include the outline of policies and procedures of Weill Cornell Medical College. David A. Behrman, DMD, will present, along with Sheila Cohen Zimmet, BSN, JD and Dorothy Hilpmann, BA, CIP. Dr. Behrman is Associate Professor of Surgery and Chairman of the Committee on Human Rights in Research. Ms. Zimmet is the Associate Dean of Research Compliance and Ms. Hilpmann is the Director of Research Subject Protection, both at Weill Cornell in New York.

Gary B. Schneider, PhD, Senior Associate Dean for Research at WCMC-Q, said: "Training is essential to ensure that volunteers for clinical research are fully protected, and their human rights respected. Such protections are integral to our approach to research conducted at WCMC-Q and HMC in the future."

-Ends-

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

**Established in partnership with the Qatar Foundation, WCMC-Q** is part of the Weill Medical College of Cornell University, 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 City.

Website: [www.qatar-med.cornell.edu](http://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.

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