## 363 JUNE 2019

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## MBRU Issues Doctors Tolerance Pledge in Presence of UAE Minister of Tolerance









Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU), has issued a 'Doctors Tolerance Pledge' in the presence of His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan Mabarak Al Nahayan, the UAE's Minister of Tolerance. The Doctors Tolerance Pledge is designed to further promote and enhance cooperation, unity, inclusivity and diversity for students and faculty within MBRU as it strives to advance health in the UAE and beyond and guide physicians of the future.

"This pledge is a further demonstration of the University's total commitment to supporting the country's endeavors in establishing the UAE as a global reference for a tolerant culture via policies and practices." Said MBRU Vice Chancellor Dr. Amer Sharif. "The pledge will inform the behavior of the medics of 28 nationalities who study in harmony at MBRU".

According to the document, signatories acknowledge that every human has "the right to be treated with fairness and dignity", therefore pledging to "exercise my knowledge and experience gained as a healthcare professional to improve the quality of life and health of my fellow humans".

Those who sign pledge to, "give my best towards creating a tolerant world where my fellow humans can live together in harmony", and "honor and cherish Sheikh Zayed's values of fostering tolerance and human fraternity."



## MBRU is the 1<sup>st</sup> Educational Institute to Pioneer Research on Mosquito Biodiversity & Mosquito-borne Viruses in the UAE

Another accolade for MBRU, Professor of Microbiology (Virology), Norbert Nowotny, along with Dr. Jeremy Camp, a senior researcher from Vienna, Noushad Karuvantevida, Senior Laboratory Technologist at MBRU, and two Year-3 students from the College of Medicine, Ebtesam Safi and Houda Chouhna, pioneered a research paper on mosquito biodiversity and mosquito-borne viruses in the UAE.

The research was conducted at MBRU's research labs, it examined three locations across the country: the Ras Al Khor Wild Life Sanctuary in Dubai, the Al Ain Zoo, and Wadi Wurayah in Fujairah.

Professor Nowotny said, "I have been teaching and researching all aspects of viral infectious diseases for decades now, and I'm very proud of this particular research paper because it is the 1st of its kind in the UAE and also it is the 1st research project that has been completed in our MBRU research labs. I enjoyed working with two of our medical students who greatly contributed to the findings."

The results found ten species of mosquitoes from the UAE, with the highest species diversity in the natural site at Wadi Wurayah. The predominant mosquito was Culex perexiguus, which was associated

with peri-urban habitats. The site with lower mosquito species diversity but relatively high species richness was the peri-urban site of Al Ain Zoo, where the research identified Bagaza virus, a virus which infects birds, and the non-pathogenic Barkedji virus.



## MBRU and Dr. Wael AlMahmeed Announce the 2nd MBRU-AlMahmeed Award Open to Researchers Worldwide

A new cycle of the MBRU-AlMahmeed Collaborative Research Award was announced by MBRU, in line with the UAE National Advanced Sciences Agenda 2031. The award is a competitive research funding opportunity aimed at advancing research in critical areas of healthcare, as well as promoting partnerships between MBRU and researchers from recognized universities and healthcare institutions worldwide.

The award is in its second cycle; it will support competitive proposals of basic, translational, clinical or public health research. Priority is given to proposals in the areas of cancer biology, mental health and brain sciences, and cardio-

metabolic diseases; including diabetes mellitus and obesity. Dr. Wael Al Mahmeed has been a pivotal figure in MBRU's quest to give back to the community. In 2018, Dr. Wael and MBRU collaborated on the MBRU-AlMahmeed Research Award, the first of its kind at the university, focusing on scientific research, which was open to scientists in the UAE and GCC.

He is the first to be presented with the 'Mohammed bin Rashid Award for Investing in Scientific Research' by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, in recognition of his efforts

in support of research and the scientific community in the UAE.

The Mohammed bin Rashid Award for Investing in Scientific Research will be awarded annually to individuals who have played an instrumental role in the advancement of scientific research.

