

MBRU360

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Anniversary ISSUE



Welcome Home Students

MBRU Kicks off Academic Year 2020-2021



On August 30, 2020, MBRU opened its door to returning and new undergraduate and postgraduate students. Bringing its student-body to 368 students. To ensure the safety of our students, faculty and staff, MBRU's orientation this year was blended with a big part of it being online.

This year is a remarkable year in MBRU's young history, as it welcomed postgraduate students into the inaugural College of Nursing and Midwifery and the newly launched Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences under the College of Medicine.

Remember that our success is your success. Being a member of MBRU is both a privilege and a responsibility. As a student, you'll be an ambassador of MBRU, and your performance, attitude, and behavior will help shape the overall perception of the University. - Dr. Amer Sharif, Vice Chancellor

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Our robust homegrown curriculum, clinical training, and strong national and international partnerships all support our students learning experience. With three colleges, the newest, The College of Nursing and Midwifery launching this year, our aim is to prepare the next generation of healthcare professionals who will envision, design and deliver the solutions to tomorrow's health challenges.

- Professor Alawi Alsheikh-Ali
Provost and Dean of the College of Medicine

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Having our orientation programs go online this year was definitely a new experience for everyone. We have managed to put together an engaging and fun program breaking the ice and making it interactive for the undergraduate and postgraduate students. We are pleased that the students felt comfortable and are more familiar with MBRU and its family.

- Maryam Alhamed
Senior Executive - Student Life

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Hear what some of our students had to say:

The College of Nursing and Midwifery

"Every part of the orientation was enjoyable and useful. All of the lecturers are extremely kind, patient & supportive."

Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine

"Everything was amazing, very warm welcoming, staff seem so friendly and nice. Overall loved the experience."

The College of Medicine

"I enjoyed the social game night the most because it was informal, and it really brought all of us together on more of a personal level and interacted more. The Student Panel session was very informative, it was helpful and useful hearing from students who previously were in my shoes and could relate to I am going through right now."

"I loved game night and the warm welcome to the MBRU family. All of the sessions were very well organized and informative. I already feel at home."

"The orientation was delivered very well considering the fact that we are in the middle of a pandemic, MBRU really made us feel welcome."

Welcome message from the Vice Chancellor

Dear Students and Colleagues,

At this time, every year we begin rolling our plans to welcome our new students to MBRU & welcome returning students through a number of engaging activities and tours. This year though it was quite unique as we are still battling a pandemic globally.

This year is also going to be a memorable year in our history as we welcome two new cohorts joining the inaugural College of Nursing and Midwifery, and the newly launched Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences program, the 1st postgraduate program under the College of Medicine.

New students, you will notice quite often that we call everyone here- family. Being a member of MBRU, whether student, faculty or staff, we all treat each other as family and treat MBRU as our home. We all work hand in hand to ensure we realize our vision of becoming a global hub for innovative and integrated healthcare education and research at the service of humanity.

Your presence here today is a true illustration of your academic abilities, stellar skills, team spirit and compassionate attitude. As you all

know, we are one of the unique educational institutes that use the multiple-mini interviews in the UAE as part of our admissions process, this helps us choose the finest students amongst the competition, those who demonstrate compassion, confidence, and critical thinking. So, your acceptance to MBRU is testament of your hard work, relentless ambition, and exceptional skills.

Congratulations to our new family members, we wish you luck on this new academic year, we know it will be a great one. Whether you are a new student or a returning student, there is always something new happening in MBRU. I hope that your experience here is rich, memorable, and life changing.

As a last note, this year we have witnessed a lot of uncertainties that this pandemic has brought into our lives, and with any crisis challenges arise, and what I have witnessed at MBRU is a family coming together to find solutions to ensure that our work is not affected, and most importantly our students are looked after and protected, and for that I am very thankful and proud.

Welcome to a new year at MBRU, welcome home.

Best wishes,

Amer Sharif



MBRU Amplifies Commitment to Shaping Future of UAE's Healthcare with College of Nursing and Midwifery Launch



MBRU has launched a College of Nursing and Midwifery, offering two postgraduate programs in Cardiovascular and Pediatric Nursing. The new college is the latest decisive step in MBRU's mission to become a global hub for innovative and integrated healthcare education.

Designed to support and improve the practice of nursing in the UAE and the region, the two master of science (MSc.) programs, which can be completed over one year of full-time study or two years of part-time study, are accredited by the UAE Ministry of Education.

Students will be trained to deliver high-quality care and develop their skills across specialist areas of nursing and in specific clinical settings. In addition, the MBRU College of Nursing and Midwifery is partnering with Queen's University of Belfast in Northern Ireland, which will allow students to undergo a 12-week period of clinical nursing practice at the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust as part of the program.



MBRU has appointed the director of nursing at the Ministry of Health and Prevention (MOHAP), Dr. Sumaya AlBlooshi as Associate Dean of Academic Partnerships at the College of Nursing and Midwifery. This appointment comes as an honorary appointment as a recognition for Dr. AlBlooshi's outstanding and continuous contribution and support for nursing education. Dr. AlBlooshi will also serve as an Adjunct Associate Professor at the College.



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Professor Alawi Alsheikh-Ali, Provost and Dean of the College of Medicine stated,

We are privileged to have Dr. Sumaya AlBlooshi as an Associate Dean. She's a role model to other Emirati nurses and we look forward to her active participation in advancing our goals and mission and in enhancing the attractiveness of the nursing profession in the UAE.

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Drawing a strong response from prospective healthcare professionals in the UAE, over 70% of the first cohort of students at the College are Emirati women.

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Highly skilled, critical thinking nurses and nursing are essential to the future of healthcare in the UAE and beyond. Our curriculum integrates lessons from regional and international experts in the field to deliver new and innovative and collaborative ways to enhance our students' educational experience.

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said **Professor Kevin Gormley**, Dean of the College of Nursing and Midwifery





Learn why some of our students chose MBRU to undertake postgraduate studies in nursing.

