



مركز إمبريال كوليدج لندن للسكري
IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON DIABETES CENTRE

WALK UAE 2009 POST-EVENT PHOTO RELEASE – Dailies – health, sports, lifestyle, events, tabloid; Online

**Record-breaking diabetes walkathon as more than
10,000 pace 5kms at Yas Marina Circuit
Community comes out in full support of the awareness and
prevention campaign by ICLDC**

**WALK UAE 2009
'START WALKING. LIVE HEALTHILY'
(In support of World Diabetes Day)**

**Concluded on Friday November 20 2009
Yas Marina Circuit,
Yas Island, Abu Dhabi, UAE
(For more information visit www.Diabetesuae.ae)**



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

**Imperial College
London**

A research and teaching affiliate

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The Specialist Diabetes Treatment & Research Centre LLC. Commercial Registration No. 837382



Abu Dhabi, November 21 2009: More than 10,000 people joined the WALK UAE 2009 walkathon at the Yas Marina Circuit to raise the public awareness of diabetes, and broke a record to boot.

The event organisers, Imperial College London Diabetes Centre, confirmed that the five kilometre walk around the Yas Marina Circuit received the biggest turnout for the diabetes walkathon, up by more than 30 percent on last year.

ICLDC's chairman, Mark Erhart and board member, Suhail Al Ansari joined the bumper crowd of walkers from organisations, families and individuals (yesterday, Friday November 20 2009) in an effort to endorse regular walking as an easy-to-manage step in maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Walk UAE 2009, the capital's third annual walkathon against diabetes, is the hallmark initiative in UAE to bring diabetes to the forefront of community. It forms part of 'Diabetes Knowledge Action' public awareness campaign by ICLDC, under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, and in partnership with Emirates Foundation for Philanthropy.

Emirates Foundation's, Maytha Al Habsi also joined the walk, as did Dr Michael Bitzer, CEO of Daman – the National Insurance Company. Daman pledged its support as the exclusive sponsor of WALK UAE 2009 for the third time, a role cemented since the event's inaugural walk in 2007.

Dr Maha Taysir Barakat, Medical & Research Director and Consultant Endocrinologist, ICLDC said: "The UAE has second highest diabetes prevalence in the world, with more than 20 per cent of the population living with diabetes.

"A sedentary lifestyle and unhealthy eating habits are cited as the main causes of the increasing prevalence of type 2 diabetes in the UAE, and a 30-minute brisk walk each day can help manage and even prevent it."



In recent years diabetes has reached epidemic levels worldwide, with children as young as seven years of age developing diabetes and ICLDC aims to help reverse this prevalence through awareness.

The International Diabetes Federation (IDF) has stated that up to 58 percent of type 2 diabetes is preventable by adopting a healthy diet and increasing physical activity.

- Ends -

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Notes to the Editor

About Imperial College London Diabetes Centre

Imperial College London Diabetes Centre is a one-stop, state-of-the-art, out-patient facility that specialises in diabetes treatment, research, training and public health awareness.

The purpose-built Centre is an initiative of Mubadala Healthcare, in partnership with the UK's Imperial College London. Mubadala Healthcare, a division of Mubadala Development Company, is specifically dedicated to investment in strategic, high value and economically sustainable projects that meaningfully enhance the private healthcare infrastructure of Abu Dhabi and the UAE.

The launch of ICLDC in 2006 is a testament to the vision of Mubadala Healthcare to develop projects that protect and enhance the nation's health. In the past three years, ICLDC has offered diabetes prevention, education and treatment to more than 90,000 people.

'Diabetes. Knowledge. Action', is the award-winning public health awareness campaign from ICLDC. It was launched in 2007 under the patronage of HH Shaikha Fatima bint Mubarak, in partnership with The Emirates Foundation for Philanthropy.



ICLDC is located on Abu Dhabi's Khaleej Al Arabi Street, near the exhibition centre and next to the Zayed Military Hospital.

For more details visit: www.icldc.ae www.diabetesuae.ae

About the Emirates Foundation for Philanthropy:

The Emirates Foundation is one of the UAE's foremost philanthropic organizations. It offers financial and technical support to projects that enrich the lives of people in the Emirates, particularly in the areas of youth development, knowledge creation, and Society and Culture.

The Foundation facilitates links between commercial businesses and the public sector to devise new projects and strengthen existing non-profit initiatives throughout the country. Its funding comes from annual donations and an endowment fund supported by the Abu Dhabi government and private companies.

Its six key areas of interest are Education; Science and Technology; Arts and Culture; Social Development; Environmental Awareness and Public Awareness.

Launched on April 12 2005 by H.H Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, its Board of Directors is chaired by Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

About National Health Insurance Company - Daman

The National Health Insurance Company - Daman, was established on 01 May 2006. Today it is the region's leading health insurance company, providing comprehensive healthcare solutions to over 1.8 Million members in the UAE via the largest network of private hospitals and pharmacies available.

With affordable health insurance for people of all income levels, Daman offers international standard healthcare insurance cover for both individuals and companies.

A 24-hour dedicated Medical Authorisation Center, staffed by a team of doctors and nurses, ensures that patient enquiries are dealt with speedily and efficiently using the most sophisticated technology available. A second customer hotline, also open 24/7 and



manned by multilingual staff, guarantees that UAE residents can access information about plans and their insurance cover whenever and wherever they want.

With an international network, Daman's customers have access to healthcare provision in 43 countries across the world, depending on the terms of their personal cover www.damanhealth.ae