

## Family Physician

---

By Dr. Faizal Mosawi,

---

Assistant Under Secretary for Hospital Affairs,  
Ministry of Health,  
Bahrain

---

WITHIN the concept of community medicine, the Family Physician Residency Programme (FPRP) started in Bahrain during 1979 with six candidates who graduated in October 1982 and now are serving as leaders in this field. The programme is affiliated to the American University in Beirut and it includes two years of hospital training in all the clinical departments and one year service training at the health centres. The future of the graduates is recognized by the health system in Bahrain as in line with the graduate consultants of the Royal colleges and Boards.

The objective of the programme is to produce a quality of physicians who not only have the ability and experience to manage common medical problems of the community but also to serve as a friend of the family to be trusted, respected and consulted. It is also logical to look at the FPRP through the background of the existing primary care facilities and try to evaluate its role. At the moment there are 17 health centres and more than 25 private clinics providing primary health care facilities to the entire population of Bahrain with the number of Bahraini medical staff being less than 10%. The importance of Bahrainization is therefore necessary.

In this issue of the Bahrain Medical Bulletin three articles are published from graduates of the FPRP as part of their project for the final examination.