Shaikha Al Maazmi,
MSc. Pediatric Nursing

"I chose pediatric nursing because I love to see the benefits of involving patients and their families in the care process and being able to provide support through knowledge and evidence-based practice. I am also really looking forward to my stint in Belfast where I will pick up valuable experience in pediatric nursing in a live clinical setting."

Meirah Alteneji,
MSc. Cardiovascular Nursing

"After reviewing the course content and the faculty lineup, I was really motivated to pursue this program,". I believe the lessons I learn here will help me become a specialist cardiovascular nurse. I have always had the urge to push myself theoretically and practically and I believe this course will allow me to gain precious clinical experience and also offer me the chance to pursue research which I am passionate about."

Jessica Cottam,
MSc. in Pediatric Nursing,

"I chose the MSc. in Pediatric Nursing with MBRU as there is a very interesting mix of relevant modules in research & nursing leadership, as well as a practical placement with a specialist pediatric nurse in Belfast. I chose pediatric nursing as I love to see the benefits of how involving patients & families in their care and being able to provide support through knowledge and evidence-based practice, provides the best outcome for them physically and holistically. I am excited to be part of the MBRU family."

Nicole Brown, MSc. Pediatric Nursing

"My decision to complete my masters in pediatric nursing, especially at MBRU came from viewing the course content. I have always wanted to push myself, clinically and theoretically in my career and I believe the course content at MBRU will do just that. I feel it will help me further develop my critical and practical skills, to one day confidently become a Specialist Pediatric Nurse. I also want to complete the course to gain further knowledge regarding Leadership and Research Methods, so I can support, educate and empower my nursing team here in the UAE. My two years here as a nurse, has highlighted to me, that there is work that can be done to make the nursing profession in the UAE one that is recognized and valued."

Shamma Ali, MSc. Cardiovascular Nursing

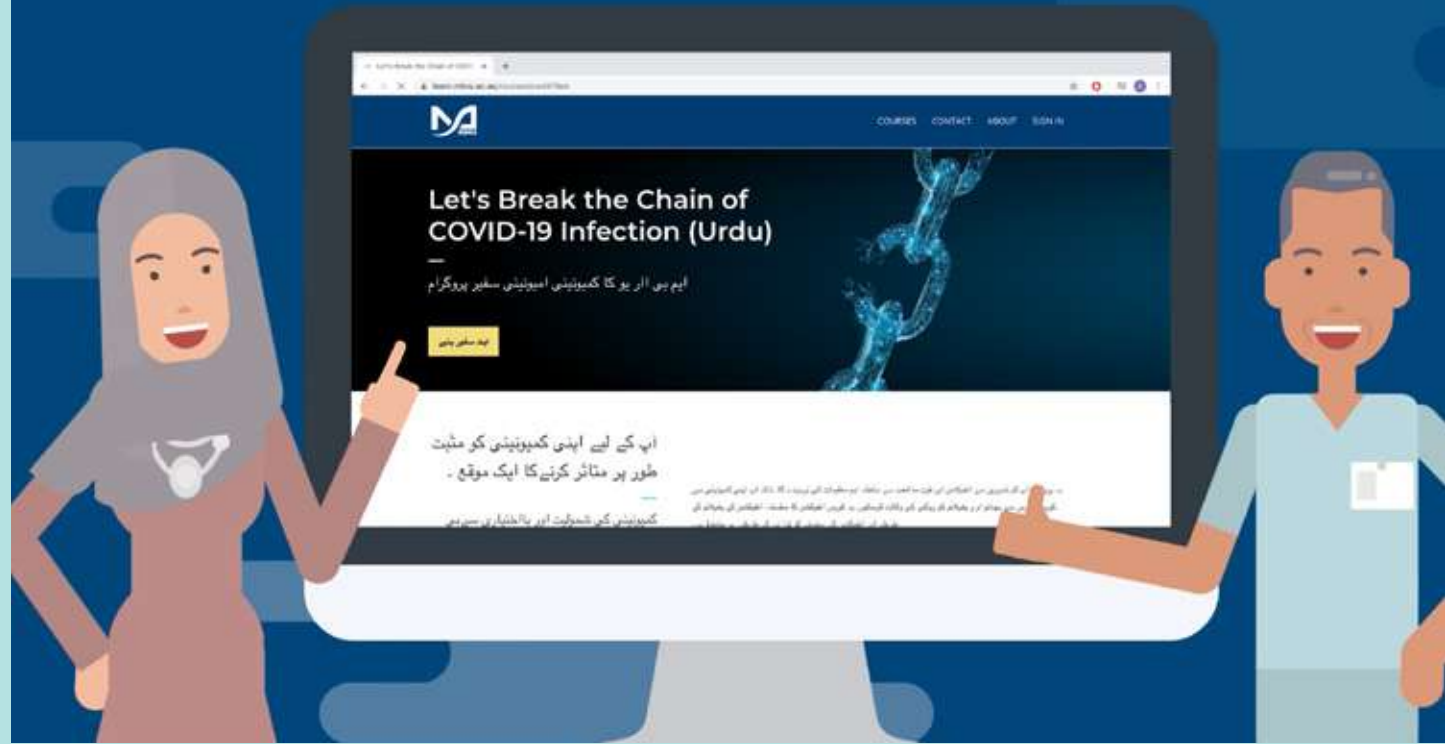
"I chose cardiovascular nursing due to the increasing number of deaths due to heart problems in the UAE, hoping that through this program I will be able to improve the quality of people's lives , by helping them prevent heart problems and by learning a better approach to treating heart disease."



Pioneering Course 'Let's Break the Chain of COVID-19' Available in Multiple Languages

Launched in March as a way of engaging people from all walks of life to play a part in the fight against the virus, the MBRU Community Immunity Ambassador program has drawn a phenomenal response from all over the world, particularly the Middle East, South and East Asia and North America.

The first course titled 'Let's Break the Chain of COVID-19' sensitizes people to the chain of infection, details how infectious diseases are transmitted, and puts forward solutions to break the chain of infection through concrete preventive actions. Successful completion of the course results in the user receiving a certificate as an MBRU Community Immunity Ambassador. Recently, the course has been launched in Urdu to cater to a wider audience. Currently the course is available in Arabic, English, French, Bengali and Urdu.



