

MBRU360

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#MBRU

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MBRU's Community
Immunity Ambassadors
reach more than
685,000

INSIDE

» MBRU Launched Smart Learning Hub to Tackle Digital Learning Amid COVID-19 Outbreak [Page 4](#)

» The Story of Hope, Life, And Love [Page 7](#)

» MBRU Launches First Dental Internship Program in Dubai [Page 9](#)

» Healthy Mouths, Healthy Bodies and Minds [Page 27](#)



MBRU has taken a leading role in informing global communities on methods of prevention and controlling the spread of COVID-19 with an innovative online program, the **MBRU Community Immunity Ambassador Program**.

The novel program has drawn an incredible global response, with more than 685,000 people signing up to become MBRU Community Immunity Ambassadors.

More than 685,000 'Community Immunity Ambassadors' Sign Up for MBRU's Online Course

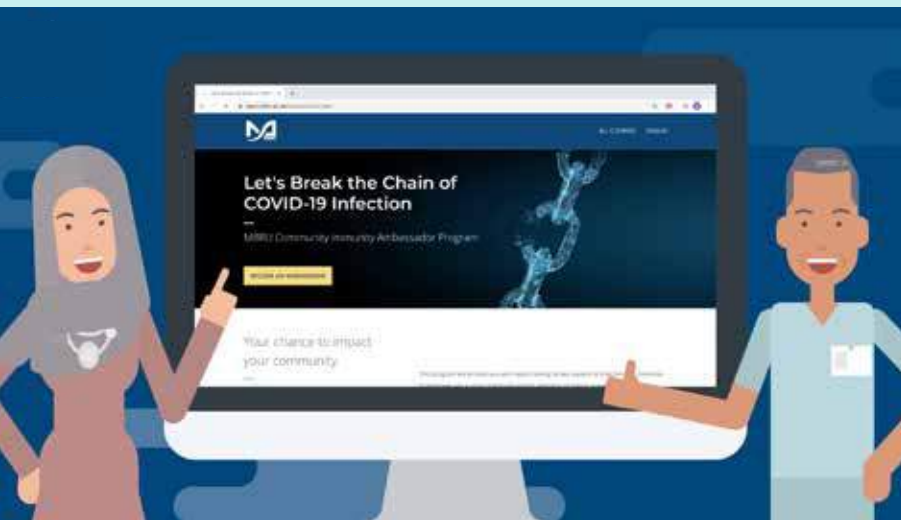


More than 470,000 people completed the course and received their certificates and ambassador status.

While the majority of MBRU's Community Immunity Ambassadors are from within the UAE, the initiative has engaged online users based in

the USA, UK, India, Cuba, Pakistan and the Philippines eager to gain valuable knowledge in the fight against COVID-19.

The 60-minute course, which aligns with the World Health Organization (WHO) and Federal and local authority measures implemented in the UAE, addresses



the chain of infection, provides comprehensive details on how infectious diseases are transmitted, and puts forward solutions to break the chain of infection through concrete preventive actions.

Users can take the course at their own pace, with an estimated completion time of one hour. After finishing the course, users receive a certificate confirming that they've become an MBRU Community Immunity Ambassador. Participants are prompted to share their success on their social and professional networks, challenging three people to join the movement.

“The measures and instructions implemented by the UAE leadership to stop the spread of COVID-19 are to be applauded and MBRU is fully aligned with these precautions. As an educational institution with a focus on innovation we provide an interactive learning environment for our students and the wider community. This course is an ideal opportunity to engage our students, faculty, staff and all segments of society on how we can come together and play a part in making a difference in these extraordinary times. Community engagement and empowerment are key to behavioral change and stopping the COVID-19 pandemic.” said **Professor Nabil Zary**, Director of the Institute for Excellence in Health Professions Education in MBRU.

The course is currently available in English, Arabic and French, and MBRU is working on offering it in other languages as well.

To take the course, visit
<https://learn.mbru.ac.ae/courses/covid19>



Students Against COVID

Year-4 student at the College of Medicine, Faisal Nawaz, proactively launched a campaign on Twitter #Students_Against_COVID to start the conversation on the global pandemic with a group of his friends, Maria Haque a graduate in Public Health and Ahsan Ali a medical student at John Hopkins in the United States, Christos Tsagkaris a medical student from Greece, and Ana Sofia a medical student in Portugal. The group's objective is to create a medium to facilitate productive and professional means for students, and allies to elevate their voices, share and amplify their existing work, brainstorm through multicentered perspectives, and harness the power of impactful collaborations.



