

THE HEALTHCARE OF TOMORROW

ISSUE #1 - SUMMER 2019



EDITORIAL NOTE

It is with great pleasure that I share with you the first issue of this newsletter, developed by the Association of Academic Health Centers International (AAHCI) the Middle East & North African Regional Office (AAHCI-MENA). AAHCI-MENA is commendably led by AAHCI Regional Ambassador, Dr. Mohamed Sayegh, who oversees an outstanding team that encourages opportunities for shared knowledge, capacity-building, and collaborative initiatives and efforts across regional academic health centers. The MENA office is committed to working with academic health centers within the region to identify and respond to pressing issues that challenge academic health centers, unify the discussions on these matters, as well as exchange experiences and best practices. As you may know, AAHC was founded in 1969 to advance health and well-being through the dynamic leadership of academic health centers in the United States.

AAHCI was founded in 2008 as an integral part of AAHC to bring together institutions around the world that serve the academic health center mission and share a global vision of enhancing health and well-being worldwide.

In May 2015, AAHCI announced the opening of the MENA Regional Office hosted by Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) in Doha, Qatar to facilitate an important change in the way healthcare is delivered in the MENA region through innovative models aimed at advancing best practices. The American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC) became the next host of this regional office in August 2017 with the continued objective of bringing together academic health centers and promoting regional activities and programs that are of particular interest to the area.

In each newsletter issue, AAHCI-MENA will highlight a member institution and share news across the region to encourage collaboration among members.

Thank you for advancing the mission of the academic health centers in the MENA region and around the world!



Steven L. Kanter, MD

President and CEO / Association of Academic Health Centers/ International

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UPCOMING EVENTS

AAHCI-MENA Regional Conference in collaboration with ACGME-I
November 8-10, 2019 at AUB, Beirut

Leading Regional Transformation in Training and Research

Save the Date
November 8-10, 2019
at AUB, Beirut, Lebanon



[Click for more information](#)

AAHCI-MENA: MEET OUR MEMBERS

To know more, click on each logo



American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC)
Beirut, Lebanon



Arabian Gulf University (AGU)
Bahrain



Gulf Medical College Hospital and Research Center
United Arab Emirates



Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC)
Qatar



Khalifa University: College of Medicine and Health Sciences
United Arab Emirates



Lebanese American University Medical Center (LAUMC)
Beirut, Lebanon



Sidra Medicine
Qatar



Specialized Medical Center (SMC)
Saudi Arabia

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



1) How old is your academic health center?

HMC was officially established in 1979 by an Amiri decree. At that time, it was comprised of two hospitals: Rumailah Hospital and Hamad General Hospital. It grew to become a large tertiary system with 12 hospitals, large ambulance service, homecare and mobile clinical services. HMC achieved JCI accreditation back in 2006 and was reaccruited four times since then. In the last two cycles, it was reviewed and accredited as an Academic Medical Center. HMC is affiliated with two medical schools: Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar and the College of Medicine at Qatar University, and it serves as the “university hospital” where the medical students learn their clinical competencies. It encompasses more than 60 specialties and subspecialties and serves as the main healthcare provider for the State of Qatar. HMC is the biggest CME/CPD provider in Qatar and organizes numerous conferences and other educational activities throughout the year. HMC launched its Academic Health System program in 2013 in collaboration with leading academic and healthcare partners in the State of Qatar. The initiative was meant to focus on strengthening education and research as important tools to improve clinical care. Since then, HMC started introducing the concept of the health “Institutes”. With the launching of AHS, HMC established a Neuroscience Institute, a Metabolic Institute, a Cancer Institute and a Dermatology Institute.

2) What are your flagship specialized centers and programs?

HMC is ranked as one of the top healthcare systems in the MENA region and provides very high-quality care in all kinds of medical and surgical disciplines. It is particularly renowned for its trauma program, stroke program, diabetes care, cardiology services, women’s health, cancer care, bariatric program and intensive care services, to name a few. It provides state-of-the-art imaging and laboratory services as well. HMC’s homecare and mobile doctor are particularly strong and help bring long term and some acute care to the community. The ambulance services under HMC is highly renowned for its effectiveness and reliability.