The second course titled 'Let's Gear Up to Volunteer and Defy COVID-19' guides volunteers aiding the fight against the pandemic with detailed knowledge about the virus, how it spreads, and what precautions are needed to protect yourself and others on the frontline.

'Find Your Light' is the third course in the program, which teaches specific techniques to increase self-awareness, normalize emotions, and support overall wellbeing as the world grapples with uncertainty.

Following the overwhelming success of the program, MBRU has now launched a course focused on dental professionals providing guidance and best practice to prevent the spread of the virus in dental clinics.

Courses available at learn.mbru.ac.ae



MBRU Amongst 10% of Institutions to Receive Full Institutional Accreditation from Saudi Commission for Health Specialties

MBRU has been awarded the full Institutional accreditation by the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties (SCFHS), among 12 health institutions representing 10% of the health institutions that obtained the institutional accreditation.

The accreditation was awarded after the SCFHS institutional committee completed a thorough evaluation of MBRU's campus, including academic structure, level of educational facilities, and an assessment of the MBRU faculty and its ability to effectively provide SCFHS-approved programs.

The evaluation included assessment of MBRU's collaborations with Mediclinic City Hospital, Dubai Dental Hospital, Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital, Al Amal Psychiatric Hospital, and Rashid Hospital, Dubai. The report also highlighted the series of strategic partnerships forged with prominent multidisciplinary healthcare institutions globally, which according to the committee reinforce MBRU's ability to create an educational environment conforming to the highest international standards.

الهيئة السعودية للتخصصات الصحية
Saudi Commission for Health Specialties



SCFHS is responsible for supervising and evaluating training programs, as well as setting controls and standards for the practice of health professions in the Kingdom.

The accreditation means MBRU programs including two programs, Al Jalila Children's the Paediatric Residency Program and Al Jalila Children's Pediatric Residency Program are aligned with SCFHS regulations and the commission's goal to improve professional performance, develop and encourage skills, and

enrich scientific theory and practice in the different health-related fields.

Institutional accreditation by the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties aims to provide and harness all administrative, educational, and clinical resources in the training centers for the postgraduate professional healthcare programs (General Board Certificate, Subspecialty Fellowship, or Health Professional Diploma). As a result, it creates an ideal learning environment based on health education principles for both trainers and trainees, and it allows trainees to be highly trained and qualified for safe professional practice.

Dr. Amer Sharif, Vice Chancellor,
MBRU, said

We're very humbled to receive this accreditation from the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties. Our aim is to develop healthcare professionals of tomorrow and provide the community with qualified physicians and healthcare professionals who are efficiently able to address the evolving needs of a healthcare sector that is in the midst of rapid transformation, both in the UAE and beyond. This recognition means that we're moving in the right direction and making progress in our mission to become a global hub for integrated healthcare education and research at the service of humanity.

Currently we serve as the academic partner for the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Program and the Paediatric Residency Program at Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital, which are both aligned with SCFHS. This accreditation paves the way for us to develop more residency and specialized fellowship programs in conjunction with hospitals and healthcare institutes in the future, which will further strengthen our work in creating an integrated academic health system. We thank the commission for sharing our vision and for their trust in our institute.



The Executive Director
of Accreditation,
Dr. Hussain AlHussain
commented,

At the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties, we issue the Full Institutional Accreditation Decision valid for four years to the Training Centers that fully meet all Institutional Accreditation Standards.

So far, 12 healthcare institutions (10%) received full institutional accreditation out of 122 healthcare institutions that have been surveyed for Institutional Accreditation over the past 18 months.

H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Chairs MBRU's 6th Board of Trustees Meeting

On September 16, MBRU held its sixth Board of Trustees Meeting virtually. The meeting was headed by His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, MBRU's Chancellor and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees.

At the meeting, Dr. Amer Sharif, MBRU's Vice Chancellor presented to members of the board MBRU's progress thus far, and showcased MBRU's pivotal role in the COVID-10 pandemic.

Dr. Sharif presented statistics on MBRU's current student-body who come from 39 different countries. To date, MBRU has 368 students in which 36% are UAE Nationals and 73% are women.

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, serving individuals and communities, MBRU launched the College of Nursing and Midwifery offering two postgraduate programs to create specialist



nurses. The inaugural program accepted 11 students of which 70% are UAE Nationals. Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine (HBMCDM) is home to 78 postgraduate dental students of which 44% are UAE Nationals, and 102 Alumni of which 60% are UAE Nationals. This year, MBRU has launched the first of its kind dental internship program through HBMCDM, the Program accepted eight students of which 50% are females.

The College of Medicine's undergraduate program, the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) program has grown in size, this year 72 students were accepted bringing the total student count to 263 students, of which 33% are UAE Nationals. The College of Medicine also accepted a cohort into its inaugural postgraduate program, the Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences, eight students of which 50% are UAE Nationals.

MBRU Joins UAE Ministry of Education's Estedad Program to Engage Future Healthcare Professionals



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

MBRU has taken strides to engage healthcare professionals of the future by playing a leading role in the UAE Ministry of Education's (MoE) Estedad program, a one-of-a-kind program that helps students transition from high school to university.

The Estedad program aims to provide high school students from both public and private schools with the essential skills in research, entrepreneurial leadership, and diplomacy; as well as soft skills and provide them with a set of academic tools that will positively impact their university applications. This year the Program was implemented virtually for 4 weeks during the summer vacation in cooperation with top research-active universities in the UAE.

MBRU faculty hosted a series of sessions titled 'MBRU Academic Health System Program' in line with its commitment to the development of high-quality teaching and learning experiences and Estedad's objective to empower high school students with enriching experiences, promote innovation, and foster community engagement.