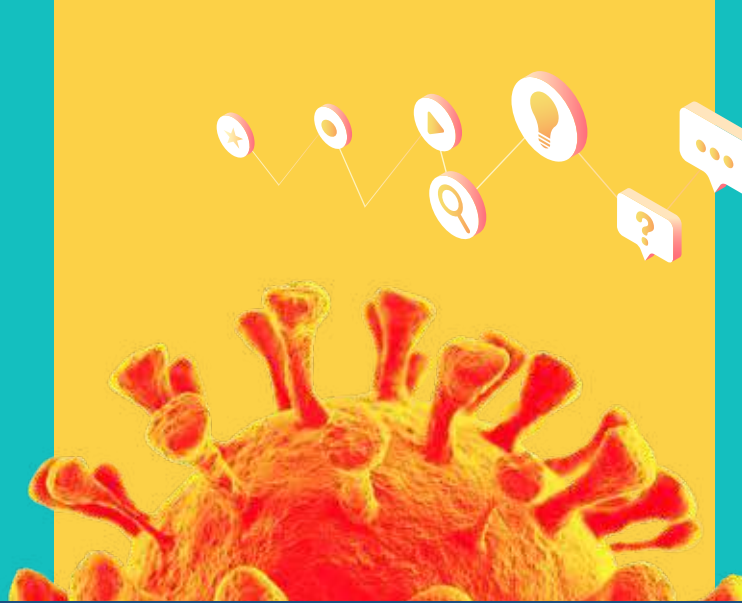
Smart Learning Hub Launched to Tackle Digital Learning Amid COVID-19 Outbreak

MBRU is ensuring that the studies of the healthcare leaders of tomorrow continue apace during the COVID-19 outbreak amid the directions for students to be off-campus, with the implementation of a comprehensive digital education program.

'The Smart Learning Hub' is an all-inclusive solution to help faculty design, develop, and implement digital learning in a timely manner. The learning hub has been implemented following a series of initial testing sessions which drew an emphatic response from both students and faculty, with the majority stating that the Smart Learning Hub mimics a classroom



COVID-19



environment, and it'll help efficiently and effectively bridge the faculty-student interaction gap during this period.

MBRU's infrastructure was built to provide innovative solutions, prior to the Ministry of Education announcing that all schools and institutes must adhere to online learning, MBRU had the tools in place to conduct classes online. As soon as the situation evolved MBRU tested its tools to provide digital education; gauged the students interest and participation through a survey to identify their learning mediums – phones, laptops, desktop computers – and ensured their internet connection was stable enough to consistently make the best use of the e-learning environment.



“
What’s very nice about MBRU is that our opinions are taken into consideration. When the Ministry of Education directives were announced, we met to discuss our schedule and leave as part of the Student Council with the dean and management. It’s incredible because many of the students had opinions and concerns on the matter and wanted to address it to the administrators. Through the Student Council we were able to bring all these concerns to light. We conducted a virtual meeting with our dean to discuss the matter and he promptly came back to us with feedback which reflected our opinions, and to us that means a lot as students that our voices are heard.”

Dr. Mustafa Abdalla

Year-3 postgraduate dental student in the pediatric postgraduate program at Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine

Hear from our students about their experience

“
The digital learning initiative recreates an authentic classroom feel. I can see and hear the professor; I can post all my queries instantly and see questions sent in by other students. I am glad that MBRU has put in place a robust system that allows our academic program to continue and I am looking forward to my other classes. The classes went really well, the organization was great, and I think this is a very reasonable solution for us to continue our classes with no disruptions.”

Colleen McCully

Year-4 student at the College of Medicine

“
This is not my first time going through digital learning. I have done e-courses to learn a number of subjects in the past. The experience was quite enjoyable. I could pace myself according to my learning speed and also attend classes without having to waste time in travel. I quite like digital education as it is the next step in the evolution of medical education.”

Saad Syed

Year-4 student at the College of Medicine



Considering the rapid development of the COVID-19 outbreak and the large-scale decisions being made to combat it, the determination to maintain our education is commendable, and the speed by which the remote courses were planned and implemented is outstanding. This process is new to most of us and naturally it will require time to adjust, but the prospects are exciting. There is a lot of potential to be discovered in digitized learning, as well as lots of responsibility. While some online courses have a set time to attend, there will be more emphasis on self-directed learning on the students and keeping up with material on their own time. I attended a session in real time on health systems and quality improvement, it went well, I could see and hear clearly. It was a proper lecture as we had in class, but questions or participation during were not possible, so we had to ask any questions after the end of the session.

Reem Hatim

Year-4 student at the College of Medicine



The MBRU COVID-19 Task Force

To address all matters related to the outbreak of COVID-19 such as digital education, campus closure, remote work, digital education and more, MBRU created the **MBRU COVID-19 Task Force** chaired by Dr. Amer Al Zarooni, Deputy Vice Chancellor of Administration and Professional Services, comprised of a number of faculty members from both colleges, administrators, and subject matter experts.

Community Engagement

As there is a lot of uncertainty with this outbreak, MBRU held a number of sessions to educate the local community through awareness sessions, television interviews with faculty, as well as a series of videos shared on social media for the wider community in partnership with the Dubai Media Office.

On March 8th MBRU conducted a COVID-19 awareness session at the Dubai Media Office. The panel included MBRU's Provost and Dean of the College of Medicine, Professor Alawi Alsheikh-Ali, Dr. Hanan Al Suwaidi, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, Dr. Tom Loney, Associate Professor of Public Health and Epidemiology and Dr. Abiola Senok, Professor of Microbiology & Infectious Diseases. The one-hour session began with a presentation by Professor Senok and concluded with a Q&A session.

