

Medical News

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One Hundred Specialists to Attend Health Talks

More than 100 healthcare specialists will gather in Bahrain for a major medical conference later this year. The 'Evidence-based Medicine and Health Promotion: Research into Practice' conference will take place on June 1 and 2 at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), Medical University of Bahrain (MUB), in Busaiteen. The conference is taking place for the first time in the Middle East and it will be held under the patronage of Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa. The event is organized by the Bahrain branch of the UK's Cochrane Centre, part of the Cochrane Collaboration (CC) - an international organization, which provides review of up-to-date, accurate information about the effects of healthcare worldwide. Plenary sessions will take place each morning with four workshops in the afternoon. About 150 participants are expected, chiefly from countries within the region. The focus will be on putting research into practice. Sponsors include the BDF Hospital, the Ministry of Health and Bahrain Medical Bulletin.

School Health Drive

More than 15,000 secondary school students will be screened for genetic blood diseases in a campaign starting in March 2009. The Bahrain National Hereditary Anemia Society will conduct the 11th round of the students' screening program in secondary schools; the function is coordinated with the health and education ministries. The whole process will last six months; those affected by any disease or being identified as carriers will be provided with special identity cards. The program will be conducted in 38 high schools and it will target boys and girls. The aim is to detect inherited blood diseases early and to raise the level of awareness in the community. The program had a budget of BD20, 000. The Ministry of Health is committed to purchase and provide laboratory materials while the Bahrain National Hereditary Anemia Society will cover the rest of the expenditure. The program includes lectures to educate the target group, in addition to the distribution of educational brochures, booklets and CDs. An educational film about hereditary blood diseases will be distributed to schools. The program maintains the student's confidentiality; they receive their blood results on a special card in a sealed envelope to be used when needed for medical follow-up. Dr Shaikha Al Arayyed the head of National Committee to Combat Genetic Diseases and students' screening program said that the national committee had made an effort throughout the year by organizing meetings and supervising the project.

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Medical Camp

A free medical camp was held by the Indian Community Relief Fund (ICRF) at Baghdad Aluminium, Salmabad on the 12th of February 2009. Senior medical consultants and paramedics examined more than 300 workers. The Peoples Forum sponsored the camp, which was followed by dinner for the workers. Health awareness, work safety tips and Labor Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) guidelines were provided to the participants.

Pathology Department of Salmaniya Medical Complex Attains High Ranks in External Quality Assurance Programs of the College of American Pathologists

The pathology department of Salmaniya Medical Complex attained a grade of 98.4% in the external quality assurance program of the College of American Pathologists (CAP) for the year 2008. The department of pathology is enrolled in that proficiency-testing program. In that program, samples and specimens are sent to the pathology department in Bahrain from the CAP laboratories. The pathology department of SMC processes the samples and sends the results to CAP in the USA. The results are compared with CAP's results, as well as results from around 200 laboratories around the world, which have received the same samples and had performed the same tests. Such a program serves to compare laboratory performance around the world, which is a measure of quality assurance. It is to be noted that the Pathology Department of SMC has been routinely involved for many years with a number of other programs of external quality assurance such as the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region Program, UK NEQUAS and the BIORAD Program. In addition, the department is involved in several weekly inter-departmental clinico-pathologic meetings during which patient cases are discussed with the clinicians, surgeons, radiologists and oncologists involved in the management of such cases.

Certificate Awarding Ceremony for the Medical Equipment Staff in SMC

A certificate awarding ceremony for the medical equipment staffs who have successfully completed the Human Anatomy and Physiology course was held on 24th February 2009. Twenty-six participants had the opportunity to attend and explore the latest techniques and equipments used in SMC.

The course was conducted to reflect the strong belief of the college of health science in investing in human resources, knowledge and highly specialized qualification.