برنامج
سفراؤنا
الوطني
استعداد

ESTEDAD | NATIONAL
AMBASSADORS PROGRAM



The Estedad program is composed of 4 modules developed by participating universities: Tamkeen Research, Tamkeen Enrichment, Tamkeen Entrepreneurship, and Tamkeen Diplomacy. MBRU Academic Health System Program focused on the first two modules; Tamkeen Research and Tamkeen Enrichment to give students an experiential insight into scientific research and other scientific topics.

The Program that took place over two weeks targeted 20 passionate and self-driven high school students, with 80% participation from Emirati students and 20% from non-Emirati students, who are excelling in their schools.

The Program provided the students with an overview of the basics of scientific research methodology, innovation, transplantation, genetic engineering as well as a virtual tour of MBRU's facilities including Al Maktoum Medical Library and Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Medical Simulation Center.



Dr. Laila Al Suwaidi, Assistant Dean of Student Happiness and Wellbeing, Assistant Professor of Molecular Hematology, MBRU; and Dr. Aida Azar, Associate Professor of Epidemiology, along with other members of MBRU, guided students through the program, giving them exposure to opportunities at MBRU and the university's main pillars – education, research, and clinical practice.

Dr. Al Suwaidi, said, *“Our mission is to advance health in the UAE and the region through an academic system that fosters excellence and allows bright young minds to realize their potential to ultimately benefit society. Over the two weeks, we took students through the many benefits of pursuing an education journey in medicine and health sciences and*

what a rewarding journey that was. We explained the various educational avenues that MBRU offers, helped them clarify their future goals, and provided tips that would broaden their networking capabilities to aid their overall development. ”

Dr. Al Suwaidi added that scientific research is a cornerstone of MBRU's activities and through Estedad the team wanted to spark interest from students to pursue research and explore options to help develop scientific research capabilities amongst the student community.

“Our goal is to instill in students the importance of research, the ability to analyze and evaluate findings soundly, and through research help students make effective use of data and information in their academic careers,” she added.

MBRU's Partner, Al Jalila Foundation, Launches the Mohammed Bin Rashid Medical Research Institute and Bassmat Rashid Bin Saeed Giving Campaign for Medical Research



moving forward while maintaining all the precautionary measures to ensure the safety of staff, faculty, students and their families, co-workers and the wider community.

COVID-19 has broken down the borders of science. The coronavirus global outbreak has amplified the need for more investment in medical research as scientists around the world work 24/7 searching for ways to contain the virus and other diseases to decrease the impact on mankind. Almost 1 million lives have already been lost worldwide to

of Dubai, inaugurated the Mohammed Bin Rashid Medical Research Institute, an initiative of Al Jalila Foundation. During his visit His Highness Sheikh Mohammed toured the state-of-the-art facility, met a number of scientists including MBRU's researchers to learn about their research projects and was briefed on Al Jalila Foundation's research accomplishments and extensive research portfolio. His Highness Sheikh Mohammed was also welcomed by MBRU's Provost and Dean of the College of Medicine, Professor Alawi Alsheikh-Ali, who



مبادرات محمد بن راشد آل مكتوم العالمية
Mohammed Bin Rashid
Al Maktoum Global Initiatives



مؤسسة الجليلا
AL JALILA FOUNDATION

Bassmat Rashid Bin Saeed



بصمة راشد بن سعيد

The coronavirus pandemic continues to impact everyone around the world and every aspect of our daily lives at home, at work and in the community. While a lot has changed in how we live, study and do business; what has not changed is our willingness, as a nation, to adapt and persevere in the face of adversity. We are more united and prepared to keep

the global pandemic and whilst incredible progress has been made there is still no cure. Today, the world has awoken to the power of medical research and the reliance on medical research is undeniable.

In August, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler

spoke about MBRU's support to the UAE's thriving medical research eco-system and its partnership with Al Jalila Foundation.

On the occasion of the inauguration, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed said: *"Medical research is an integral part of prevention and medical security in the UAE. Supporting research helps ensure*



sustainable economic, social and human development. Scientific research has been the main approach of scientists and researchers for many centuries in our region and is key to building a stable and prosperous future."

"The new center is an important addition to the global network of research institutions. It is part of the UAE's contribution to biomedical research in the world." You can read more about the inauguration [here](#).

Since inception in 2013, Al Jalila Foundation has provided opportunities to increase innovative, impactful medical research investing AED 25 million to award 95 research grants and 8 international research fellowships at global leading institutions in the UK, USA and Japan to discover solutions for the region's biggest health challenges. Al Jalila Foundation research grants have

garnered 18 national and international awards, 4 medical breakthroughs and 5 patents have been filed. MBRU is proud to be a recipient of 6 Al Jalila Foundation research grants in the areas of diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease and mental health.

The Mohammed Bin Rashid Medical Research Institute will help boost medical innovation and empower the next generation of scientists in different biomedical fields. The center embodies Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid's vision to build a positive future for the region and create a knowledge-based society.

Developing pioneering medical research is a life-long commitment that requires ongoing investment for it to truly succeed, and ultimately impact society. Donor funds have the power to advance medical breakthroughs to change the fabric of science as we know

it and we salute the researchers, scientists and doctors that are shaping the future of medicine and breaking the boundaries of research to transform patients' lives.

Bassmat Rashid Bin Saeed

In its mission to finding the cures of the future through advances in medical research, and to boost their fundraising strategy, Al Jalila Foundation launched a new giving campaign 'Bassmat Rashid Bin Saeed' which pays tribute to Sheikh Rashid's philanthropic legacy and recognises the generosity of donors who support medical research. The campaign features the first-of-its-kind robotic donor recognition wall located in the lobby of Al Jalila Foundation. The cutting-edge technology makes it possible for donors to choose between seven donation categories from AED 2,000 to AED 750,000 to make an impact from anywhere, at any time. The unique virtual donation platform is testament to the UAE's mission to be at the forefront of technology, innovation and providing smart services as it recognizes donors by engraving their name on a dedicated tile which can be viewed live or online. For more information on how you can join Bassmat Rashid Bin Saeed [visit www.bassmat.aljalilafoundation.ae](http://www.bassmat.aljalilafoundation.ae).

