

Medical News Corner

Editor: Dr Amani Al Hajery

Aids Awareness in Bahrain Women Society

As part of celebrating International Women's Day, Bahrain Women Society conducted a seminar on AIDS awareness by Dr. Somaiya A Jowder. The topics she covered were the stigmata attached to the disease, ways of transmission, facilities available in Bahrain for affected patients and the management of HIV infection.

King Hamad Hospital Design starts

Australian Hospital design group has started the initial designs of King Hamad Hospital in Muharraq. The design is focusing on health services for women and children, in addition to the provision of educational facilities that will be used by the Royal College of Surgeon in Ireland.

A New Medical University in Bahrain

A new Medical University will be built in Bahrain next to the upcoming general hospital in Muharraq and will serve as its main teaching facility. Professor Kevin O'Malley is to take over soon as the President of the Medical University of Bahrain (MUB). The college will initially admit 40-50 students from Bahrain and other countries. The college will run a six-year medical degree program, and will be expanded to cover the areas of pharmacy, nursing and dentistry. MUB is to be formally launched on May 4th, 2004.

New Clinical Guidelines for Primary Health Care

The Ministry of Health formulated new clinical guidelines for more effective delivery of primary care in Bahrain. The priority areas for enforcement were Breast Cancer, Diabetes, Obesity, Periodontal Disease and Myocardial Infarction. This comes as part of a quality-improvement program in the country and it aims at getting quality in cost-effective manner, in addition to getting International Standardization Organization (ISO) qualifications.

Women's Health Day celebrated in Health Centers

Two Bahraini Health centers celebrated Women's Health Day on the 27th, March, 2004. The events took place at Shaikh Sabah Al Salem Health Center in Umm Al Hassam and A'ali Health Center. Hundreds of women attended both events at which they were given health awareness tips and free check up for blood pressure, blood sugar and other conditions.

Plans for health insurance policy for expatriates

The Ministry of Health is looking at methods and systems adopted in Ireland and France in order to implement a comprehensive health-insurance policy for expatriates. A detailed report on the most suitable system for Bahrain would be

presented to the Minister of Health and other members of the ministerial council responsible for implementing the health- insurance scheme.

The following appointment has been released after being approved by the King.

Appointment

Dr Nada Haffadh was appointed as the new Minister of Health. Dr Haffadh was born in 1957, She was a member of the Shura Council, and a member of the Supreme Council for Women. She has been in primary care for a number of years, and has served in various capacities. Her last assignment was Maternal and Child Health Coordinator in the Ministry of Health. She is also a clinical lecturer at Arabian Gulf University and a member of the National Action Charter Committee and National Committee for Childhood.

Qualifications:

1973-1979	M.B,B.Ch, Cairo University
1981-1984	Specialty Certificate Family Medicine: Ministry of Health/ American University of Beirut
Aug 85-Jan 86 Edinburgh,	Certificate in Community Pediatrics, School of Community Pediatrics/ Scotland
Dec,1993	Training Course in Health Planning, Ministry of Health, Bahrain
Feb,1994	Certificate in Obstetrics Ultrasound, Ministry of Health, Bahrain & Western General Hospital, Edinburgh
1997	Diploma in Health Care Management, Royal College of Surgeon of Ireland/ Ministry of Health
July 1999	Certificate in Breast Feeding Practice & Policy, Institute of Child Health, University of London, UK

The following promotions have been released after being approved by the Minister:

Promotions

Dr. Fatima Nimah Mohammed
Paediatric Department/Neuroscience
Promoted to grade 8

Dr. Shulah Ehtisham Shakeeb
Primary Health Care
Promoted to grade 8

Dr. Mohammed Abdulla Nasser
Paediatric Department
Promoted to grade 7

Dr. Yasser Ebrahim Al Durazi
Surgical Department
Promoted to grade 6

Dr. M.R. Valsalan
A/E Department
Promoted to grade 6

Dr. Urli Avellanosa
Obs/Gyn Department
Promoted to grade 6

Dr. Sharif A Wahab Al Arayedh
Radiology Department
Promoted to grade 5

Dr. Samah Ebrahim Al Alawi
A/E Department
Promoted to grade 5

Dr. Amjad Deeb Obeid
A/E Department
Promoted to grade 5

Dr. Mohammad Huassain Aman
A/E Department
Promoted to grade 5

Dr. Mahmood Jawad Al Fardan
A/E Department
Promoted to grade 5