



Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar



مؤسسة حمد الطبية
HAMAD MEDICAL CORPORATION

PRESS RELEASE

HMC and WCMC-Q join together to mark Medical Education Day

Doha, February 20, 2008 - Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) and Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q) joined together February 20 in celebrating the achievements of young physicians, and the contribution of HMC preceptors and teachers to the clinical education of the next generation of doctors in Qatar.

It was the first time that WCMC-Q shared in this important occasion in the medical education calendar, reflecting HMC's expanding educational mission. Over 30 students of the Medical College are now receiving a significant part of their clinical education at HMC.

Taking part in the ceremony were Dr. Latifa Al Houty, the Chair of the Board of HMC; Dr. Hanan Al Kuwari, the Managing Director of HMC; and Dr. Daniel R. Alonso, the Dean of WCMC-Q. The audience included distinguished leaders from academia in Qatar.

The event, which took place at the Hajar Auditorium in HMC's Education Center, saw the presentation of certificates of successful completion of residency training to 60 residents in programs run by different HMC departments, as well as awards to the top residents of the year as selected by consultants and specialists in each department.

It is noteworthy that HMC has nearly 500 medical and surgical residents specialising in 20 different programs, with an average intake of 110 new residents each year.

In a new move, HMC presented teaching awards to specialists and consultants selected by the residents as best teachers for their significant contributions to resident teaching.

Meanwhile, WCMC-Q's medical students gave their own feedback for the most outstanding HMC faculty-physicians who were teachers/preceptors during their clinical activities. In addition to recognizing all the preceptors for their valuable contributions to medical student education, teaching awards were presented.

HMC Director of Medical Education, Dr. Abdul Latif Al-Khal, said: "Today, Hamad Medical Corporation recognizes the effort and dedication of young physicians on completion of a highly significant stage in their postgraduate education, and thanks physicians who have contributed greatly to their success.

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“The residency training programs are a key part of our educational activities and health care services: HMC is committed to implementing the standards of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), and the participation of the health-care teams is central to achieving our goal.

“Since 2006, they have also welcomed WCMC-Q’s medical students onto their teams. The best way for young doctors-in-training to learn is through example and practice: Working with doctors, nurses and allied carers, they learn the teamwork, professionalism and ethics on which patient-centred care is built.

“And I would add that it is a two-way process: We all gain by having residents and medical students on our teams, asking questions, eager to know more.”

Dean of WCMC-Q, Dr. Daniel R. Alonso, paid tribute to the cooperation between the institutions in the field of clinical education:

“Up to now, more than 110 HMC physicians have appointments as Weill Cornell faculty and they make a huge contribution to the clinical education of medical students.

“It is a remarkable aspect of the Medical Program that students begin to learn and practice the art, as well as the science, of medicine from Year 1. With the support of our colleagues at HMC, they are truly acquiring and developing the range of skills they will need to care for patients after they graduate.

“We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our colleagues at HMC for their commitment to sharing their knowledge, skills and expertise with the next generation.”

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Notes to Editors

Established by Cornell University in partnership with Qatar Foundation, WCMC-Q is part of Weill Cornell Medical College. A member of the Ivy League, Cornell is the first American university 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 is a separate admissions process 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

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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.org.qa

Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) was established by Emiri decree in 1979. It is the premier not-for-profit healthcare provider in the State of Qatar.

HMC manages six hospitals: Hamad General Hospital, Women's Hospital, Rumailah Hospital, Al-Amal Cancer Hospital, the Psychiatric Hospital and Al-Khor Hospital, as well as the Hamad International Training Center. Nationwide, the Corporation manages a network of primary health centers that provide a range of services, including family medicine, preventive medicine and a number of specialized services such as ophthalmology.

HMC is mandated to provide the best quality care for patients irrespective of nationality, and to play a major part in Qatar's drive to meet, and exceed, global targets, as defined in the World Health Organization's "Health for All" campaign. Since its establishment, the Corporation has developed specialized medical facilities that offer levels of diagnosis and treatment that were previously only available overseas.

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