Please take a moment to **watch** some of the UAE's greatest philanthropists, scientific members and donors share what drives them to invest in medical research. For more information on Al Jalila Foundation's research programs **please visit** www.aljalilafoundation.ae/research.

MBRUians Student Corner

College of Medicine Students Begin Clinical Rotations

As part of our strategic partnerships with educational, research and healthcare institutions, MBRU's first cohort of Year-5 medical students started their clinical rotations at Dubai Healthcare Authority (DHA) facilities and Moorfields Eye Hospital Dubai (MEHD). We're confident that these opportunities will enrich their educational experience.



MBRUians Student Corner

Postgraduate Dental Students Volunteer at Red Crescent Clinics



During the 2020-2021 academic year, Year-3 postgraduate dental students at the Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine will provide dental care at Red Crescent clinics across Sharjah, working under the guidance of MBRU faculty and adjunct faculty outside of teaching and training hours.



Art and Medicine are One, According to a Year-5 College of Medicine Student

Year-5 student at the College of Medicine, Ameneh Baghestani, believes that art and medicine are the same. After seeing samples of her beautiful artwork, we spoke to Ameneh about what inspires her art. She believes that art is the process of self-discovery. She further commented, *"Stepping into the world of medicine has been a wonderful decision that has added new colors to my palette. I believe that art and medicine are the same; It is the process of self-discovery. And as I continue to discover myself through the different fields of medicine every day, I get inspired by the details that make every physician and every individual patient unique in their own way. Similarly, with my artwork, each painting is an unplanned, unique journey of its own – and that is what makes it all fascinating and worthwhile... the beauty that results from putting passion and patience into any work."*



Dear Diary

A collection of poems by Year-1 Student Maryam Al Jasmi

A tribute to our world hit by a gruesome pandemic

Dear Diary,

It's February fifteen, two
thousand and twenty
I look upon what remains of the crowded
bustle... the streets are now empty
As I try to make sense of this
never-ending puzzle.
I turn on the television waiting to hear
the recordation of many fatalities
A lonely boy resting atop a hospital
bed can barely move a muscle
It seems as though our city has been
stripped of its many identities
"The Coronavirus epicenter, Wuhan"
are the only words people mumble
A country reduced to newfound nuances
in socially distant culture... eerie silence
creeping beneath our breaths...
The boy looks up, "Doctor what
is the standard procedure?"
Minutes pour into hours, a blur
of incomprehensible time,
fighting deaths.

Dear Diary,

The world is coughing transmittable droplets,
those infected are finding it hard to breathe
A worldwide state of stagnant septic shock
"Push fifty milligrams of epinephrine"
For the past three weeks, Wuhan
has been under lockdown
Waiting for a vaccine; the
phrase du all of our jours
Mass hysteria; world I beg of you, calm down
Amidst the tears, "I'm sorry sir,
please accept my condolences"

Dear citizens of the world,

Has my message of these deadly shackles, set you free?
Has it reached yet or is it still floating about in eternity?
I wonder amidst the echoing abyss, "Can you hear me?"

Dear people of the pandemic,

Healthcare providers work tirelessly to
preserve the community's prosperity
Please follow the instructions to
ensure you remain asymptomatic
Look at the crumbling world around you,
to recognize the situation's fragility
Listen to a young man's desperate
communicatory attempt, both
verbal and paralinguistic
Please use your eclectic ingenuity
Properly utilize your alcohol-based antiseptic
Stay at home to overcome this adversity,
And to prevent a spread, otherwise paralytic

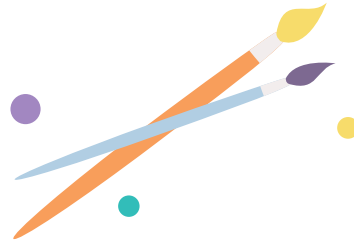


Check out our **Student Clubs**



Art Club

Art is where you go with the flow, where thoughts meet painting, and imagination strikes within. Art shows you a whole new different level of peace, comfort, and a stable mindset. The Art club strongly believes that every person is artistic in their own way. So, pick that paintbrush and let the colors unleash a new beginning to many more masterpieces!



Interest Groups



An interest group is an organized group of medical students who meet monthly to learn about different areas in medicine, and to establish communication with faculty and other students who share similar interests. Each month will have a different theme, exploring a specific specialty. Monthly case-based grand rounds will be held by students, with a faculty member as a facilitator, pertaining to the theme of the month. The objective of the Interest group is to connect students of similar interests, enhance their knowledge, promote career development, and ultimately help them reach their true potential.

Health Awareness Club (HAC)

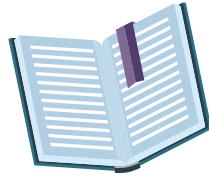
The Health Awareness Club hopes to foster a sense of belonging to our society by means of raising awareness on vital health matters. The responsibility of spreading the right message is just as important to each individual who aims to contribute in a positive manner. This Club would serve as a platform to bring together our MBRU medical students, faculty, and well-wishers to seek further collaborations in bringing a wealth of knowledge and activities to our university and the community as a whole. By focusing on raising awareness in key areas of healthcare such as Organ Donation, Diabetes, Mental Health and much more, we aim to harness a strong foundation in reaching out to people of all backgrounds via. student-led initiatives all year round.



Student Clubs

ATLAS Club

The Literature and Arts Club focuses on developing and nourishing talent and interests. It includes a collection of sub-sections which are headed up by a student or two - dedicated to aspects of the arts and literature, such as books, movies, drama, and cinematography.



Journal Club

A journal club is a group of individuals who meet regularly to critically evaluate recent articles in the academic literature, generally of some branch of science or philosophy. Journal clubs are usually organized around a defined subject in basic or applied research. The Journal Club keeps the same standard by delivering the best of contemporary medicine in student-centered environment. By organizing regular sessions on themes relevant to the research community, we hope to prepare students in mastering key skills in critical appraisal, public speaking, and research writing, thereby setting the groundwork for productivity through professionalism.



