

Medical News

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Smoking Prohibition in Public Closed Areas

Coinciding with the "Global anti-smoking day" which is on the 31st of May, the MOH has declared total ban of smoking in closed public areas including Bahrain commercial malls and the industrial institutes. This act was based on the tenth decree, which states that smoking is prohibited in public closed places; those in-charge should make sure that the decree is implemented and the smokers are provided with remote isolated places. A follow up to the decree issued in 2006 states that selling tobacco in restaurants and cafes should be prohibited.

Bahrain has recently joined the WHO agreement on tobacco control. This agreement states in its 8th clause that measures should be undertaken to protect the citizens from the hazardous effects of smoking and five years should be allowed for those measures to be implemented.

The ban entails total partnership between the governmental and non-governmental institutes to encourage and implement.

Nutritional Management in Diabetes - Workshop Enforces Structured Education Role

In a workshop held in the MOH in the period from 11th-13th June 2007, the nutritional management of diabetes was discussed. The workshop was organized by the nutrition department of public health in cooperation with the primary care directorate. The participants were mainly diabetes educators in the primary care department. The workshop syllabus included overview of macro and micro nutrients and their effects on blood sugar, nutritional assessment of diabetics, evidence-based nutritional management in diabetics, diabetes self-management, and the use of sweeteners and herbs in diabetes and behavioral therapy in diabetes management.

Artificial Breathing and Circulatory Monitoring Workshop

The ICU department of SMC had arranged its first workshop held in AGU on 13th June 2007 for two days. The workshop hosted the ICU physician specialists and nurse specialists as speakers and workshops organizers, sixty physicians and nurses participated in the workshop. Artificial and assisted breathing along with circulatory monitoring were the main themes of the workshop.

Health Promotion Skills Workshop

Bahraini delegates attended a "Health Promotion" workshop held in Oman in the period of 26th-31st May 2007. The workshop was organized by the WHO and aimed at training leaderships in the field of health promotion (PROLEAD). This

program will be adapted by all GCC countries. Bahrain presented papers of current situation in health promotion, and PROLEAD experience in Bahrain.

School Health in a Conference in Oman

The Kingdom of Bahrain had participated in the 1st GCC conference of School Health, in Oman, in the period 23-25 April 2007. The conference theme was "school health in the GCC countries - current situation, challenges and the future". Bahrain delegates presented six papers in the conference. Topics discussed in the conference included school survey, health promoting schools and future of school health. The GCC delegates agreed on having the second conference in Bahrain in 2009.

"Medical Education Strategy" Workshop Advocates Continuous Medical Education

A workshop organized by the SMC CME committee in collaboration with Dental Section in PHC and college of health sciences has advocated the importance of strategic planning for continuous medical education. The workshop highlighted the importance of medical manpower development through education.

MOH Launches its Newly Designed Website

The MOH has launched its newly designed website which provides electronic services for its employees. The site also displays the activities of the MOH. The site is bilingual and serves both medical professionals and lay people. Users can check their appointments, available medications, vacant jobs, tenders and booking appointments in LLP. The site is periodically renewed to update the user with the latest news and services.