Furthermore, in efforts to educate the community MBRU participated in the **#AskDXBDoctor** campaign which the Dubai Media Office launched in partnership with MBRU and the Dubai Health Authority, featuring visiting Professor of Virology, Norbert Nowotny. The **#AskDXBDoctor** garnered more than 100 questions from the community through social media such as "how is this virus different than other viruses? Or risks of children getting sick from COVID-19."





Little Adam had been on dialysis for the last five years, after his parents learned of a match, he performed the surgery at the Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital. Today, Adam enjoys a normal life of a young child his age, and for the first time he will be able to attend school this coming September.

The emotional meeting, which was full of stories, tears, and smiles, it took place on-campus in the MBRU Majlis. Keerti and Arun came early that day, they shared so many stories of their daughter with the attendees. Adam and his family were coming all the way from Ras Al Khaima, at 11.45 AM, the door of the Majlis opened and

The Story of

Adam and his family dashed in. Keerti, Devisri's mom, ran towards him, hugged him and cried, despite having a big smile on her face.

"I could see my little girl in him, his innocent smile reminded me of her. I am so happy to see him, and If I can, I want to hug him again and again. May God grant him a long life." said Keerti while wiping away her tears.

Arun, Devisri's father spoke to us about the moment they found out his daughter didn't make it, he said, "after she left us, we were told about organ donation. The medical crew explained to us the process, and right away we decided to donate her organs, because my daughter was a giver, I didn't think much,



In February of this year MBRU hosted for the first time a meet-up between **Keerti** and **Arun Kumar**, the parents of the little girl, **Devisri**, who passed away at the age of six from pulmonary hypertension and heart related problems at the Sheikh Khalifa Medical Center in July of 2019; and seven-year-old **Adam Jacob**, one of her kidney recipients, and his family.

Devisri passed away on her birthday. Her parents recall that they celebrated that day with two cakes. That night after the celebration she wasn't feeling too well, they rushed to the hospital as she struggled to breath. Sadly, that night she was declared brain dead.

HOPE, LIFE, AND LOVE



I was sure she would want to help somehow. She used to take money from us and give it to anyone in the street working or cleaning. Although it was a difficult decision to make, we wanted her legacy to live. We can see her soul in three other people. I remember asking the doctors enthusiastically "what can we donate?" we wanted to help others as much as possible."

At the meeting, Devisri's parents expressed their happiness and pride after seeing Adam healthy, they stressed the importance of sharing such experiences with the community to highlight how such initiatives can save lives. Adam's parents, who are medical professionals themselves, spoke of their immense trust in the UAE's healthcare system, they stressed how the efficient system in place has transformed their son's life. They're thankful to all the health authorities who have played an integral role in improving the lives of residents and citizens alike.

The private meeting was also attended by Adam's surgeon, Dr. Farhad Janahi, assistant professor at the College of Medicine, (MBRU) who was part of a team of physicians who successfully performed the transplant.

MBRU is committed to improving health in the UAE and beyond; to date MBRU has successfully completed 11 organ transplants, in collaboration with Mediclinic City Hospital and Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital (AJCH), who all work hand-in-hand with the Ministry of Health and Prevention's (MOHAP) National Transplant Program.



The transplants have been performed on four children and seven adults who were diagnosed with kidney failure, following the objective of the MBRU Transplant Program which was launched in 2016 in line with national efforts to enhance health services in the UAE. Through the Program MBRU aims to advance health by directly impacting patients' lives and improving the sector in the UAE and helps position the UAE as a prominent

destination for organ transplantation. In 2016 MBRU successfully carried out the first kidney transplant surgery in Dubai in collaboration with Mediclinic City Hospital on a 29 -year-old Emirati woman who had kidney failure due to diabetes. The mother of two needed to undergo four hours of hemodialysis, three times a week prior to surgery.

MBRU Launches the First Dental Internship Program in Dubai



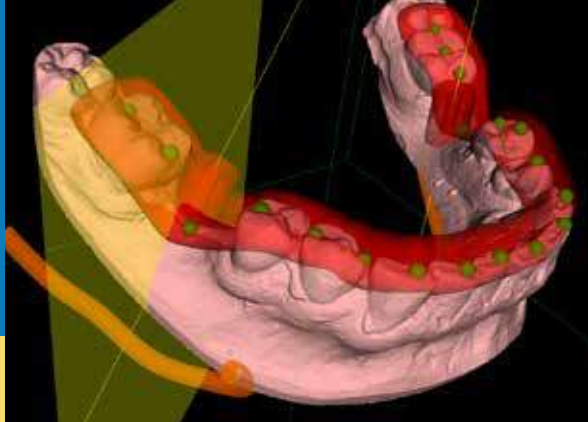
MBRU announced a one-year **Dental Internship Program** for recent dental graduates to meet the high demand for dental internships in Dubai.

The program will enable students to get a unique opportunity to assume a variety of patient centered care roles at the **Dubai Dental Hospital (DDH)**, MBRU's clinical arm and Dubai's largest dental hospital. The program will allow students to gain invaluable insights and experiences across the full spectrum of dental care, from endodontics, periodontology and prosthodontics, to pediatric dentistry, orthodontics, and other oral surgery specialty practices.

