



PRESS RELEASE

**WCMC-Q Shows Local Students the World of Science,  
Medicine and Research**

**Doha, November 21, 2009** – Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar hosted its second annual Medicine Unlimited event – a fun, interactive science-based experience for area high school students and their families – Saturday at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Doha.

The event was organized by WCMC-Q in partnership with Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar Diabetes Association, and the Ministry of Health Blindness Prevention Committee to highlight the many opportunities in the science and health professions and to encourage students to consider careers in health care and biomedical research.

“The students here tonight represent the future of healthcare and research in Qatar,” said WCMC-Q Interim Dean Dr. Javaid I. Sheikh.

“As the Medical College works with Qatar Foundation, HMC, and other partners to build research infrastructure and advance the delivery of quality patient care in Qatar, we look to this country’s youth as our future physicians and researchers. This evening is just one way WCMC-Q is helping give them the encouragement and tools to do so,” he added.

The students were treated to a variety of activities that explored the complex relationship between our bodies and the world around us, including live experiments, hands-on simulations, and fun demonstrations. Using WCMC-Q’s high-tech medical mannequins, students could try their hand at a range of basic medical procedures, from providing CPR to giving ear and eye exams. Science tables explored the areas of anatomy, physics, chemistry, biology, neurology, surgery and transplantation, and biomedical research. Quizzes and raffle draws tested the students, with digital frames and other prizes awarded to the winners.

Parents in attendance were provided with free health screenings provided by WCMC-Q partners, including tests for blood pressure, blood sugar, and pulmonary function, as well as free H1N1 vaccinations.

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“We are once again very pleased with the turnout from students and their families at Medicine Unlimited, which has quickly become a flagship event in the Medical College’s outreach program. WCMC-Q places great emphasis on its efforts to recruit Qataris and other local students by making visits to more than 20 area high schools and reaching out to more than 1,500 high school students through open house activities and its summer programs,” said Michael Johnson, PhD, associate dean for pre-medical education at WCMC-Q.

*Ends*

## NOTES TO EDITORS

**Established in partnership with Qatar Foundation, WCMC-Q** is part of Weill Cornell Medical College (WCMC), the first US institution to offer its MD degree overseas. WCMC-Q shares the tripartite mission of WCMC: a dedication to excellence in education, patient care, and biomedical research.

WCMC-Q offers an innovative program of pre-medical and medical studies leading to the Cornell University MD degree. Teaching is by Cornell and Weill Cornell faculty, including physicians at Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) who hold Weill Cornell appointments.

Faculty and staff of WCMC-Q and WCMC are building the research capacity of Qatar in partnership with Qatar Foundation, HMC, the Ministry of Health and other organizations, with a focus on high quality research in genetic and molecular medicine, women’s and children’s health, gene therapy, and vaccine development.

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

## About Qatar Foundation

Founded in 1995 by decree of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of Qatar, Qatar Foundation is a non-profit organization focusing on education, scientific research and community development. Under Qatar Foundation’s umbrella are Education City, which comprises elite universities, several academic and training

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programmes and Qatar Science and Technology Park, which boasts more than 21 world class companies involved in scientific research and development.

Chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Mozah bint Nasser Al Missned, Qatar Foundation also aims to enhance lives through community development initiatives including Doha Debates, Reach out To Asia and Al Jazeera Childrens Channel.

Joint venture partnerships in the areas of design, ICT, telecommunications, policy studies and event management contribute to fulfilling the objectives of Qatar Foundation.

Website: [www.qf.org.qa](http://www.qf.org.qa)

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