

CPH holds 3rd IPE activity on Smoking Cessation

Over 91 students from CPH and CHS, University of Calgary in Qatar (UCQ), and College of the North Atlantic-Qatar (CNA-Q) participated in the third IPE activity on Smoking Cessation which was recently organized by CPH Interprofessional Education Committee (IPEC).

The event which was hosted at UCQ featured an overview on IPE by CPH Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Ms Alla El-Awaisi and a presentation by CPH Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy and Practice Dr Ahmed Awaisu on the role of health care professionals in smoking cessation to ensure a healthier society. It also included a patient-case scenario in which students interacted with a 65-year-old heavy smoker suffering from multiple diseases including Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). The students discussed the case from their professional perspective and made a collaborative management plan to help the patient stop smoking.

Dr Alla El-Awaisi said: “This event aligns with CPH goals to provide students with opportunities in which they can develop and heighten their skills such as communication, teamwork and problem-solving. It also highlights our commitment to offer our students with a platform where they can interact and exchange knowledge with their peers from the health care profession. This contributes to enrich their interprofessional experience as they engage in out-of-the-classroom activities, which ensures their readiness to start working in Qatar’s healthcare system.”

CPH Clinical Pharmacy and Practice Section Head Dr Maguy El Hajj said: “Smoking is one of the primary causes of mortality and morbidity in Qatar and in the world. Smoking cessation can confer significant healthcare benefits including decreased risk of cardiac diseases and smoking-related cancers. Adopting a multidisciplinary approach that includes different healthcare professionals can improve the effectiveness of smoking cessation interventions. In this IPE activity, Qatar health care students had the chance to exchange information about the roles and responsibilities of different team members and they learnt how they can collaborate to help smokers to quit. This activity will serve as an impetus for them to incorporate multi-disciplinary approaches to treat tobacco use in the future.”

CHS Assistant Professor at the Department of Public Health Dr Karam Adawi said: “Through this IPE activity, our students had hands-on experience in patient-focused care where they collaborated with other health professionals to solve a patient case. Furthermore, this collaboration provides a solid base towards continuum and integrated care practices in students’ future careers. I would like to thank all participants, especially the organizers, and look forward to having more successful IPE activities.”

UCQ Senior Nursing Instructor Dr Jessie Johnson said: “As a facilitator it was inspiring to see the potential scope for patient care, when future healthcare professionals become truly collaborative, as seen during this IPE event involving students from almost every health care discipline.”

CNA-Q Instructor of Paramedicine Aileen Boyd said: “IPE events such as the smoking cessation exercise are a reminder that in healthcare, we must use a team approach to ensure our patients receive the most appropriate and individualized care possible. When we introduce this concept of IPE to our students, and allow the real time practice of it, it is

insurance that future generations in healthcare will adopt this in their profession as the normal approach rather than the abnormal.”

2nd-year CPH student Iqrah Qurishi said: “We, the health care practitioners, are different puzzle pieces of the same jigsaw puzzle. Alone we do not have a proper aim; together we form a clear picture towards optimizing the care provided to the patient. Also, we learn together and inter-professionally to respect and achieve the best and the highest care for our patients.”