A first of its kind in Dubai, the internship is the latest educational initiative from MBRU, which strives to offer the newest, interactive learning environment in line with its mission to advance health in the UAE and the region through an innovative and integrated academic health system that is nationally responsive and globally connected.

MBRU's Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine offers enhanced educational exposure through overseas scientific presentations, exchange programs, and hands-on practice at the Dubai Dental Hospital. More importantly, MBRU graduates are recognized as specialists upon graduation. To date, 88 specialists have graduated.





Our Dental Internship Program at HBMCDM is the first of its kind, in an academic institute, in Dubai. The program is unique in that it includes supervised practice in general dentistry and rotations in endodontic, periodontology, prosthodontics, pediatric dentistry, orthodontics, oral surgery and radiology specialty practice. This internship program will give recent graduates a precious opportunity to spend time and learn from our accomplished international faculty, they'll also gain invaluable practical skills, in a state of the art dental hospital and enhance their knowledge, which will be instrumental in their journeys as dentists and well-rounded healthcare professionals of tomorrow. We're proud of this program and we look forward to receiving applications from candidates who wish to experience the full scope of dentistry and add to their knowledge and experience.

Professor Zaid Hani Baqain
Dean of HBMCDM



MBRU Honors Employees at the

★★★★ 1st MBRU Excellence Awards ★★★★★

- Congratulations to all our winners and shortlisted participants

THE MUTAIRU EZIMOKHAI EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD



Dr. Manal Al Halabi



Professor Ritu Lakhtakia

THE RIAD BAYOUMI EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AWARD



Dr. Eleftherios Kaklamanos



Dr. Mohammed Uddin



Rania Nassar

THE INNOVATION AWARD

The Multiple-mini Interviews Team



Anne-Marie
John-Baptiste



Dina Hegazy



Professor Ibrahim Inuwa



Jalal Mohamadeya



Helen Henderson

THE ALIA SAIF HIDDEN STAR AWARD



Noah Okoth



Connie Jose



Sreejith Veetil



Marichelle Foronda

THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD



Dr. Laila AlSuwaidi

1st MBRU Excellence
★ ★ ★ ★ A W A R D S ★ ★ ★ ★

1st MBRU Excellence ★ ★ ★ ★ A W A R D S ★ ★ ★ ★

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Winning the Innovation Award motivates me greatly, and makes me anxious to do more and more.

– **Dina Hegazy**
Winner of
The Innovation Award



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“

Our institute is all about teamwork, every single person's work makes a difference in our operation. We should also be proud of our achievements which have been made possible by everyone here. I have the privilege of interacting with many of you personally, and as I always say, here, at MBRU, we look for those with great attitudes who have a strong sense of team spirit and those who work for the greater good, and that's what we are about.

– **Dr. Amer Sharif**
Vice Chancellor

”



MBRU Signs Affiliation Agreement with Moorfields Eye Hospital Dubai to Provide Ophthalmology Curriculum

MBRU has come together with the renowned **Moorfields Eye Hospital Dubai (MEHD)** to offer instruction and training around the specialty of ophthalmology at MBRU, which is a part of the core curriculum of undergraduate students at the College of Medicine, as well as offer medical students clinical rotation at MEHD.

Within this partnership, MEHD will organize and deliver teaching activities related to the field of ophthalmology for undergraduate medical students. MEHD will also chart out an annual educational plan covering the subject of ophthalmology and provide students with educational material on the subject and will oversee the entire program.

The clinical rotation offered by MEHD will allow MBRU students to observe ophthalmological specialists in action from close quarters enhancing the students' educational

experience while at the same time amplifying practical exposure.

This agreement reaffirms MBRU's vision and commitment to provide its students with a unique educational experience, impart sound theoretical and practical knowledge, and also multiply real-time exposure to contemporary healthcare practices and environments in order to create healthcare professionals and leaders of tomorrow.



This partnership is mutually beneficial for both MBRU and MEHD, through the program we will provide training that will be instrumental as the students transition into the workforce, while simultaneously preparing the next generation of ophthalmologists, we plan to directly impact the strength of the field of ophthalmology in the region. We are eager to begin this partnership in our Dubai branch and hope that we can replicate it and offer this type of support to more universities across the region and globally.

David Probert, Chief Executive, Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust – London

Our curriculum was developed by our team of experts, who have several years of experience in the field. The goal of the program is to allow the students to cultivate and refine their knowledge through real-world experience. While working beside our world-renowned ophthalmologists, we hope that the students can use the skills they learn to prepare for their future careers in the field.

