

Diabetes centre opens in Abu Dhabi

IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON DIABETES CENTRE TO OFFER MULTI-DISCIPLINARY FACILITY

By a staff reporter

ABU DHABI — A state-of-the-art new specialised diabetes centre, the largest of its kind in the UAE and the Middle East, has been inaugurated in the capital under an agreement with the United Kingdom Imperial College, London.

Dubbed as the Imperial College London Diabetes Centre (ICLDC), the high tech out-patient medical facility offers world-class diabetes management based on the most up-to-date evidence-based medicine.

The multi-disciplinary facility, wholly owned by Mubadala Development, a public joint stock company, is founded on four pillars: treatment, research, training and public health, as a model to provide the most comprehensive treatment for diabetes today, said Dr Maha Taysir Barakat, Medical and Research Director at ICLDC.

The number of patients with diabetes is increasing dramatically in the UAE. Currently, it is estimated that there is 20.1 per cent prevalence in the country, she said. At least 24 per cent of nationals and 17.4 per cent of expatriates have diabetes, and 85-95 per cent of diabetes in the country is Type 2, cautioned Dr Barakat.

"According to recent international statistics the UAE ranks second among five top countries with high prevalence of the disease," she said.

Elaborating on the facilities, she said the ICLDC provides diabetic patients with expertise in reversal of insulin resistance and prevention of Type 2 diabetes, paediatric and gestational diabetes health care, latest echocardiography technology to detect earliest signs of heart complications from diabetes, on-site retinal laser machines for diabetes

complications, nephrologist familiar with kidney complications of diabetes and clinics to manage urological complications of diabetes.

Besides the centre provides patients with clinical dietetics and nutrition and on-site specialist to manage foot problems related to diabetes. In addition, ICLDC will spearhead a number of public health programmes aimed at detecting and implementing intensive prevention programmes for individuals at high risk of developing diabetes in the UAE.

Established in 1907, the Imperial College London, is a collaborative merger of a number of leading schools of science, technology and medicine from throughout the UK. It is an independent body of the University of London dedicated to outstanding education and research in science, engineering and medicine.



DR MAHA BARAKAT