Language Club

Being in a culturally diverse city like Dubai, dealing with different nationalities is inevitable. By joining the Language Club, we aim to help you overcome not only language barriers but improve your communication skills and widen your scope in appreciating all the different aspects.



Media Club

The Media Club serves as an outlet for creativity, a space for students to share their voice, and a place to showcase student initiatives and activities. The Media Club solidifies the importance of photos, videos, visuals, and social media in our professional and personal lives. The Media Club Instagram account is the main vessel for posting events, activities, and collaborations; it is student-run and is always, student-based.



Radiology Club

The radiology club is a student-led club, with a vision to help train students to become more competent in the field of radiology.



The goals of this club include:

- Introduce students to the field of Radiology
- Encourage students to participate in Radiology research in the UAE
- Serve as a bridge between students and the Radiology community in the UAE
- Provide students with the basic knowledge at reading various forms of Radiological images
- Help train students to become more competent in the field of Radiology



Student Clubs



Sports Club

Keeping the body and mind synced is the aim of our Sports Club. To become healthier and more competitive versions of yourselves - and have fun whilst you are at it! The Sports Club includes different sports of interest, holds in-house games, competitions, and aims to grow to be part of larger competitions locally and potentially regionally too. To learn more about Student Clubs please [click here](#).



REACH Club

The Reach Club is about creating opportunities to give back to our community, with no boundaries. Every color, every race, every corner of the world, to "REACH". This club aims to implement the values it holds, on the basis of humanitarian acts and looks to expand with a united team spirit. At REACH, we plan to cover a variety of events regionally and internationally, associating with various other organizations and pupils that share similar goals - to REACH!



To learn more about Student Clubs please [click here](#).

Faculty Corner

MBRU Research uncovers saliva testing as effective alternative to nasal swab in COVID-19 detection. Our College of Medicine faculty who participated in the study appeared on multiple media platforms to discuss the results of the study and what it means for COVID-19 testing. Listen to Tom Loney, Associate Professor of Public Health and Epidemiology talk on Dubai Eye's Business Breakfast, and Dr. Hanan AlSuwaidi, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine on CNBC International.



Tom Loney

<https://omny.fm/shows/thebusinessbreakfastpodcast/a-saliva-test-to-replace-nasal-swab-for-covid-dete>



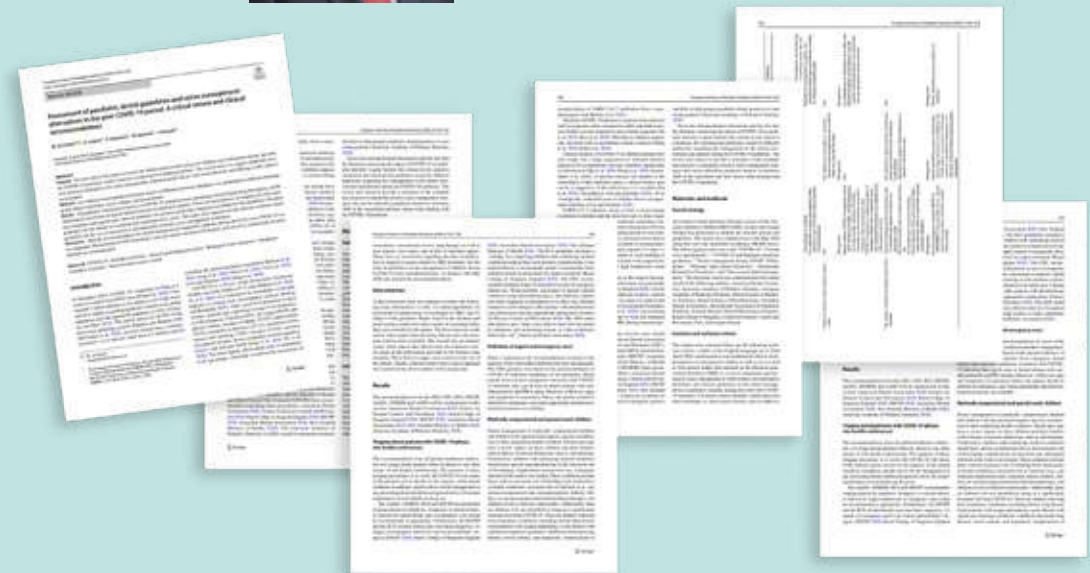
Hanan AlSuwaidi

<https://youtu.be/ldq49Z-RSy0>



Recently a paper published by our pediatric dentistry team at Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine (HBMCDM), Dr. Manal Al Halabi, Dr. Anas Al Salami, Dr. Eman Alnuaimi, Dr. Mawlood Kowash, and Dr. Iyad Hussein, was cited in an article on Oral Health and COVID-19: Increasing the Need for Prevention and Access by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The paper **Assessment of Paediatric Dental Guidelines and Caries Management Alternatives in the Post COVID-19 Period: A Critical Review and Clinical Recommendations** was published in the European Archives of Paediatric Dentistry.

To read more please click [here](#).



What we've been up to

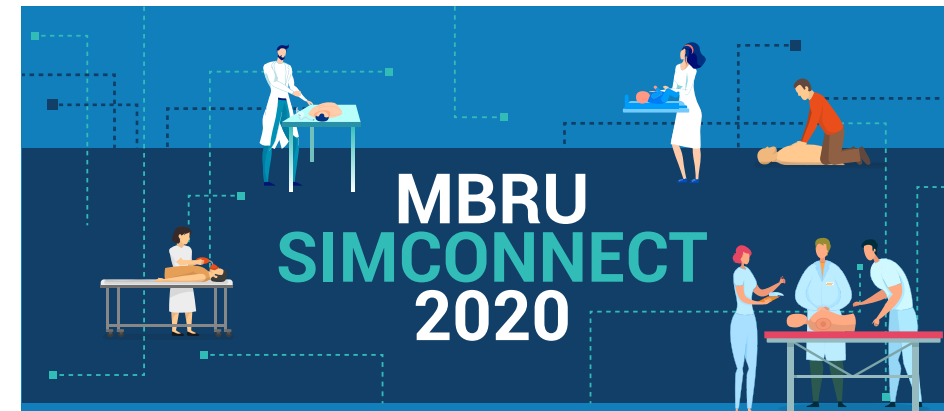
#MBRUDentalks hosted its third virtual talk this year on Saturday, September 19, where Dr. Tarek El-Bialy talked about Biomechanics of treatment difficult Orthodontic-Prosthodontic-Periodontic cases with Invisalign and acceleration devices.