Elhadi Hassan, Managing Director of Moorfields Eye Hospital Dubai

MBRU's Visionary Wellness on Wheels Initiative Receives AED Three Million Backing from Green Coast Enterprises




MBRU's pioneering initiative towards creating a new channel of healthcare access for underprivileged individuals '**Wellness on Wheels**' received a generous donation of AED three million by **Mr. Abdulghaffar Hussain, Chairman of Green Coast Enterprises.**

Wellness on Wheels, a first-of-its-kind healthcare initiative launched to further MBRU's goal of giving back to the community and its pledge to serve humanity, will see a mobile healthcare clinic fitted with advanced medical equipment, staffed by volunteer doctors on a mission to provide medical treatment to senior citizens in the UAE, blue collar workers with irregular access to healthcare services, people of determination, and other underprivileged sections of society. The Clinic will be able to treat respiratory illnesses, gastro-intestinal diseases, musculoskeletal problems, dental and gum issues, urinary tract infections, vitamin deficiencies, diabetes, hypertension, dermatological conditions, and cardiovascular diseases.



The benevolent donation of AED three million will help the mobile clinic to begin serving communities in around three months and allow for COVID-19 testing to be conducted onsite. The agreement finalizing the donation was signed by Dr. Amer Sharif, Vice Chancellor of MBRU, and Mr. Mohammed Abdulghaffar Hussain, Managing Director of Green Coast Enterprises virtually on March 25, 2020.



For all of us at MBRU, advancing the level of healthcare in the UAE through constant innovation and integrated solutions that are nationally responsive but maintain globally-accepted best practices standards is a very important target. Through Wellness on Wheels we want quality healthcare services to trickle down to the underprivileged sections of society and to people who cannot easily access healthcare services due to various restrictions. Through the generosity of Mr. Hussain, the mission of giving back to the community and putting in place an inclusive healthcare system is rapidly gaining ground and the entire MBRU family tremendously appreciates this gesture of goodwill.

Dr. Amer Mohammad Al Zarooni
Deputy Vice Chancellor of Administration
and Professional Services, MBRU

MBRU Signs Agreement with United Eastern Medical Services to Train Medical Students at Danat Al Emarat Hospital, HealthPlus Network of Specialty Centers and Moorfields Eye Hospital in Abu Dhabi



MBRU and United Eastern Medical Services (UEMedical) in Abu Dhabi, the parent organization of **Danat Al Emarat Hospital for Women & Children, HealthPlus Network of Specialty Centers and Moorfields Eye Hospital Abu Dhabi**, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to train students from the College of Medicine in the group's hospitals and centers, as well as allow for collaborations in different educational programs, and conduct

specialized scientific research, organize scientific conferences and exchange experiences, and provide consultations in the academic and medical fields.





We're delighted to partner with United Eastern Medical and broaden our circle of healthcare partners in the UAE. This partnership will support elevating the delivery of medical education in the country through research collaborations, continuing professional development opportunities, and enhancing clinical training for our medical students and future residents and fellows. Our philosophy, at MBRU, is to teach our students to be professional communicators, health advocates, collaborators and

leaders; and we believe that such partnerships enable us to create medical experts who demonstrate these characteristics. We look forward to this collaboration and to having our medical students train and apply what they have learned at Danat Al Emarat Hospital, HealthPlus Specialty Centers and Moorfields Eye Hospital Abu Dhabi, we're sure they will be received well. We hope that this MoU will pave the way to a successful long-term partnership that'll ultimately serve our community.

Dr. Amer Sharif, Vice Chancellor, MBRU

Our MoU will facilitate training programs at the group's facilities, including Danat Al Emarat Hospital, where we have clinical affiliations with international hospitals such as SickKids Hospital in Canada and University College London Hospitals (UCLH). This will help students to learn from numerous leading physicians during their training programs especially in obstetrics & gynecology, surgery, pediatrics, neonatology and internal medicine. We are indeed confident of the caliber of our physicians and healthcare professionals who will share their extensive experiences with the younger generation.

Mariano Gonzalez, CEO of Danat Al Emarat Hospital

MBRUians

It's Never too Late to Follow your Dreams

Year-4 medical student, **Colleen Mccully**, considers herself an international citizen. Colleen grew up on Vancouver Island, Canada. She earned a bachelor's degree in Communications, and moved between Spain, Canada and Germany. She studied in France earning a master's degree in marketing, eventually she worked in product development at Celine and Yves Saint Laurent in Paris. She met her husband, who's Italian, at a wedding in Istanbul and moved to Dubai with him.

When Colleen moved to Dubai, she realized it's time to take a new path and do something different. She has always been passionate about medicine and health. She decided to conduct a search of medical schools in Dubai, then, she stumbled upon MBRU and with no hesitation she thought "this is the place for me", and applied.

Studying medicine was a whole different world for Colleen. As she puts it, it was challenging at times, time consuming and required a lot of hard work and commitment but it's worth every minute. She began her journey at MBRU with 2 little girls, recently she has added a new member to her

family, her third daughter who happens to be born during exams week in her third year. Being a mother in medical school meant she has extra obligations waiting for her at home that most don't. Living in Dubai might have made it easier as it's somewhere where extra help at home is quite normal to have. She had to come up with a lot of strategies to incorporate studying into her other activities, such as listening to podcasts while she goes for a run in the morning.

Colleen feels very fortunate though to be in Dubai and to have this opportunity while having a great support system behind her.