3) How did joining and being a current member of AAHCI-MENA support your institution’s mission and vision?

HMC is the first center in the region to host the AAHCI MENA Chapter and was one of the first members. Joining AAHCI is in line with, and support of, our vision and mission. Part of our vision is to provide the best healthcare that there is and to stand out regionally and internationally. For us to achieve that, we needed to partner with regional and international AMC’s with similar visions, so we learn from each other’s experiences and leverage each other’s strengths. AAHCI can serve as a platform for this partnership with leading AMC’s. The more AAHCI grows and the more AMC’s join in as members, the better it will at addressing this need.

4) What are your AHC’s focal areas of research?

Cardiology, stroke, diabetes, obesity, trauma, cancer immunotherapy, surgical innovation, including robotic surgery

5) Can you give us details about one innovative program or an area of thought leadership within your institution?

We are developing applied health research as a major area of strength, supported by BIG DATA derived from Electronic Medical Records.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

AAHCI MENA Regional Office would like to congratulate AUBMC and its regional member institutes for their awards and recognitions for the year 2018-2019.

AAHCI-MENA would like to recognize our member accomplishments regularly. If we missed something, please let us know!

American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC)

- Dr. Kamal Badr, Recipient of 2019 ACGME International Award: Physician
- EVP/ Dean Sayegh, Kuwait Foundation Prize for the Advancement of Sciences
- Dr. Nagi El Saghir, Fellow of the American Society of Clinical Oncology
- Dr. Amine Antoine Kazzi, 2018 Recipient of the American Academy of Emergency Medicine (AAEM) Robert McNamara Award
- Dr. Ismail Khalil, Award for Outstanding Contribution in Vascular Surgery from the Lebanese Society for Vascular Surgery
- Dr. Jamal Hoballah, Prestigious Honorary Fellowship of the American Surgical Association at the ASA 139th Annual Meeting in Fairmont Dallas

Specialized Medical Center (SMC)

Recognition of Appreciation from Al Faisal University for Faculty Team for the internship program to SMC's 3rd Year Academic Faculty Team

Arabian Gulf University (AGU)

- Prize in Excellence in Leadership in Higher Education
- Silver Award- QS Reimagine Education Awards
- First Prize in Best Digital Transformation Deployment in Education, Smart SMB Summit Bahrain

Gulf Medical College Hospital and Research Center (GMU)

- Best Medical Education University at the prestigious Forbes Middle East Higher Education Awards 2019
- Five-star ratings for the four key categories by QS, the top international university ranking agency for teaching, employment, facilities and inclusiveness

Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC)

- Received JCI Accreditation as an Academic Medical Center
- ACGME-I accreditation of additional four fellowship program: Allergy and Immunology, Rheumatology, Pulmonary and Geriatrics Medicine
- Dr. Abdullatif Alkhal, ACGME-I International Physician Award
- ACGME-I accredited since 2012
- 14 residency programs and 9 fellowship programs that are accredited

Sidra Medicine

Accreditation from the College of American Pathologists and Accreditation by the Accreditation Committee of the College of American Pathologists (CAP)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!



Groundbreaking Ceremony for AUB'S New Medical Center Expansion (NMCE)