DENTalks



We are proud to have won the Best Supporting Entity for Emiratization Award at the fourth edition of Dubai Healthcare City Authority's (DHCA) Excellence Awards. Emiratization is one of our core strategic pillars, and we are committed to supporting and empowering Emirati talents at MBRU.



As part of Healthcare Simulation Week 2020, MBRU's Simulation Center, The Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Medical Simulation Center has successfully concluded its #MBRUSIMCONNECT2020 with workshops, virtual scholarly interactions, scientific sessions, and competitions.

<https://www.mbru.ac.ae/mbru-simconnect-2020>

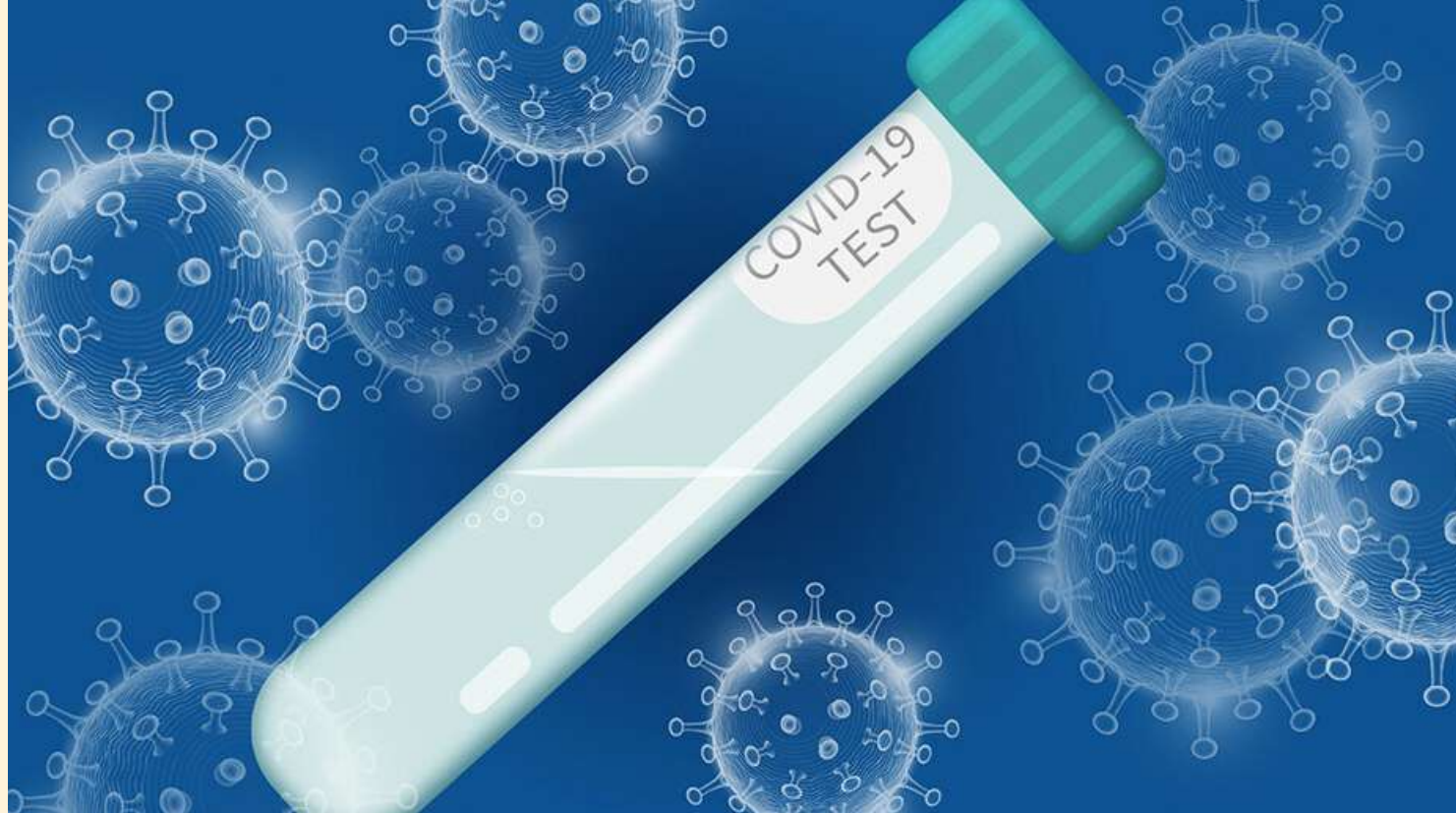
Research @ MBRU

MBRU Research Uncovers Saliva Testing as Effective Alternative to Nasal Swab in COVID-19 Detection

Researchers from MBRU have made a significant contribution to the fight against COVID-19 with the completion of a study into the effectiveness of saliva as an alternative to the nasopharyngeal swab for COVID-19 screening.

The study, a first in the UAE and the MENA region, was a close collaborative effort between the public and private sectors and academia.

The research team from MBRU were joined by teams from Dubai Health Authority (DHA); Unilabs; Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi; New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD); and the National Reference Laboratory.



The team took saliva and nasal swabs from 401 adults presenting for COVID-19 screening at Al Khawaneej Health Center, 50% of whom were asymptomatic. The samples were tested for detection of SARS-CoV-2 virus at Unilabs Dubai.

The findings of the study, showed that the saliva can be used for viral detection with 70% sensitivity and 95% specificity, proving to be just as effective as the nasal swab.

