

## **STUDENTS FROM COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF SHARJAH SECURED TOP THREE POSITIONS IN EIGHTH UNDERGRADUATE VIRTUAL RESEARCH COMPETITION IN UAE**

Under the Patronage of H.E. Hussain Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Minister of Education, Abu Dhabi University organized and hosted the Eighth Undergraduate Virtual Research Competition. Three teams of College of Medicine, University of Sharjah participated and secured top three positions in Public Health Science category on 8th June, 2021. The projects were conducted during the CBR course, which is taught and coordinated by Dr. Amal Hussein, Lecturer at College of Medicine, University of Sharjah and offered by the Department of Family and Community Medicine, which is chaired by Prof. Nabil Sulaiman.

"Hepatitis A in the United Arab Emirates" by Kamel Samara, Moza Alzaabi, Faya Alraddawi (Year 3 Students) got first place, Dr. Hiba Barqawi and Dr. Amal Hussein were the mentors. "Sitting Behaviors Impact on Musculoskeletal Disorders among University of Sharjah Students" secured second position, presented by Year 4 students i.e. Sarah Hag Ali and Ahmad Sawan, mentored by Dr. Mohammad Eladl and Dr. Amal Hussein. Whereas, "Herpes Zoster Vaccination: Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices" by Teba Al- Khalidi, Radwa Genidy, Muna Almutawa (Year 4 students), mentored by Dr. Hiba Barqawi and Dr. Amal Hussein, won third place.

Prof. Qutayba Hamid Vice Chancellor, Medical Colleges and Health Sciences, Dean of the College of Medicine, University of Sharjah said, "I want to take this opportunity to personally congratulate students and mentors on winning the competition, the College of Medicine, University of Sharjah is extremely proud of all that you've accomplished. These types of competitions encourage and promote scientific research amongst undergraduate students; they also provide excellent opportunities to the students to display their skills and talent. Our students are our core strength and I have no doubt that we will continue to achieve and win competitions like these in future, building upon our reputation of excellence in the region and beyond."

Prof. Nabil Sulaiman, Head of Department of Family & Community Medicine, the founder of this program said, "Achievements like these brings honor and pride to the College and University. I heartily congratulate the students and the mentors on achieving this huge success. Competitions like these support the idea of nurturing innovation amongst students, they also enhance student's confidence in research abilities thereby strengthening their critical and analytical skills. I hope that our students will represent and participate in more competitions like these and represents the College of Medicine, University of Sharjah on International platforms."

The Eighth Undergraduate Virtual Research Competition aimed at encouraging universities in the GCC to promote scientific research among undergraduate students and to make it an integral part of university education, given the significance of scientific research in advancing the country to the top ranks. It also aimed to instill life-long learning and to enhance career opportunities for young people, as well as foster entrepreneurial mindsets and attitudes in education, research, and innovation.