

Pharmacy and Nursing Students Engage in Shared Learning

Qatar University College of Pharmacy's (QU CPH) 3rd year students joined the University of Calgary-Qatar 2nd year Nursing students for an interprofessional exercise related to the shared care of patients with Diabetes and acute complications of diabetic ketoacidosis on October 25, 2015 at the University of Calgary campus in Doha.

Students worked together in small teams on a specific diabetic ketoacidosis case, a complication of type 1 diabetes mellitus. The highly interactive group focused on examining different healthcare professionals roles, including how and whom to best treat the patient throughout the various stages, from admittance to emergency care through to the patient discharge from the hospital.

The students shared ideas giving them a chance to further develop their skills. Nursing students were able to learn more about designing insulin dosing regimen strategies and calculations, while Pharmacy students in turn gained new appreciation for administration techniques. These interprofessional activities enhance the way in which health-care professionals learn from each other and strengthen information-sharing that will ultimately benefit of the patient. Dr. Ahmed Awaisu said: "Participating in these sessions provides the students a chance to grow their interprofessional and collaborative skills in both a day to day learning environment, as well as take the knowledge and skills forward in their career. We hope it promotes the spirit of collaboration among our professions and continues to strengthen these relationships" .

Third year pharmacy student Alaa Salash stated: "Participating in these interactive workshops enhances our understanding of one another's professional responsibilities when it comes to treating the patient as well as improving our understanding of the educational curriculum. It really helps us grow as professionals in the field of healthcare".

Pharmacy and Nursing students have now met for 3 consecutive years to participate in this popular shared learning experience. The IPE activity is coordinated by Dr. Kerry Wilbur (QU CPH), and Zohra Hasnani-Samnani (Nursing Instructor UC-Q). They were joined this year by QU CPH Facilitators Dr. Ahmed Awaisi and Dr Hebatallah Deghady as well as Carolyn Wolsey, Kathleen de Leon-Demare, and Daphne Kennedy from UC-Q.