



## **Sidra Appoints New Leadership Roles**

### **Dr. Khalid Alyafei appointed as Chief Medical Informatics Officer and Dr. Warwick Ngan Kee as Chair of Anesthesiology**

**Doha, Qatar, 25 July 2017** – Sidra Medical and Research Center (Sidra) has appointed Dr. Khalid Alyafei as Chief Medical Informatics Officer (CMIO) and Dr. Warwick Ngan Kee as the Chair of Anesthesiology.

In his capacity as the CMIO, Dr. Alyafei and his team will oversee the successful and safe integration of best practice healthcare technologies within the Sidra Outpatient Clinic as well as the main hospital. The integration will assist physicians to ensure they provide top quality and safe care to all patients coming to Sidra. This includes improving the efficiencies and the effectiveness of medical and IT services and their functions within a hospital environment.

Dr. Alyafei will be in charge of implementing an extensive health information exchange system that links Sidra with Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) and Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC). The system will allow physicians to review and share patient information accurately and securely and is part of the Qatar National Health strategy to set up a single medical record system across the entire healthcare network.

“As a high tech hospital, Sidra will be relying on highly integrated computerized systems to provide world-class care to patients. It will be my team’s responsibility to ensure that the IT and medical functions are successfully integrated across the entire spectrum of patient care services. We will be working very closely with the clinical and IT teams to ensure we have a fully functioning and reliable system whilst ensuring the highest levels of patient care and safety,” said Dr. Alyafei, who was previously the Vice CMIO before his appointment as CMIO was confirmed in June.

Dr. Alyafei is also a pediatric emergency physician and maintains an active clinical role with the Pediatric Emergency Center at Al Sadd. He is an Assistant Professor in Clinical Pediatrics at Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar as well as an instructor in Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS). He is involved in several active research programs on injury prevention and the role of vitamin D deficiency in bronchiolitis amongst other initiatives. Prior to joining Sidra, Dr. Alyafei was a Senior Consultant with the Pediatric Emergency Center at HMC in addition to his role as a member of the health informatics team, where he assessed vendor evaluation and selection.

Dr. Warwick Ngan Kee was appointed as the Chair of Anesthesiology at Sidra in June 2017. He joins Sidra from his previous role as the Professor and Director of Obstetric Anesthesia and Director of Research at the Chinese University of Hong Kong where he led one of the world’s top clinical research teams in obstetric anesthesia. In addition to his role at the university, Dr. Ngan Kee performed clinical duties at the Prince of Wales Hospital, a 1500 bed tertiary referral center covering a wide catchment area in the New Territories of Hong Kong.

At Sidra, Dr. Ngan Kee leads a diverse team of physicians, nurses and technologists who will provide a wide range of services for children and women which includes provision of general and regional anesthesia, pre-anesthetic testing, postoperative pain management, and pain relief for labor and delivery.

Dr. Ngan Kee said, “I am very excited to join an international team of healthcare professionals who are all committed to providing exceptional healthcare to the women and children in Qatar. Anesthesiology plays a key role in pain management and pain relief and my team and I will be in close collaboration with multi-disciplinary experts to ensure we provide safe and efficient anesthesiology services for our patients. I am also happy to be joining an organization like Sidra that has a strong emphasis on clinical research – which I will continue to focus here in Qatar as part of strengthening our healthcare delivery.”

Dr Ngan Kee has authored 115 full papers in international peer-reviewed journals and 15 book chapters and has given over 140 lectures at international conferences, mainly on the subject of obstetric anesthesia and analgesia. He is currently a co-editor for Chestnut’s Obstetric Anesthesia, a recent co-editor of the International Journal of Obstetric Anesthesia and was a founding executive member of the Obstetric Anesthesia Society of Asia and Oceania.

Commenting on the two appointments, Dr. John Ferguson, Chief Medical Officer at Sidra said, “On behalf of the senior leadership at Sidra, I am thrilled to welcome Dr. Warwick Ngan Kee on board at Sidra and to promote Dr. Khalid Alyafei to his role as Chief of Medical Informatics. We are rapidly growing our teams across clinical, research, administration and IT services, to prepare for the anticipated care of a larger volume of patients and the expansion of more healthcare services and clinics. Our investment in recruiting, training and retaining leading experts from Qatar and beyond, highlights our commitment to provide safe, world-class patient and family focused healthcare services for the women and children of Qatar.”

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### **About Sidra Medical and Research Center**

Sidra Medical and Research Center will be a groundbreaking hospital, research and education institution, focusing on the health and wellbeing of children and women regionally and globally.

Sidra represents the vision of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser who serves as its Chairperson. The high-tech facility will not only provide world-class patient care but will also help build Qatar's scientific expertise and resources.

Sidra will be a fully digital facility, incorporating the most advanced information technology applications in all its functions. Designed by renowned architect Cesar Pelli, Sidra features a main hospital building and a separate outpatient clinic.

Sidra opened its Outpatient Clinic on 1 May 2016 and offers outpatient services for women and children through a referral based system in partnership with other healthcare providers in Qatar.

Sidra is also part of a dynamic research and education environment in Qatar and through strong partnerships with leading institutions around the world, Sidra is creating an intellectual ecosystem to help advance scientific discovery through investment in medical research. For more information please visit [www.sidra.org](http://www.sidra.org).

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