



Member of Qatar Foundation

Sidra Authorized as Certification Examination Site by the International Academy of Cytology

Doha, Qatar, 15 August 2017 — Sidra Medical and Research Center (Sidra) will become the first institution in the State of Qatar to offer cytopathology certification examinations for Qataris and other candidates wanting to secure professional credentials to practice as diagnostic cytologists.

Sidra has been authorized by the International Academy of Cytology (IAC) to organize and host inaugural certification examinations for cytologists in Qatar. The IAC is a scientific, non-profit organization for cytopathologists, cytotechnologists and other professionals concerned with the discipline of clinical cytopathology; it is also the foremost organization to issue professional credentials on a global scale.

Diagnostic cytologists prepare and methodically analyze samples to assess various associated diseases and conditions as well as to support screening services and provide enhanced patient care and treatment.

Cytopathology is a specialized discipline of diagnostic medicine whereby cells in human samples are analyzed predominantly for the detection of cancer. Other follow up services by Cytopathology pertain to the surveillance and management of the cancer cells, its likely spread, and the effectiveness of treatment. For example, a primary target for cytopathology is the detection of early cellular changes that may reflect the development of cervical cancer through the Pap test screening service.

Seven medical professionals from both the public and private health sector in Qatar, and elsewhere, are currently enrolled to sit for the inaugural certification examinations which will be conducted at Sidra on August 17, 2017. The examinations encompass all aspects of comprehensive cytopathology; inclusive of theory, digital cytopathology, and practical test cases. Particularly in accredited cytopathology services, diagnostic cytologists need to be certified and credentialed in order to report diagnostic findings along with cytopathologists. This is a fundamental requirement at Sidra.

The examinations will be led by senior diagnostic cytologist and fellow of the International Academy of Cytology, Nikolaos Chantziantoniou, who was in charge of getting Sidra authorized as an examination site for the IAC. "Medical education is one of the three pillars of Sidra and by qualifying the organization to host IAC examinations is a significant historical milestone in support of robust and specialized academic programs in the country. For those working in Qatar, they now have access to cutting-edge technology, laboratories and experts in the region. We hope more



medical professionals specializing in clinical cytopathology will be encouraged to seek prestigious credentials in the field.”

The examinations at Sidra are open to qualified candidates internationally. Sidra is also currently in the process of reviewing the option of conducting future IAC examinations along with other distinguished institutions around the world.

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About Sidra Medical and Research Center

Sidra Medical and Research Center will be a groundbreaking hospital, research and education institution, focusing on the health and wellbeing of children and women regionally and globally.

Sidra represents the vision of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser who serves as its Chairperson. The high-tech facility will not only provide world-class patient care but will also help build Qatar's scientific expertise and resources.

Sidra will be a fully digital facility, incorporating the most advanced information technology applications in all its functions. Designed by renowned architect Cesar Pelli, Sidra features a main hospital building and a separate outpatient clinic.

Sidra opened its Outpatient Clinic on 1 May 2016 and offers outpatient services for women and children through a referral based system in partnership with other healthcare providers in Qatar.

Sidra is also part of a dynamic research and education environment in Qatar and through strong partnerships with leading institutions around the world, Sidra is creating an intellectual ecosystem to help advance scientific discovery through investment in medical research. For more information please visit www.sidra.org.

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