

for immediate release

HEC Paris holds study tour in France for Saudi Arabia's King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre

Exposure to French healthcare system enables leaders to identify and develop new ideas

Doha, Qatar – November 16, 2014: The KEEP THE LEAD program, especially designed in Qatar by HEC Paris for the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre (KSFH&RC) of Saudi Arabia, held a study tour aimed at exposing and enabling participants to examine how hospitals and healthcare professionals operate in different healthcare environments. The study tour was conducted in France for 10 participants.

The study tour included visits to major hospitals in Paris which are part of Générale de Santé, (one of Europe's most important groups of private hospital), the Rouen University Hospital in Upper Normandy region, the Clinique des Buttes Chaumont in Paris (a private physical rehabilitation clinic from the CLINALLIANCE group) and the Villa BeauSoleil (a private nursing home for the elderly from the STEVA group) in Chaville in Paris area. The Collège de Médecine des Hôpitaux de Paris, a prestigious learned society, also hosted the Saudi delegation with Professor Philippe Cornu, a renowned neurosurgeon at the well-known Pitié-Salpêtrière Hospital in Paris.

In addition, visits to HEC Paris campuses in Jouy-en-Josas and Paris (Champerret) were also made where several lectures on the French Healthcare System and the Sécurité Sociale (the French National Health Insurance) were delivered by healthcare professionals.

With a packed program which included several presentations, discussions, Q&A sessions, and individual meetings for each participant with their local counterparts, the study tour provided an overview of how the French healthcare system works to promote a better understanding of patients' needs, build a sustainable reputation, develop a unique brand, communicate their offer,

develop innovation and build partnerships for better services, and maintain their leading position in the country and in Europe.

The 10 study tour participants were top medical and administration professionals of KFSH&RC, six of whom were from Riyadh and four from Jeddah, selected out of 150 participants of 'Keep the Lead' – a bespoke, custom-designed management training program developed by HEC Paris in partnership with KFSH&RC

Among those who were actively involved in organizing the study tour were Dr. Philippe Aubry, Academic Coordinator and well-known figure in the healthcare sector in France and KSA who was also a Health Counselor for the Middle East at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Dr. Matthew Mulford, Scientific Director of the 'Keep the Lead' program, which had been running since March 2013 and coming to an end by December 2014.

"The study tour serves as a highly informative and educational experience for the participating executives. Its purpose is to discover, first hand, other health care systems and to get exposed to best practices," said Professor Laoucine Kerbache, Chief Executive Officer and Academic Dean of HEC Paris in Qatar.

"As organizers of this study tour, we are delighted to have successfully contributed by adding value to our partnership with the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre through the enhancement of the managerial and leadership skills of their top executives," he added. "Indeed, such exposure and first-hand experience of how the French healthcare system works have allowed the KFSH&RC participants to reflect on their own management processes and to benefit from these best practices."

For his part, Dr. Abdulkader Al Attas, Director of the Training and Development Department of KFSH&RC commented: "We are truly grateful to HEC Paris for providing our participants with this opportunity to study in detail the French healthcare system. The actual visits and lectures as well as the discussions, Q&A's and individual meetings proved to be an eye-opener in understanding how



effective and efficient the French healthcare system is. It is our hope that through our close partnership with HEC Paris, more of such study tours can be organized in the future.”

HEC Paris was ranked number one in the world for Executive Education in 2014 by the influential UK-based Financial Times media group.

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Notes to Editors

HEC Paris

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