During her first year at MBRU, Colleen got the chance to go all the way to Cuba as part of the Summer Scholars Program, she worked at the University of Havana. She was intrigued to go to Cuba by one of her mentors Professor David Hickey who has a long history both professionally and personally with the country and the main hospital in Havana. He organized her placement to work under the Chief of Transplant and General Surgery there for the summer, she was eager to go because she really wanted to experience a different healthcare model and use her Spanish skills which she never gets to practice.

Colleen's Summer Scholars Program experience was challenging but rewarding. The doctors she worked with were inspiring and put their hearts into caring for their patients. What she loved most about that experience is how different the healthcare system was, some sections of the hospital didn't even have air-conditioning, which was challenging in the heat and humidity of Cuba, but doctors would still spend long hours in the operating theater for their patients regardless, and that's what being a physician is all about. Colleen was in Cuba with her two little kids who joined a summer camp at

a local school in Cuba, their helper who was with them on the trip was previously diagnosed with an inoperable cataract that was slowly taking away her vision in one eye. An ophthalmologist there disagreed, operated on her and was able to restore her vision fully. She was so moved by her experience and wanted to stay in Havana and go to nursing school.

This experience taught Colleen that medicine is working with passion, being selfless and changing peoples' lives for the better.



MBRUians

MBRU held its second **Board of Trustees meeting** for the academic year 2019-2020 chaired by H.H Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chancellor, and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of MBRU, focusing on governance, sustainability and future plans for the next 50 years.



A panel of our experts delivered an awareness session on #COVID19 at the Dubai Media Office.



Professor Alawi Alsheikh-Ali, Provost, Dean of the College of Medicine and Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, was featured in the podcast **Good Question** hosted by the **Youth Science Council** and the **Office of Advanced Sciences**, to discuss cardiology and electrophysiology and his research on risk factors for heart disease.

[Please click here to listen.](#)



MBRUians

Congratulations to our very own **Dr. Reem Al Gurg, Dr. Laila Al Suwaidi, Dr. Hanan Al Suwaidi, and Dr. Sheikha Al Zaabi** on their selection for the **Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) Certified Reviewer**

Project. The (CAA) Certified Reviewer Project will ensure that our newly established programs, as well as existing ones, meet the expected quality of higher education in the UAE and internationally.

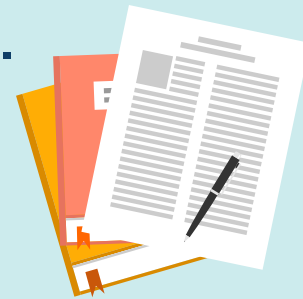


Congratulations to our guidance counsellor, **Dr. Bhavana Nair**, on obtaining her Social Therapist license from the Community Development Authority after successfully passing the UAE Licensing Examination.

Congratulations to our faculty members and alumni on publishing research in highly renowned academic journals.

Pediatric Dentistry Department at HBMCDM: Dr. Anood Alshehhi, Dr. Manal Al Halabi, Dr. Iyad Hussein, Dr. Anas Salami, Dr. Amar Hassan, Dr. Mawlood Kowash. Enamel Defects and Caries Prevalence in Preterm Children Aged 5-10 Years in Dubai.

[Click here to read it.](#)



Professor Samuel B. Ho & Dr. Shroque Zaher. Inverted Yield Curve: The Alarming Rising Incidence of CRC in Young People.

[Click here to read it.](#)



Dr. Iyad Hussein. Q&A about his recently published research: Use of the Hall technique by specialist paediatric dentists: a global perspective

[Click here to read it.](#)

MBRUians

The Next Generation Women Leader

By: **Nerissa Naidoo**

Three years ago, I joined the MBRU family. This indeed marked a pivotal moment in my life as this was my first official academic job after obtaining my PhD. While I was, and still am, the youngest member of the faculty, I was equally responsible to deliver an innovative and novel medical curriculum to millennial students. I felt fortunate to be employed at a new institution that was home to students, staff and faculty from more than twenty-three different nationalities and cultural backgrounds, all of which came together so beautifully to represent a microcosm of the world.

Although my job description outlined duties such as teaching, conducting research and consulting others, my personal goal was to help others live to their full potential but to achieve that, I needed to be comfortable with my position and to express more of myself in what I do. It dawned on me that through my various roles at MBRU, I was already equipped with the tools that would provide me with the opportunity to add value to the lives of these young future physicians.

Through the continuous support and limitless opportunities provided by MBRU, I began to

actively involve myself in institutional initiatives that I perceived to contribute a complimentary set of knowledge and skills to my continuous professional development. Until this time, I had been growing vertically in the field of anatomy, adapting innovative teaching modalities, engaging in interdisciplinary research and through my collaborations with various international and local institutional stakeholders, I began to appreciate and understand the added value of growing horizontally. This was when I came across the Next Generation Women Leaders event by McKinsey and Company.

Each year, McKinsey and Company hosts an exclusive 3-day workshop in Paris, during which attendees explore the importance of women in leadership and refine their own leadership skills. Attendees constitute a group



Next Generation Women Leaders



of females who identify as Next Generation Women Leaders. Application to this program requires the submission of a cover letter.

