

WCM-Q Grand Rounds welcomes two expert speakers

Doha – May 22, 2017: Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar (WCM-Q) brought two healthcare experts from leading US universities to Doha to speak at WCM-Q's Grand Rounds series.

Dr. Linnie M. Golightly of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York, delivered a presentation on the latest travel medicine advice, explaining how healthcare professionals can help mitigate risks to the health of patients who travel abroad.

Dr. Golightly, Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Microbiology and Immunology, explained that health professionals must obtain detailed travel information from patients and take a comprehensive medical history in order to offer appropriate advice. She then discussed which vaccines are required for visits to different parts of the world, including vaccinations against polio, yellow fever, typhoid fever, hepatitis A and B, cholera, rabies and others.

Dr. Golightly said: "Travel health advice varies depending on the patient's own health profile, the region they are traveling to, countries they transit through, whether they are visiting rural or urban areas, and the types of activities they plan to do. It is therefore very important to obtain as much information as possible in order to give appropriate advice to protect the health of each individual patient."

Dr. Golightly also discussed parasite-borne diseases such as malaria and schistosomiasis, how to avoid traveler's diarrhea, risks associated with road accidents and blood transfusions, hazards posed by wild animals, and altitude sickness on hiking holidays, among other topics.

In an earlier presentation, Dr. Courtney M. Townsend Jr., Professor and Robertson-Poth Distinguished Chair, General Surgery, in the Department of Surgery at the University of Texas Medical Branch, spoke about recent research into Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumors, also known as NETs.

NETs can be benign or malignant and develop from abnormal growth of the endocrine cells in the pancreas, which produce hormones such as gastrin (involved in the production of stomach acid), and insulin and glucagon, which regulate blood sugar levels.

NETs lead to increased hormone production which most commonly can result in low blood sugar if too much insulin is produced, high blood sugar if too much glucagon is produced, and gastric ulcers if too much gastrin is produced. NETs are difficult to diagnose, can be highly malignant, and can metastasize (spread) aggressively to other organs in some cases, making them complex to treat.

Dr. Townsend explained to the audience of healthcare professionals the molecular basis for the development of pancreatic NETs and how they can be diagnosed using imaging which includes intra-operative ultrasound, and then discussed current and future treatments.

Dr. Thurayya Arayssi, Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education and Continuing Professional Development, said: "We are very happy to have welcomed to WCM-Q two extremely distinguished



authorities in their respective fields, who have helped us to achieve the main aim of Grand Rounds, which is to bring the most up-to-date research and information to the healthcare community in Doha.”

- Ends -

Photos captions

Photo1: Dr. Linnie M. Golightly

Photo2: Dr. Courtney M. Townsend

About Weill Cornell Medicine - Qatar

Weill Cornell Medicine - Qatar is a partnership between Cornell University and Qatar Foundation. It offers a comprehensive six-year medical program leading to the Cornell University M.D. degree with teaching by Cornell and Weill Cornell faculty and by physicians at Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC), Aspetar Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Hospital, the Primary Health Care Corporation, the Feto Maternal Center, and the Sidra Medical and Research Center who hold Weill Cornell appointments. Through its biomedical research program, WCM-Q is building a sustainable research community in Qatar while advancing basic science and clinical research. Through its medical college, WCM-Q seeks to provide the finest education possible for medical students, to improve health care both now and for future generations, and to provide high quality health care to the Qatari population.

For more info, please contact:

Hanan Lakkis

Senior Media Manager

Weill Cornell Medicine - Qatar

Mobile: +974 55536564

Direct Line: +974 44928661

hyl2004@qatar-med.cornell.edu

