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University of Calgary gets \$800,000 research grant
 Thursday, 24 May 2012



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DOHA: The University of Calgary – Qatar has been awarded an \$800,000 grant to research 'Depression amongst cardiovascular patients in Qatar.'

"Given that cardiovascular diseases are rising worldwide and in Qatar, it is imperative that we investigate what Arab cardiovascular patients and their health care providers in Qatar are experiencing with mental health issues and care in order to increase awareness, promote early recognition, and treatment of depression, which will, in turn, improve both quality of life and survival of cardiovascular patients," explains Dr Tam Truong Donnelly Associate Professor, University of Calgary-Qatar (Lead Principal Investigator).

Dr Jassim Al Suwaidi, Director of Hamad Medical Cooperation Cardiovascular Research Department, will serve as a co-investigator in the project.

He said: "In Qatar, cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death. Studies show that depression is associated with an increased morbidity and mortality among cardiovascular patients. Thus, early detection of and intervention for depression among cardiovascular patients can reduce cardiovascular morbidity and mortality, and save health care costs."

The research team will include Hamad Medical Cooperation cardiologists, Dr Awad Al Qahtani, Dr Nidal Asaad, HMC psychiatrist: Dr Najla Al Hajj, HMC Biostatstician: Dr Rayvir Singh, Dr. Tak Shing Fung, Senior Mathematical/Statistical Consultant, University of Calgary, main campus will also serve as consultant.

"I am so very happy and grateful to QNRF for granting the award. We can now work on a project that will address the health care needs and benefit people of Qatar," concluded Dr Donnelly.

The Peninsula

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