After much self-reflection, I decided to apply to attend the Next Generation Women Leaders event as I felt it would strengthen my horizontal development and help me to strike a balance between structure and fluidity. Since the letter this year focused on an experience where one demonstrated leadership and fostered effective teamwork with a diverse group of people, I opted to elaborate on my growth at MBRU - from the vertical to the early horizontal developmental stages.

I feel humbled and honored to have been selected as part of this elite group of Next Generation Women Leaders and I am delighted to represent my institution at the upcoming Next Generation Women Leaders Event. Attending the event will provide a unique opportunity to interact with and learn from female pioneers from around the globe. I think that this is an amazing empowerment initiative that will mold my personal leadership style and help me understand how to cultivate my potential. I strongly believe that there is no success without successors – I see my students as my successors, and I wish to share this experience with them upon my return.

Dr. Fouad Otaki, Assistant Professor of Gastroenterology at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, gave a lecture to our students & faculty exploring symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of Barrett's Esophagus.



What we've been up to

Our student services and registration team at the International Education Show.



Merck, one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world, visits MBRU.



Even teddy bears need to see the doctor. Children from the School of Modern Skills brought their stuffed animals to get a regular check-up.



Dr. Mohamad Bydon, Neurosurgeon and Principal Investigator of the Mayo Clinic Neuro-Informatics Laboratory gave the lecture "Stems Cell Therapy for Spinal Cord Injury" at MBRU, making it his 1st time to lecture in a medical university in Dubai. He shared the story of his stem cell breakthrough research at Mayo Clinic and how it resulted in a man walking again after being paralyzed from the neck down, a step that brings a lot of hope to patients with spinal cord injury.

In the presence of H.E. Sarah Al-Amiri, Minister of State for Advanced Sciences and Dr. Wael AlMahmeed, MBRU announced the winners of the 2nd cycle of **The MBRU- AlMahmeed Collaborative Research Award 2019**. Congratulations to all the winners.



What we've been up to



Our beautiful gift from the Dubai Media Office
Do you know who's in the picture?

From the virtual signing ceremony
with the Dubai Government



A delegation from the University
of Birmingham visits MBRU



Our Welcome Back breakfast after winter break

What we've been up to



Our visit to the Dubai Council to meet His Excellency Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, Commissioner General of the Health and Knowledge Pillar



In line with MBRU's values of connectivity and excellence in building partnerships with local, regional, and international organizations, we signed an MoU with the **Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland-Bahrain (RCSI-Bahrain)** to further promote mutual cooperation in medical education and research.



Coming from a country where education for women was not seen worthy, 70 years ago Edna had a dream to build her own hospital, today 26,000 healthy babies were born there. We're honored to have welcomed Edna Adan Ismail to MBRU to share her inspiring story as part of the Emirates Literature Festival



If you do something, do it from your heart, do it because you want to do it, and you want to do it the right way.

Edna Adan Ismail

Student Corner



Congratulations to our Year-4 medical student **Eman Almerashi** who won the **Al Jalila Children's Annual Research Prize** on her research: **Overuse of Antibiotics in Children Under Four Years Presenting to Al Jalila Children's Hospital with Viral Upper Respiratory Tract Infection: A Cross-Sectional Study.** The jury, comprising of doctors from Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital, MBRU and Dubai Health Authority (DHA) chose the winning research out of 30 other applicants.



AL JALILA CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
paeds
CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION



The Student Council Recognition Event

recognized the efforts of the first Student Council members of MBRU who were from both colleges, the College of Medicine and the Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine.



The event saw attendance from MBRU's leadership, the previous and current members of the Council were present, as well MBRU's SAWA members. The event served as a nice transition to hand over the Council to the new members.

Student Corner



Her Excellency Reem Al Hashimy, UAE Minister of State for International Cooperation and Director General of Dubai Expo 2020 Bureau, with members of the MBRU family at the 13th World Majlis that gathered thought leaders and policy makers to discuss **Human and Planetary Health**.

Our Year-4 student **Mariam Elsaban** presented a collaborative poster about multi-disciplinary weight management program at the Obesity Update Conference held at the Royal College of Physicians in London, UK.



First Alumni Day

Welcome home alumni. It was great to have our graduates back on campus to celebrate MBRU's first Alumni Day.



Fantastic achievement by our own postgraduate dental student, **Dr. Mai Abdelsalam**, who won 1st place in the **Poster Presentations at AEEDC Dubai**, the largest dental conference and exhibition in the region.

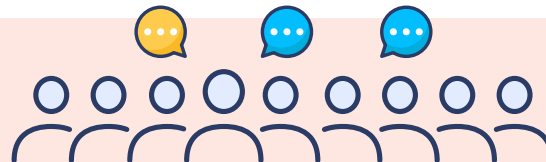


Mediclinic Research Day

Congratulations to our Year-3 student, **Maryam Jafari** for winning 1st runner up poster presentation award at the **Mediclinic 3rd Annual Research Day** for her cross-sectional study on **"Antimicrobial Resistance Patterns of Urinary Pathogens Among Adults in the United Arab Emirates between 2012-2018"**



MBRU Interest Groups held its first three sessions of a board-style questions review of the high-yielded topics in nephrology, cardiology and anatomy.