Professor Abiola Senok, Lead Investigator of the study and Professor of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, College of Medicine,



MBRU, said, *“Previous studies on the use of saliva for SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR have largely been among COVID-19 in-patients and symptomatic ambulatory patients with limited work in a community-based screening setting. This study has shown good diagnostic accuracy for saliva and the feasibility for its utilization as a potential specimen of choice in community settings and population-based screening,”*

Use of saliva could exponentially widen the testing network for COVID-19, simplify community testing, and reduce the risk to frontline healthcare professionals. The saliva specimen was self-collected into sterile containers by the patients without requiring the presence of a healthcare professional and did not require the use of preservative transport media while in transit to the laboratory.



Dr. Hanan AlSuwaidi, Co-Lead Investigator of the study and Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, College of Medicine, MBRU, added that another

advantage of employing saliva testing is that it would reduce the strain on critical health equipment and eliminate the need for the use of preservatives and pointed towards being a cost-efficient method of mass-testing.

“With everyone looking for easy alternatives to nasopharyngeal swab, our study shows how the adoption of saliva as specimen for COVID-19 testing can decrease the strain on healthcare resources. For the current nasopharyngeal swab, staff need to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when taking the samples from the patients. With saliva the patients collect their own samples, therefore PPE resources can be freed up for use elsewhere,” she said.



Dr. Hamda Hassan Khansaheb, Head of the Research Section, Medical Education and Research Department at Dubai Health Authority, said: *“At Dubai Health Authority we support and encourage*

collaborative studies with public, private and academic institutions to enhance the research culture, improve research skills among researchers and medical staff, and exchange knowledge. This study to investigate the effectiveness of saliva in diagnosing COVID-19 was carried out jointly between the Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences and the Al Khawaneej Health Center, which is currently serving as a testing center for COVID-19, where a saliva sample was taken from patients along with the nasopharyngeal swab, in addition to recording patient data through the Salama electronic medical record application to study any other factors related to the disease.”

This research study is one of the first research project to receive approval from the Emirates Institutional Review Board for COVID-19 Research. The study and its findings will be published in the peer-reviewed journal *Infection and Drug Resistance*.

To read the study please [click here](#).



MBRU's Research Activity until September 2020

Total **479** publications

College of Medicine **274**

Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine **205**



MBRU Wins Modernization Award for Research & Grant Management Project



At MBRU we aspire to become a leading research-focused medical academic institution and to create an innovative and enriching research environment that will support the advancement of healthcare in the UAE and globally. To that end, MBRU has recently adopted Cayuse, a research administration software, to innovatively and seamlessly ease the process of research and grants management.

The innovative platform will reduce a burden on the administrative staff. It'll allow MBRU to have a system of record for entire research portfolio, track budget details electronically. real-time visibility into project, proposal, and award status, sponsored project lifecycle management from proposal creation to award close-out, analyze MBRU research portfolio data seamlessly via detailed reports and dashboard, facilitate communication between committees, reviewers, and researchers, electronically preparing, submitting, and routing studies for approval, and automated notifications for required tasks.



On the anniversary of our newsletter we asked our readers what they like about MBRU 360, here's what they had to say:



MBRU story telling

Summarizes all our news in one nice channel

Highlights and features MBRU staff

students, events, and achievements

Pleasant presentation

Variety
Design

The diversity of topics and the way the information is presented

The Content

I love how it is like a magazine that talks all about MBRU and its people and their endeavors, Enjoyable!

Describe **MBRU** in one word

Informative

Fertile

Colorful

Amazing

Creative

Jolly

Entertaining

Inspiring

Engaging

Interesting

Returning to MBRU

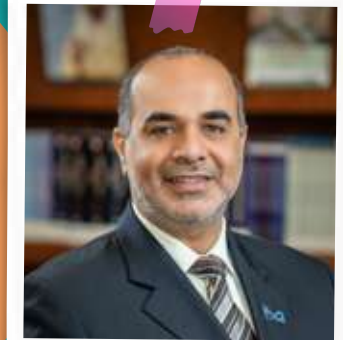


Dr. Mohamed Alameddine
Professor of Health
Management and Policy

New Faces @ MBRU



Dr. Nusrat Khan
Associate Professor
of Psychiatry



Dr. Mahmood Al Mashhadani
Lecturer in the Department
of Basic Medical Sciences

MBRU Faculty and Alumni to Practice at Dubai Dental Hospital



مستشفى
دبي للأسنان
Dubai Dental
HOSPITAL

Dubai Dental Hospital, MBRU's clinical affiliate, and the largest Dental Hospital in Dubai, has signed an agreement with eight faculty members and two alumni from MBRU's Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine to practice at the Hospital widening the scope of services offered.



Dr. Zaid Baqain



Dr. Abdulrahman Tawfik



Dr. Ahmed Ghoniema



Dr. Anas Alsalami



Dr. Mohamed Jamal



Dr. Moosa Abuzayda



Dr. Fatemah Amir



Dr. Rashid Alabed



Dr. Mustafa Abdalla



Dr. Yasser Agha

MBRU Faculty Receives Research Fund from the International Team for Implantology

Chair and Associate Professor of Periodontology, Momen Atieh has received a research grant from the International Team for Implantology (ITI).

ITI is an international institution which has a network of professionals in implant dentistry and aims to support professional development, knowledge sharing and implant research. The research, **Titanium-zirconium narrow (3.3mm) versus standard (4.1mm) diameter dental implants for replacing single posterior missing teeth: a randomized controlled trial**, will take place at Dubai Dental Hospital, MBRU's clinical affiliate and the largest dental hospital in Dubai.



Dental Interns Partake in their First Community Initiative for the Year

On September 15, Dental Interns from the Hamdan Bin Mohammed College of Dental Medicine carried out a community initiative with the objective of spreading oral health awareness and providing complimentary dental check-ups for security and housekeeping personnel at Dubai Healthcare City.



**Upcoming
EVENTS**



**BMI (Virtual)
October 16, 2020**



**Najah Exhibition (Virtual)
October 28- 30, 2020**



THE WORD WIZARDS
Razan Abusabha
Safia Benbrahim

THE CREATIVES
Glendon Potato
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 your suggestions, or story submissions at:
MBRUcommunications@mbru.ac.ae