MBRU's Dean of the College of Medicine, Professor Alawi Alsheikh-Ali stated, "we are grateful for Dr. Al Mahmeed's generous gift reflecting a conviction that the wider community is an essential partner for universities as we all strive to advance the science agenda in the UAE and the region".



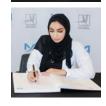
# UAE Minister of Community Development Signs Tolerance Pledge

MBRU welcomed UAE Minister of Community Development Her Excellency Hessa Bint Essa Buhumaid for a special visit on International Labor Day, during which Her Excellency signed the MBRU's Doctor's Tolerance Pledge and met with children at the Teddy Bear Dental Hospital event at Dubai Dental Hospital (DDH), the clinical arm of MBRU. Her Excellency also witnessed the Labor Day activity, a collaboration with Mediclinic City Hospital, MBRU's clinical academic affiliate, and DDH. 150 members of MBRU's facilities management workforce, including maintenance, cleaning and security staff, received a complimentary health check-up involving blood test, blood pressure and weight measurement.

































### What's new?



His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE's Armed Forces received Dr. Mustafa Abdulla, postgraduate dental student, as part of a delegation for his work in the Special Olympics World Games Abu Dhabi 2019.

Dr. Mustafa's volunteer work included conducting dental screenings for the athletes, diet and oral hygiene instructions, fabricated mouth guards for those who are in contact sports and applied topical fluoride varnishes as a preventive measure.

Dr. Reem Al Gurg, Director of Strategy and Institutional Excellence, was awarded the "Inspiring Woman in Healthcare Award" during the Dubai Healthcare City Authority (DHCA) Excellence Awards.



### What's new?

MBRU is an authorized location for The Emirates Standardized Test.





Professor Laila Al Suwaidi and Year-3 medical student Ameneh Baghestani exhibited their artwork at World Art Dubai.

Postgraduate dental student Dr. Mai Abdelsalam won an award on her thesis presentation at the 3rd Student Research Competition held at the American University in the Emirates. She was amongst 55 presenters from different universities in the UAE.





College of Medicine students Saad Syed, Mandana Gholami and Aya Akhras won the Best Poster Presentation at the 3rd Student Research Competition held at the American University in the Emirates.

### Ramadan 2019



MBRU's REACH Club in collaboration with the Department of Student Services and Registration participated in the MBRU x Classic Catering Event during Ramadan.

Fifty-two members of the MBRU family attended the event and prepared around 4000 meals for the labor workers.

Additionally, MBRU collected a total of 7070 AED in donations.







### Suhoor Gala 2019

MBRU held its annual Suhoor Gala gathering the students, alumni, parents, staff and faculty and friends of MBRU at the Hyatt Regengy Creek Heights in Dubai Healthcare City.





## MBRU Holds Interprofessional Session for the First Time

A first of its kind at MBRU, an interprofessional education session was held by MBRU's Dr. Shroque Zaher, Assistant Professor of Pathology, and Professor of Pharmacology Rajan Radhakrishnan, in collaboration with three clinical pharmacy faculty members from the University of Sharjah.

A total of thirty students from the disciplines of pharmacy, nursing and physiotherapy, along with MBRU's Year-3 medical students attended the 2-hour session. MBRU's medical students were divided into groups and one student from each profession from the University of Sharjah joined each group. The students had to review, discuss and present on two cases within their teams, drawing on each

other's knowledge and experience and learning from one another. "By exposing students to interprofessional collaboration early, it establishes the concept of a team mentality and comprehensive patient care, where each medical professional holds a piece to the puzzle. Bringing all these pieces together, enables a better understanding of the patient's needs. It enhances communication skills between different health care professionals and helps to breakdown the silos of different disciplines. This team mentality raises morale and encourages camaraderie." Dr. Shroque Zaher.





#### What does the Doctors Tolerance Pledge mean to you?



I moved to the UAE in 2006, I have seen nothing but tolerance and acceptance from all those around me. Every individual in the country is an integral part of a large family filled with care, compassion, and understanding. The Doctors Tolerance Pledge, created in celebration of the Year of Tolerance, carries in its essence the true meaning of humanity, acceptance, and understanding, which all constitute the foundation of the medical practice. As a future doctor, it is my belief that being a gentle tolerant individual is as essential to the practice of medicine as the knowledge we seek to acquire throughout the long journey spent to achieve the title of "physician".