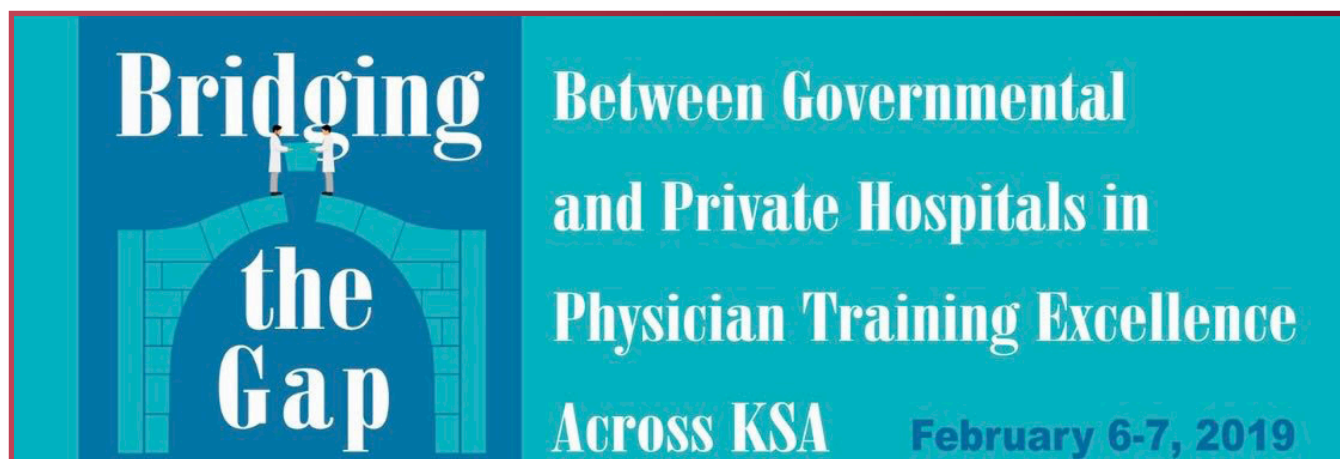
AUBMC held a groundbreaking ceremony for its New Medical Center Expansion (NMCE), the last milestone of AUBMC's 2020 Vision. The event was held under the Patronage of H.E. President Michel Aoun. NMCE is a major milestone in AUBMC's strategic commitment to transforming the healthcare scene in Lebanon and the Middle East.

AAHCI MENA WEBINAR SERIES
PORTRAIT OF EVOLVING MEDICAL APPLICANT: TIME FOR ACTION
Thursday, July 25, 2019 | 12:00 pm Beirut Time

ZEINAT HIJAZI,
M.B.B.ch, DCH, MRCPCH,
FRCPC

Associate Dean for Medical Education
Professor of Pediatrics
Gilbert & Rose-Marie
Chagoury School of Medicine
Lebanese American University

[Click here to watch](#)



“Bridging the GAP- between Governmental and Private Hospitals in Physician Training Excellence across KSA Conference”

The conference covered different topics through lectures. These included the SCFHS Institutional Accreditation System: The Future of National Excellence in Health Training, faculty development, promoting research in the training program, and Medical Education. Also, the conference witnessed three workshops that tackled best practice in the assessment of residents, teaching hospitals, and skills for residents.



Arabian Gulf University (AGU) and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Medical University of Bahrain (RCSI Bahrain) hosted the First Joint Research Conference entitled “Driving Health Research in Bahrain” aiming for sustainable development in producing research to benefit the region.

22 to 24
March
2019
DOHA

Middle East Forum on Quality and Safety in Healthcare

Middle East Forum Orientation

Patient Safety First

Brought to you by Hamad Healthcare Quality Institute

For the seventh year in a row, the Middle East Forum on Quality and Safety was done in collaboration with the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) in March 2019 at HMC

Sidra Medicine Workshop A Qatar First!

Engineered Immune Cells
in Cancer Immunotherapy:
from Discovery to
“Off-the shelf” Development

15-16 February 2019

Sidra Medicine hosted Qatar's First Engineered Immune Cells in Cancer Immunotherapy “From Discovery to Off-the-shelf Development”; it presented collaboration between Sidra Medicine, the National Center for Cancer Care and Research (NCCCR), and Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) to place Qatar at the forefront of the rapidly evolving field of immune cell-based cancer therapies.