Healthy Mouths, Healthy Bodies and Minds

By Dr. Manal AlHalabi

Chair & Associate Professor of Pediatric Dentistry

Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine

Our children's growth and development process is a very interesting one that brings immense pride and pleasure to our hearts, and is complex and very sensitive to many environmental factors. The health of the mouth and teeth is an integral part of the overall health and wellbeing of a growing child and any disturbances will cause many health problems for the child.

The compartmentalization involved in viewing the mouth separately from the rest of the body must cease because oral health affects general health by causing considerable pain and suffering. Millions of children around the world suffer intractable toothache and poor quality of life according to the World Health

Organization (WHO). Oral health affects children psychologically and influences how they enjoy life, look, speak, and socialize, as well as their feelings of social well-being.

Cavities (also known as caries or tooth decay) are one of the most common chronic diseases of childhood according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the USA. Untreated cavities can cause pain and infections that may lead to problems with eating, speaking, playing,

sleeping and learning. Children with multiple cavities have been shown to have lower than normal growth rate compared to children without cavities and treatment of dental caries in these children usually results in normalizing their growth. Children who have poor oral health often miss more





school and receive lower grades than children who don't. In addition, there are some reports linking children's hyperactivity in schools and at home to the presence of high level of tooth decay.

The existence of oral health problems affects healthy children as well as children with underlying chronic health conditions. In fact, poor oral health has been identified as one of the contributing factors to poor control of blood glucose levels in diabetic children. Children with underlying heart conditions may be at higher risk of severe life-threatening problems if their oral hygiene is compromised. Equally important, any children with a compromised immune system would be

more prone to exacerbated health problems as a result of dental and oral health issues. A very important factor to consider is the fact that dental decay shares causative factors with many other chronic childhood diseases such as obesity and diabetes. Proper dietary practices will prevent caries and will have a positive impact on the progression of childhood obesity and diabetes.

The good news is that cavities are preventable. Control of the causative agents of cavities, namely poor oral hygiene along with excessive and frequent intake of sugars is the best preventive method against this chronic disease. The use of fluoride in its many forms whether incorporated in drinking water or in toothpaste along with regular supervised

toothbrushing and visiting the dentist regularly will lead to reduction or elimination of dental disease. Dental sealants can also prevent cavities for many years. Applying dental sealants to the chewing surfaces of the back teeth can prevent cavities. The care of children's teeth starts during pregnancy. Pregnant mothers may be more prone to gum disease and cavities, which can affect their baby's general and oral health. Taking care of the mother's oral health during pregnancy will have a positive impact on their children's health. Caring for children's mouths should start from birth by wiping their gums clean after feeding. Baby teeth should be brushed using a soft age appropriate toothbrush with fluoridated toothpaste as soon as the first tooth erupts. Regular dental checkups should begin around the child's first birthday. All these preventive steps will ensure healthy mouths, healthy bodies and minds.



Student Corner



Faisal Nawaz shared his journey of discovering social media from personal use to developing and implementing a strategic approach to

a professional presence in a webinar on the Mayo Clinic Social Media Network.



MBRU PEP TALK SERIES

After a very well-received first session in November 2019, MBRU PEP TALK

SERIES, held its second session. Two students from the College of Medicine shared their journey with the rest of the MBRU family, **Faisal Nawaz (Year 4)** and **Gunjan Awatramani (Year 2)**. The series are curated by students for students and aim to inspire and positively empower students through the art of storytelling. In each session, a student narrates a challenge that they have faced in their lives, their journey through it and the lessons they've learned.



Dr. Ivan Pritishkumar
Associate Professor of Anatomy
College of Medicine



Mohamed Peedikayil
Executive – Finance
Finance and Procurement

New Faces at MBRU



Gresie Camarines
Insurance Coordinator, Clinical Operations
Dubai Dental Hospital



Mery Ann Atienza
Dental Assistant, Clinical Support
Dubai Dental Hospital



Annabelle Mapile
Dental Assistant, Clinical Support
Dubai Dental Hospital

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- » Master of Science in Pediatric Nursing

PROGRAM	BENEFITS
Specialist and core courses delivered by academics from MBRU & Queen's University Belfast	Opportunities for career advancement
450 hours of clinical nursing practice in the Belfast Health & Social Care Trust (included in tuition)	Program supports and improves nursing practice in the UAE and the region
Accredited by the UAE Ministry of Education	MSc programs ensure students as potential specialist nurse practitioners

ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY

Holds a Bachelor of Nursing degree or equivalent.	Minimum of one-year (full time) clinical experience specific to the area of specialist practice being undertaken.
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📅 Applications close **May 31, 2020**

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THE WORD WIZARDS
Razan Abusabha
Safia Benbrahim

THE CREATIVE ONE
Mark Mones

A special thank you to everyone
who has contributed and made our
newsletter possible.

We are happy to hear from you, please send us
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