Sami Talo - An American Year 1 medical student, he's been living in the UAE for 13 years.

I had the opportunity to travel to different countries, and I have never seen a place like the UAE. The number of different nationalities, languages, ethnicities, religions you see daily is like nowhere else; and it is amazing how everyone lives with complete tolerance of one another. No matter where you are from, the languages you speak, what you believe in, the UAE is a home for everyone; a place of acceptance and tolerance, where everyone can grow and prosper. Being a doctor is a service for the people. A doctor should cure everyone the same way, regardless of their gender, nationality or socioeconomic status. "Treat the next as you would treat yourself and treat others as you would want them to treat you", I think this shows the importance of being tolerant as a doctor. Tolerance is a key virtue that every doctor should have in order to be successful in their job, and I think every doctor should abide by the Doctors Tolerance Pledge, as it forms the basis of the medical practice.



Umberto Battistin- An Italian Year 2 medical student. He has been in the UAE for 2 years.



The UAE has taken major strides towards tolerance and accepting the other. Evidently, the presence of more than 200 nationalities as a testament for that. The Doctors Tolerance Pledge is an articulation of our Hippocratic oath's call to treat the patient, a friend or a foe, regardless of their race, color and creed. It is a reminder for all of us in the healthcare field to regard empathy and compassion towards the patients as equivalent in importance to the clinical skills we learn during our journey to become doctors.

Mahmoud Azzeh- A Palestinian Year 3 medical student. Born and raised in the UAE.

#### Meet MBRU's First Counselor

Dr. Bhavana Nair MBRU's Guidance Counselor will be supporting students to transform personal challenges into life-enhancing opportunities. Dr. Nair will offer personal counselling sessions, workshops, support groups and open discussions. Counselling helps people navigate and cope with many life situations. Ultimately, empowering people to leadhealthy and fulfilling lives.

For appointments, please send an email to counselor@mbru.ac.ae



### MBRU's talent

#### Rest restores

Rest awhile to watch the world fly
In a flurry of sound and light;
Sink your feet in the soft green grass
To watch a kite take flight;
Days and nights have woven decades
Of toil and joys and woes;
'Tis time to retreat to dream again
To smell the roses and wiggle ones toes...



About the author:

Dr. Ritu Lakhtakia is Professor of Pathology. She has been writing poems for the past year and three months. Until date, Professor Ritu has written 187 English poems and 302 in Hindi/Urdu.



### Children Roleplay as Dentists at Dubai Dental Hospital

Children get the opportunity to become dentists for a day at Dubai Dental Hospital through its program Teddy Bear Dental Hospital (TBDH). It's an initiative developed in collaboration with MBRU and Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine (HBMCDM). The program is designed to teach school children hands-on about dental procedures with the objective of decreasing any preconceived fears of doctor visits. The journey consists of 5 different interactive stations. Starting with white coats, the children are given white coats to wear to become acquainted with the place. Then, a group of pediatric dentists guide the children through some basic oral health routine, starting with an interactive demonstration of

teeth cleaning. The children also get to learn about the importance of proper hand hygiene using a glow germ gel, a product which safely and graphically demonstrates how germs are spread, is used making the activity far more interesting. The child is also given a chance to role-play as a dentist with his/her soft toy/teddy bear as the patient. Lastly, the children are taught about the right food choices for healthy teeth through a grocery shopping station. At the end of the journey, certificates along with goody bags are distributed A special thanks goes to Dr. Eman Al Nuaimi, Pediatric Dentistry Specialist and Lecturer at HBMCDM, for being the driver behind the success story of TBDH.





### Visit Us:





October 11-12, 2019

October 30 - November 1, 2019

### New Faces at MBRU



**Dr. Amer Al Zarooni**Consultant



**Dr. Lisa Jackson**Associate Professor of Family Medicine

