



كلية طب وايل كورنيل في قطر
Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

Member of Qatar Foundation

Press Release

Second meeting in Doha between ABMS International, LLC and representatives of healthcare institutions from across the Middle East

Doha – June 23, 2013: Continuing discussions on regional certification of physician specialists to promote high-quality health care in the region, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar (WCMC-Q), a member of the Qatar Foundation, and ABMS International, LLC (ABMS-I), a subsidiary of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), met with representatives of elite healthcare institutions across the Middle East. The discussion focused on partnering to develop physician specialty assessments in internal medicine, pediatrics and emergency medicine for regional certification.

The representatives initially met in September 2012 – the first meeting of its kind in the Middle East – to launch plans to introduce new standards of excellence in physician certification in the region.

Following that meeting, the Qatar Foundation and ABMS-I signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to develop a Planning Grant Agreement, which will establish the basis for the development and administration of ABMS-I examinations for the three specialties. The initial agreement lays the groundwork to establish the goals of the program. The ultimate goal is to provide certification examinations to eligible physicians-in-specialty training graduating from Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I) accredited programs.

“Regional certification of doctors – using the standards established by ABMS-I – will help ensure physicians working in Qatar are of the very best quality,” said Javaid Sheikh, M.D., MBA, Dean of WCMC-Q. “This agreement demonstrates Qatar’s commitment to health care for current and future generations.”

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“We are honored to be working with the regional partners to explore opportunities to help enhance the assessment of physician competencies,” said Lois Margaret Nora, M.D., JD, MBA, President and Chief Executive Officer of ABMS. “We look forward to supporting their efforts as they continue to evolve and improve the quality of health care in this region of the world.”

“The future of Qatar is tied to the health of our residents,” said Her Excellency Ghalia Al Thani, M.D., a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Governors for the Supreme Council for Health. “Qatar needs a healthy population to contribute to a vibrant, knowledge-based economy. This agreement demonstrates the Supreme Council of Health’s determination to make certain our citizens are offered world-class health care.”

Co-chaired by Drs. Al Thani and Sheikh, the meeting included representatives of the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM), the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP), the American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM), Hamad Medical Corporation, Sidra Medical and Research Center, the American University of Beirut, the Oman Medical Specialty Board and the Health Authority - Abu Dhabi. The discussion focused on understanding areas of concordance and difference between the practice of medicine in the region for the three specialties.

“We fully support the region’s efforts to set standards of competency for assessment of internal medicine physicians,” said Eric Holmboe, M.D., Chief Medical Officer and Senior Vice President of ABIM. “Developing standards not only promotes professionalism, but also helps physicians measure the knowledge and skills they need to deliver the best care to their patients.”

“Our goal has always been to uphold the highest level of physician competency, and we are honored to be included in the region’s plans to enhance the assessment of pediatric physicians,” said Hazen Ham, PhD, Vice President of Global Initiatives, ABP. “It’s invigorating to

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witness the growth of international efforts to continue to improve health care, especially the health and well-being of children.”

“We look forward to assisting in improving the assessment of emergency medicine physicians in the region,” said John C. Moorhead, MD, President of ABEM. “We are pleased to be part of a plan to enhance the skills and care provided by emergency medicine physicians.”

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About Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar is a partnership between Cornell University and Qatar Foundation. It offers pre-medical and medical courses leading to the Cornell University MD degree with teaching by Cornell and Weill Cornell faculty and by physicians at Hamad Medical Corporation and Aspetar Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Hospital who hold Weill Cornell appointments. Through its biomedical research program, WCMC-Q is building a sustainable research community in Qatar while advancing basic science and clinical research. Through its medical college, WCMC-Q seeks to provide the finest education possible for medical students, to improve health care both now and for future generations, and to provide highest quality of health care to the Qatari population.

www.qatar-med.cornell.edu

About ABMS International, LLC

ABMS International, LLC is a global entity that provides support and adds value to selected governments and organizations around the world striving to set high standards for assessing and certifying medical specialists. ABMS International offers assistance in the development of medical assessment programs that evaluate the knowledge and skills necessary for a physician

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in a specialty practice. ABMS International, LLC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS).

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