

Medical News Corner

Abeer Al-Sawer, MD*

National Non-Communicable Disease Surveillance in Process

On 29th November 2006 and 7th February 2007, the national committee for the non-communicable diseases surveillance had announced the resumption of the long-waited surveillance sponsored partially by the WHO. This surveillance is a part of a GCC plan to combat non-communicable diseases.

The survey will be done on random samples in different areas in the Kingdom. Coordinating teams from the governorates will be involved.

MOH to Improve Human Resources

On 3rd December 2006, the ministry had reviewed its planning of its eight-thousand employees and its plan to improve their status in a ceremonial meeting attended by the minister and high officials. The human resource department has displayed its plans for improving certain important departments in the ministry including OB/GYN and accident and emergency.

New Laser Machine (Green Light) for Urology Surgeries

On 14th December 2006, the MOH has announced the launching of a new high-tech laser machine specialized for urology surgery. The patients who will benefit from this machine are mainly males in their fifties and sixties suffering from benign prostatic hyperplasia.

Hospitals Standards Workshop

On 20th December 2006, the registration office in the MOH held a workshop in collaboration with different specialists to review the standards undertaken in international hospitals in order to adopt them in our local governmental and private hospitals. The one-day workshop concluded its activities with certain recommendations to be applied in all the kingdom hospitals by the end of 2007. These recommendations include periodic monitoring of the service, and the structure of the hospitals.

Medical Insurance for Foreigners in a Workshop

On 17th January 2007, High officials in the MOH had met officials from GCC and Arab countries including Lebanon. The concerned officials have discussed exchanging experiences concerning medical insurance for expatriates and mechanisms for its application.

"How to Pass Interviews"- A Workshop for New Residents

On 7th February 2007, a one-day workshop was conducted on “how to pass the medical interviews in your chosen department” for new medical residents. The workshop focused on self confidence, positive thinking and inter-individuals relationship. This workshop was sponsored by the directorate of training in the MOH.