On behalf of the scientific committee, it is my pleasure to invite you to attend the 1st Abu Dhabi International Conference on Vitamin D Deficiency, scheduled to be held at Rocco Forte Hotel, Abu Dhabi, on March 23, 2012.

Lack of adequate sun exposure, vitamin D supplementation and fortification puts us at an increased risk for a number of serious illnesses including cancer, heart disease, diabetes, respiratory infections, allergy, rickets, psoriasis, osteoporosis, autoimmune diseases, neurological disorders such as multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer’s disease as well as common cold and flu. At the conference, the physicians, researchers and scientists working in the field of vitamin D will discuss current research and clinical practices related to vitamin D. We are proud to organize and host this event that will bring together high caliber speakers and experts in the field.

Healthcare professionals will hear directly from some of the world’s leading vitamin D experts about the current vitamin D deficiency crisis in the UAE, Middle East, and the rest of the world. The conference will address the role of vitamin D in pregnancy, lactation, cardiovascular diseases, neurological disorders, cancer, and the diagnosis and treatment of vitamin D deficiency. A special lecture will be conducted on non-classical functions and molecular biology of vitamin D.

The scientific committee has put together a comprehensive program on this topic. We hope that the conference will promote diffusion of up-to-date scientific information and offers participants the opportunity to develop fruitful collaborations. We look forward to your participation and to welcome you on March 23, 2012 at the conference.

Dr. Afrozul Haq, Ph.D.
Chairman, Scientific Committee
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tr>
<td>08:00 - 08:30</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:30 – 08:40</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Introduction</td>
<td>Dr. Laila Abdel-Wareth, MBCH, FCAP, FRCPC, EMHCA</td>
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<td>Department of Pathology &amp; Laboratory Medicine, Sheikh Khalifa Medical City Abu-Dhabi, UAE</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:40 - 09:20</td>
<td>Global Vitamin D Deficiency and its Role in Health and Disease</td>
<td>Dr. Afrozul Haq. Ph.D., Senior Clinical Scientist, Pathology &amp; Laboratory Medicine Institute, Shaikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE</td>
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<td>09:20 - 10:00</td>
<td>The Role of Vitamin D in Reducing Risk of Cardiovascular Disease</td>
<td>Prof. William B. Grant, Ph.D., Director, Sunlight, Nutrition, and Health Research Center (SUNARC), San Francisco, California, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:10</td>
<td>Panel Discussion</td>
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<td>10:10 - 10:25</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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**SESSION – ONE: CHAIR PERSONS**

**Dr. Afrozul Haq. Ph.D.,** Senior Clinical Scientist, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Institute, Shaikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE

**Dr. Laila Abdel-Wareth, MBCH, FCAP, FRCPC, EMHCA,** Chair and Consultant
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu-Dhabi, UAE

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**SESSION – TWO: CHAIR PERSONS**

**Prof. William B. Grant, Ph.D., Director,** Sunlight, Nutrition, and Health Research Center, San Francisco, California, USA

**Imran Mirza, MBBS, MS, FCAP, FASCP, FRCPC,** Hematopathologist / Molecular Pathologist, Section Head, Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology

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<tr>
<td>10:25 - 11:05</td>
<td>Vitamin D Supplementation During Pregnancy and Its Effect on Pregnancy Outcomes</td>
<td>Prof. Bruce Hollis, Ph.D., Director of Paediatric Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:05 – 11:45</td>
<td>The Molecular Mechanisms Involved in Vitamin D Action</td>
<td>Dr. Meis Moukayed, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Natural Sciences &amp; Coordinator of Science, American University, Dubai, UAE</td>
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<td>11:45 – 12:25</td>
<td>Public Health Measurements in Preventing Vitamin D Deficiency</td>
<td>Dr. Arwa Al Modwahi, MD, Master of Public Health Nutrition, Senior Officer, School and Family Health Section, Health Authority-Abu Dhabi</td>
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<td>12:25 – 12:35</td>
<td>Panel Discussion</td>
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<td>12:35 – 14:00</td>
<td>Prayer &amp; Lunch Break</td>
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**SESSION - THREE: CHAIR PERSONS**

**Prof. Bruce Hollis, Ph.D,** Director of Paediatric Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina, USA

**Arwa Al Modwahi, MD,** Master of Public Health Nutrition, Senior Officer, School and Family Health Section, Health Authority-Abu Dhabi

