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Qatar Foundation Telegraph.

QATAR FOUNDATION'S FORTNIGHTLY NEWSPAPER ISSUE 130 THURSDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2015

RESEARCH QF entity continues to play leading role in the development of personalized medicine

Qatar Biobank releases important results of a two-year pilot project

QATAR Biobank, a member of Qatar Foundation (QF), has released the findings of its two-year operational pilot phase, which reveal that 76 percent of male and 70 percent of female participants, from a sample of 1,200 people, are either overweight or obese. It also reveals that 52.7 per cent of male participants and 31.7 per cent of female participants recorded pre-hypertensive (normal-high blood pressure levels) or hypertensive.

As Qatar and the surrounding region continue to witness an increase in the number of people affected by diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular disease, and cancer, the report illustrates how Qatar Biobank continues to play a leading role in the development of personalised medicine through the field of genomics.

The findings were announced by the leadership of Qatar Biobank at a media conference held at Hamad bin Khalifa University Student Center on 28 January 2015. The work of Qatar Biobank is supporting QF's mission to enhance innovation and technology through medical research that is focused on addressing Qatar's most pressing health issues; foster a progressive society; and promote healthy lifestyles.

"As Qatar's scientists and scholars



From left, Professor Abdul-Badi Abou-Samra, Chairman of the Medicine Department, Hamad Medical Corporation; Dr Hanan Al Kuwari, Chairperson, Qatar Biobank Board of Trustees; Dr Hadi Abderrahim, Managing Director, Qatar Biobank; Dr Nahla Afifi, Scientific and Education Manager, Qatar Biobank; Ms Fatima Qafoud, Head of Clinical Services, Qatar Biobank

continue to engage in the shift from traditional genomics as the mapping of an individual's DNA, to population-based studies that will improve the lives of future generations, the ongoing medical research on the causes of prevalent diseases in Qatar and the initial findings of the pilot phase once again reveal the value of the work under way at Qatar

Biobank," said Dr Hadi Abderrahim, Managing Director, Qatar Biobank.

By spearheading the Qatar Genome Project, announced by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation, and Vice Chairperson of the Supreme Council of Health, during the 2013 World Innovation Summit for Health, a QF initiative,

Qatar Biobank continues to help chart a road map for future treatment through personalised medicine.

"I would like to thank all of the volunteers who have come forward so far," said Dr Hanan Al Kuwari, Chairperson of Qatar Biobank. "These volunteers are not only helping us build one of the world's largest population-based

biobanks, they are contributing to improving the health of the people of Qatar. Qatar Biobank is committed to raising the Arab world's profile in the field of biomedical research, leading efforts for greater regional collaboration in this field, and creating an invaluable resource for research to develop medical treatments for an Arab population."

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Qatari students learn practical skills and tools
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"QF is committed to supporting delivery of the sustainability goals set out in the Qatar National Vision 2030 by raising awareness and promoting best practices"

Engineer Saad Ebrahim Al Muhannadi, President, QF
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BEHIND THE SCENES



GU-Q organizes successful 10th Model United Nations
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