

QATAR BIOBANK ATTENDS EUROPE BIOBANK WEEK

Doha, Qatar, 1 October 2016: Qatar Biobank recently participated in the European, Middle Eastern and African Society for Biopreservation and Biobanking (ESBB) Conference. The event was held in Austria as part of the Europe Biobank Week (EBW), a leading platform aimed at bringing the European biobanking community together to explore recent health innovations.

The event, held under the theme ‘Biobanking for Health Innovation’, brought together seasoned biomedical researchers and experts from across the globe to address key challenges within the industry, including governance, patient participation, data protection, management and precision and personalised medicine. The gathering, which took place from 13th – 16th September, also provided delegates from leading international biobanks with the opportunity to showcase their achievements and explore future collaborations.

Dr Nahla M Afifi, Scientific and Education Manager at Qatar Biobank, delivered a presentation entitled, ‘Cohort Profile: The Qatar Biobank, Study Design and First Results’ during a panel discussion on the third day of the conference. The presentation served to highlight key research findings of the significant biomedical research being conducted by Qatar Biobank.

Commenting on her participation at EBW, Dr Nahla said: “Qatar Biobank’s participation in renowned international industry conferences such as the EBW forms an integral part of Qatar Biobank’s approach to showcasing our research and establishing strategic collaborations with similar institutions. These gatherings provide a platform whereby global stakeholders are able to exchange important knowledge, thus creating an invaluable global learning network, which will inform vital research in the future within this field.”

Qatar Biobank, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), hosted the Qatar Genome Symposium, entitled ‘Handling Genomics Data: Clinical Interpretation, Governance, and Responsible Sharing’ earlier this year as part of its global outreach initiative to engage relevant global stakeholders. The seminar saw the international medical community converge in Doha to address key biomedical research findings and explore future collaborative opportunities.

For more information about Qatar Biobank, please visit:

www.qatarbiobank.org.qa/home



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About Qatar Biobank

Qatar Biobank, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, is a population-based platform where biological samples are provided by participants. Through the collection of samples and information on the health and lifestyles of Qatari citizens and long-term residents, Qatar Biobank aims to make vital medical research possible for scientists in Qatar, the region and the world.

Launched in 2012 in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health, Hamad Medical Corporation and supported by expert scientists from Imperial College London, Qatar Biobank completed the two-year operational pilot phase in 2014 marked by the official inauguration of the state-of-the-art facility by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation For Education Science and Community Development.

To learn more about Qatar Biobank and how to become a contributor, please visit: www.qatarbiobank.org.qa

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