

WORLD INNOVATION SUMMIT FOR HEALTH TO HOST ISLAMIC ETHICS PANEL AT 2016 CONFERENCE

*Panel to Discuss Questions Surrounding the Genomics Revolution in the Gulf Region from an
Islamic Ethical Perspective*

Doha, Qatar, 23 August 2016: The World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH) will host a panel on Islamic Ethics during its two-day 2016 conference, which begins on 29th November in Doha.

Using hypothetical case studies, the panel will provide answers to ethical questions surrounding genomics in Arab Muslim countries and the Gulf region where this new discipline has attracted increased interest over the past few years. It will address issues such as managing the “return of incidental findings,” which involve various stakeholders including healthcare professionals and policy makers.

Dr Mohammed Ghaly, panel moderator and professor of Islam and Biomedical Ethic at the Research Center for Islamic Legislation and Ethics (CILE), a member of Qatar Faculty of Islamic Studies (QFIS) in Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU), said: “Discussions will focus on finding the right balance between openness to new healthcare practices and Islamic traditions. Our conclusions will combine these two elements to provide policy recommendations in the context of healthcare delivery.”

Dr Eman Sadoun, Chair of the Qatar National Research Ethics Committee at the Ministry of Public Health, said: “The MOPH offers a set of guidelines that assist investigators and Institutional Review Boards in the design and conduct of genomic research to ensure the safety and wellbeing of participants.”

Egbert Schillings, CEO of WISH, said: “Every healthcare decision taken has, at its core, an ethical component. When it comes to healthcare delivery, caregivers, patients, families and policymakers all need guidance on how to reconcile their moral duties with the right course of action. That is why each WISH Summit has featured a session on Islamic Ethics and Health so that the moral issues raised by the era of the human genome can be brought forth and discussed.”

“Genomics reveals more about an individual than even they are aware of, and that information will increasingly guide clinical practice, while posing fresh ethical dilemmas for everyone involved. We are delighted to be working with CILE once again in tackling some of the thorniest ethical issues in modern healthcare,” he added.

For the first time since the launch of the WISH Summit, the Islamic Ethics Panel will produce a report including policy recommendations on how to create culturally sensitive guidelines. As interest in the field of genomics expands, the issues of morality and ethics are poised to gain further attention. This report will lay out various hypothetical scenarios to help tackle such issues from an Islamic perspective.

WISH, a global initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), is a meeting point for thousands of high-level policymakers, academics, and professionals. It has also evolved into a key platform for the dissemination of healthcare innovation and best practices.

The WISH 2016 Summit will feature seven groundbreaking research forums that highlight and address some of the world's most pressing healthcare challenges. The forums will generate interdisciplinary, evidence-based reports on topics including Healthy Populations, Precision Medicine, Economic Benefits of Investing in Health, Accountable Care, Cardiovascular Disease, Autism and Behavioural Insights. Internationally-renowned experts will chair the discussions. For the first time, WISH will also report on its impact, locally and globally, on issues previously highlighted at the conference, such as diabetes and patient safety.

The WISH Summit will feature innovation showcases from around the world that are shaping the design, delivery, and financing of care, as well as a cohort of young innovators; emerging healthcare leaders under the age of 30, whose contributions to global health deserve wider recognition.

For further information about WISH, please visit www.wish-qatar.org and Twitter [@WISHQatar](https://twitter.com/WISHQatar).

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About the World Innovation Summit for Health

The World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH) is a global healthcare community dedicated to capturing and disseminating the best evidence-based ideas and practices. WISH is an initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) and is under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, its Chairperson.

The inaugural WISH Summit took place in Doha in 2013 and convened more than 1,000 global healthcare leaders. Through international summits and a range of on-going initiatives, WISH is creating a global community of leading innovators in healthcare policy, research and industry.

Together, they are harnessing the power of innovation to overcome the world's most urgent healthcare challenges and inspire other stakeholders to action.

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private, non-profit organisation that is supporting Qatar on its journey from a carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir of Qatar, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

QF carries out its mission through three strategic pillars: education, science and research, and community development. QF's education pillar brings world-class universities to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. Meanwhile, its science and research pillar builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. Finally, its community development pillar helps foster a progressive society while also enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>