REGIONAL HEALTH DAYS



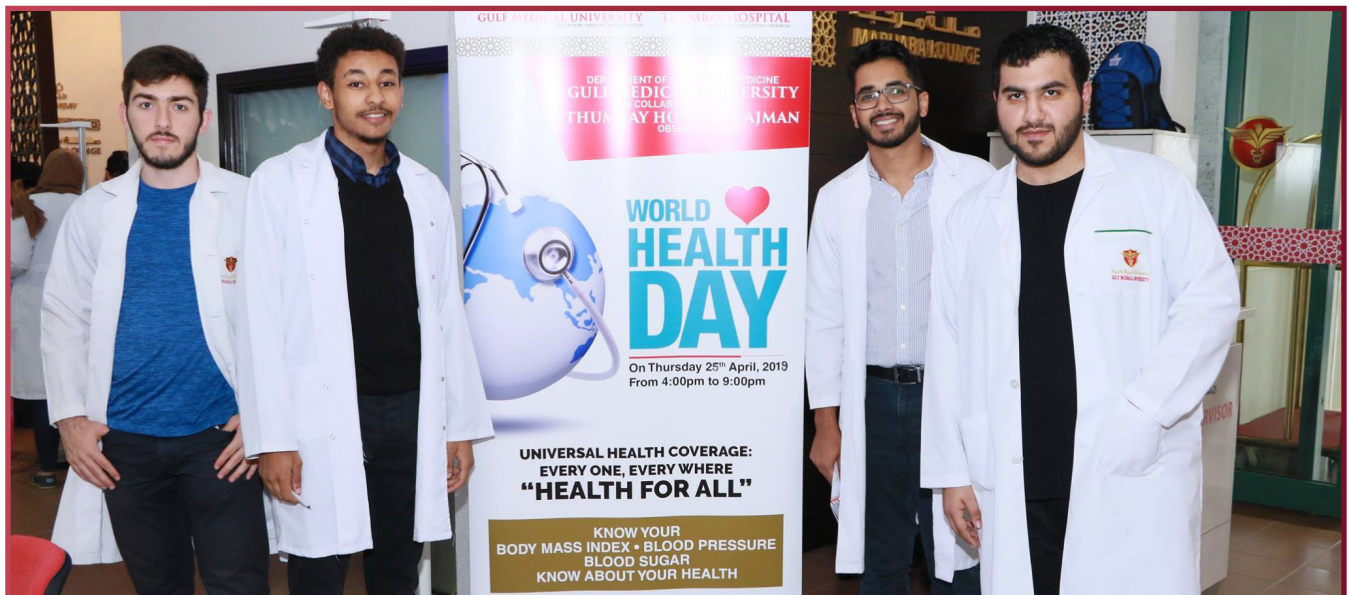
On May 19, 2019, AUBMC celebrated the **Family Doctor Day** to raise awareness on prevention of chronic diseases, hypertension, diabetes, and heart diseases.



The Specialized Medical Center (SMC) organized an awareness day dedicated to the public community about **"Better Quality of Life-QOL for Patients with Rheumatic Diseases"**. To recognize the efforts of patients who were following their diseases regularly and attended all awareness events over the past 10 years, SMC announced an award "Inspirational Patient Award" to recognize, inspire, and motivate these patients.

AGU INVITES YOU TO IT'S CONFERENCE **ANTIBIOTICS RESISTANCE** « SMART USE, BEST CARE » ARABIAN GULF UNIVERSITY «PREMISSES»

Arabian Gulf University organized World Antibiotic Awareness Week, Antibiotics Resistance “Smart Use, Best Care” during the week of November 16, 2018.



The Gulf Medical University (GMU) in collaboration with Thumbay Hospital Ajman observed the **World Health Day** on April 25, 2019. The health campaign included educating the public about various aspects of health, creating awareness about the world health day theme, and screening of the public for BMI, blood pressure, and blood sugar.



Sidra Medicine hosted a series of events and workshops on May 1 and May 2 in support of **World Maternal Mental Health Day** in partnership with Hamad Medical Corporation to highlight the perinatal mental health services available in Qatar for women experiencing related disorders.

PUBLICATIONS

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- **Encapsulation of tDodSNO generates a photoactivated nitric oxide-releasing nanoparticle for localized control of vasodilation and vascular hyperpermeability,** Alimoradi H, Barzegar-Fallah A, Sammut IA, Greish K, Giles GI. *Free Radical Biology and Medicine*. 2019 Jan; 130:297-305.
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