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<tr>
<td>14:00 – 14:40</td>
<td>Analytical Measurement of Vitamin D</td>
<td>Dr. Laila Abdel-Wareth, MBBCh, FCAP, FRCPC, EMHCA Department of Pathology &amp; Laboratory Medicine, Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu-Dhabi, UAE</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:40 – 15:20</td>
<td>Metrological Traceability Key to Standardization &amp; Harmonization of Vitamin D</td>
<td>Mr. Shoukat A Khan Quality Specialist, Medical Laboratory Department, Riyadh Military Hospital, KSA</td>
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<td>15:20 – 15:40</td>
<td>Panel Discussion</td>
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<td>15:40 – 15:55</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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**SESSION – FOUR: CHAIR PERSONS**

**Dr. Laila Abdel-Wareth, MBBCh, FCAP, FRCPC, EMHCA,** Chair and Consultant Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu-Dhabi, UAE

**Mr. Shoukat A Khan, Quality Specialist,** Medical Laboratory Department, Riyadh Military Hospital, KSA

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<td>15:55 – 16:35</td>
<td>The Impact of Life Style &amp; Dietary Habits on Vitamin D Status Among Young Emiratis</td>
<td>Dr. Fatme Al Anouti, Ph.D, Assistant Professor, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi, UAE</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:35 – 17:15</td>
<td>Importance of Vitamin D for Pregnant Women and Developing Fetuses</td>
<td>Prof. William B. Grant, Ph.D., Director, Sunlight, Nutrition, and Health Research Center, San Francisco, California, USA</td>
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<td>17:15 – 17:35</td>
<td>Panel Discussion</td>
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<td>17:35 - 17:45</td>
<td>Closing Remarks and Adjournment</td>
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Conference Objectives:
Upon completion of this educational activity, participants will be able to:

- Identify the reasons of vitamin D deficiency in the UAE, Middle East and the world
- Describe issues related to laboratory measurement of vitamin D
- Discuss known as well as potential consequences of vitamin D deficiency
- Explain various biological pathways of vitamin D metabolism
- Describe the current clinical practice guidelines and their relevance
- Provide a rationale for selecting vitamin D2 or D3 as supplement and dosage

Key topics:
1. Vitamin D global status and its role in health and disease
2. Laboratory methods used for the measurement of Vitamin D status
3. Role of vitamin D in cardiovascular diseases
4. The molecular mechanisms of Vitamin D action
5. Vitamin D deficiency and sun avoidance in Abu Dhabi
6. Vitamin D in children and supplements: a balanced approach
7. Vitamin D supplements in pregnancy
8. Importance of vitamin D in pregnancy and developing fetuses

Scientific Committee
Dr. Afrozul Haq, Ph.D.
Chairman, Scientific Committee
Senior Clinical Scientist
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Institute
Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Dr. Laila Abdel-Wareth, MD.
Chairperson, Consultant
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Institute
Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Prof. Bruce Hollis, Ph.D.
Director of Paediatric Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina, USA

Dr. Jaishen Rajah, MD.
Consultant, Pediatrics Institute, Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Prof. William B. Grant, Ph.D.
Director, Sunlight, Nutrition, and Health Research Center, P.O. Box 641603, San Francisco, CA 94164-1603, USA

Key Speakers
- Dr. Afrozul Haq, Ph.D., Senior Clinical Scientist, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Institute, SKMC, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Dr. Laila Abdel-Wareth, MD, Chairperson, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Institute, SKMC, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Prof. William B. Grant, Ph.D., Director, Sunlight, Nutrition, and Health Research Center P.O. Box 641603, San Francisco, CA 94164-1603, USA
- Prof. Bruce Hollis, Ph.D, Director of Paediatric Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina, USA
- Mr. Showkat Ali Khan, Division of Clinical Biochemistry, Department of Pathology, Armed Forces Hospital, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- Dr. Arwa Al Modwahi, MD, Master of Public Health Nutrition, Senior Officer, School and Family Health Section, Health Authority-Abu Dhabi
- Dr. Meis Moukayed, Ph.D, Associate Professor of Natural Sciences & Coordinator of Science, American University, Dubai, UAE
- Dr. Fatme Al Anouti, PhD, Assistant Professor, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Who Should Attend
Physicians, Scientists, Researchers, Laboratory Technologists, Nurses and Allied Healthcare Professionals

Registration Fees:
AED 600

For registration, please contact:
Ms. Maria
Mobile: +971 56 7620028
Mobile: +971 50 7617355
Phone: +971 2 4919888
Fax: +971 4919998
Email: maria@menaconf.com - info@menaconf.com

Dr. Afrozul Haq
Mobile: +971505450046
Email: afhaq@skmc.ae – haq2000@gmail.com

Limited sponsorships & exhibition spaces available

For more information, please contact +971 50 7617355 or +971 56 7620028
1st Abu Dhabi International Conference on Vitamin D Deficiency

DATE: March 23, 2012
LOCATION: Rocco Forte Hotel, Abu Dhabi
REGISTRATION FEES: AED 600

Pre-registration is required as limited seats are available

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