

Press Release

**Over 2,000 Professionals Benefit from
Harvard Medical School Dubai Center's 13
CME Programmes in 2007**

*HMSDC Credits Recognized by UAE Ministry of Health and
Health Authorities in Dubai and Abu Dhabi*

Dubai: XX January, 2008 - More than 2,000 medical and healthcare professionals in the region benefited from the 13 Continuing Medical Education (CME) programmes organised during 2007 in Dubai by the Harvard Medical School Dubai Center Institute for Postgraduate Education and Research (HMSDC) a member of the recently launched Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Academic Medical Center at Dubai Healthcare City (DHCC), a member of Tatweer.

The CME programmes, led by senior Harvard Medical School faculty, are part of the vision of the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Academic Medical Center to create a centre of excellence for healthcare delivery, education and research. The credits accrued through the wide range of educational and specialty training programmes offered by HMSDC are recognized by the UAE Ministry of Health as well as the health authorities in Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

Dr. Muhadditha Al Hashimi, Chief Executive Officer, Dubai Healthcare City, said: "As a leading regional platform for quality healthcare and medical education, Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Academic Medical Center seeks to create a knowledge intensive cadre of leaders as well as a competent healthcare workforce in the region. HMSDC has successfully driven this vision by laying a sound foundation through its advanced year round programmes."

A number of specialty training programs ranging from gastroenterology to mental health disorders were tailored to match regional healthcare professionals' needs.

Moreover, a nursing conference was designed to support and educate nurses and allied healthcare professionals, a crucial arm in the healthcare sector.

Providing the scientific content, HMSDC also conducted 10 accredited programmes in association with several institutions such as Otago University, the Gulf Medical College, the Dubai Harvard Foundation for Medical Research (DHFMR) and DHCC. The programmes covered a wide spectrum of specialties such as 'Mental Health and Substance Abuse in the Workplace', 'Medical Examination in the Oil and Transport Industries', and 'Shift Work Fatigue'.

Dr. Robert Thurer, Chief Academic Officer, HMSDC, said: "In partnership with regional health authorities, local hospitals, universities, medical societies as well as specialty groups, HMSDC seeks to identify areas of need and interest to develop customized and practice-relevant programs.

"Harvard Medical School is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) in the US to provide Continuing Medical Education for physicians. Select CME activities offered by HMSDC are reviewed by the Department of Continuing Education at Harvard Medical School and designated credits accordingly."

HMSDC has received an AMA PRA Category 1 accreditation for two major programmes – Practi-Med Gastroenterology and Practi-Med Mental Health – that were held in collaboration with DHCC. These programmes were designed for primary care physicians, paediatricians, psychiatrists, psychologists, counsellors, social workers, nurses and medical students.

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