

AUB Inaugurates the P. AbouKhater Ambulatory Care Center and the First Wound Care Center in Lebanon

The American University of Beirut inaugurated the first wound care center in Lebanon as well as a multi-specialty ambulatory care facility on Monday December 29, thanks to a generous \$2-million gift made by the late businessman, Pierre Y. AbouKhater Fahed, shortly before his untimely death in 2001.

The Pierre Y. AbouKhater Ambulatory Care Center and the Graham and Meredith Rooke Wound Care Center will offer sophisticated patient centered wound care in one facility, grouping all specialties services and procedures to achieve optimal outcome in the shortest period of time. Almost 160 doctors are currently enrolled in the ambulatory care program at the center.

AbouKhater, the Chairman and CEO of the Globe Group of Companies, had been a patient at the Mayo Clinic, where he was being treated by Dr. Thom Rooke--a renowned cardiovascular researcher who founded the Mayo Clinic Wound Care Center--when he felt inspired to establish a similar patient care center in Lebanon. AbouKhater also decided to name the wound care center after Rooke's children, Graham and Meredith, both of whom had died very young when a truck crashed into the family car.

Not only did the center receive Rooke's name but also his training skills, medical and fundraising expertise which he readily offered to AUB.

"This is a big dream come true," said Dr. Nadim Cortas, vice-president of medical affairs and the Raja N. Khuri Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Medical Center, during the unveiling ceremony. "Pierre started from humble beginnings, working as a delivery boy because he loved to ride bicycles but could not afford to buy one for himself," recounted Cortas.

A self-taught man, AbouKhater was known for his engaging personality and networking skills, which helped him succeed as a businessman in Lebanon, China, and the United States, Cortas added. AbouKhater had also donated to various educational institutions all over

Lebanon, including scholarship funds at AUB, and had built a school for girls in China.

"I am honored to...pay tribute to the life of a man whose generosity was boundless," said Cortas. "He wanted others to have and enjoy the same medical opportunities he had."

Pierre AbouKhater's widow, Terry, spoke with emotion about her late husband, saying that he would have been proud to see the patient care centers in operation. "If Pierre were to live longer, he would have done even more," she said. "Giving was a joy to him."

AUB President Peter Dorman also paid tribute to the late donor who "was responsible for shepherding this initiative to a successful conclusion."

Dorman added that not only did AbouKhater's gift permit AUB to renovate the old outpatient department but also to initiate "a new way of offering patient care," by pooling the expertise of different specialists into each medical case.

"I am deeply impressed by the philanthropy and vision of Pierre AbouKhater," said Dorman.

Closing the inauguration ceremony was Dr. Thom Rooke, who said he was deeply moved by the event which meant a lot to him. Rooke then explained the type of wounds that such a care center could treat, including those resulting from modern-day diseases such as diabetes and atherosclerosis. "A wound care center is a place bringing together the right people into the right place for the right purpose," he said.

Following the ceremony, attendees, among whom was Health Minister Mohammed Jawad Khalifeh, were given a tour of the facility by Master of Ceremonies Dr. Ismail Khalil, who heads the division of vascular surgery as well as the new wound care center.



Minister Khalifeh, VP Cortas, Mrs. Aboukhater, President Dorman, Dr. Khalil, Dr. Dib, Mr and Mrs Rooke at the entrance of the Pierre Y. Aboukhater (Fahed) building



Mrs. Aboukhater addressing the attendees



At the entrance of the Graham and Meredith Rooke Wound Care Center



Clemenceau Medical Center Accredited by Joint Commission International

Clemenceau Medical Center in affiliation with Johns Hopkins international has achieved accreditation from Joint Commission International (JCI), USA. With this, Clemenceau Medical Center joins an exclusive group of few hospitals worldwide, which have passed JCI's stringent clinical quality standards. Joint Commission International (JCI), the international arm of JCAHO, the organization that reviews and accredits American hospitals.

The JCI accreditation was awarded to Clemenceau medical center after a rigorous onsite evaluation by an international surveyor team of healthcare experts in January this year. The surveyors spent four days interviewing staff and hospital leaders on policies and procedures. The surveyors also looked in detail at hospital care for individual patients and they surveyed each department individually. The physical plant of the hospital, equipment, outsourced services, were subjected to evaluation, they focus as well on aspects such as patient safety, patient rights, medication management, bedside policies and procedures, surgical infection and credentialing of medical staff and nurses, leadership of the organization and many others. The Patient Tracer methodology was followed. This involved following the patient's from admission to discharge, and included examination of patient records and interviewing medical staff. In JCI, there are 1145 measurable parameters, which to get accredited, a hospital has to fully meet these parameters and Clemenceau medical center has passed this test with distinction.

In the letter addressed to Dr. Mounes Kalaawi CMC Chief executive officer, Ms. Ann. Jacobson, Executive Director of JCIA stated, "The Joint Commission International Accreditation has reviewed the hospital accreditation Survey Findings for Clemenceau medical center. It is with great pleasure that I inform you of the decision to grant accreditation to the Clemenceau medical center Medical Center. She added, the citizens of Lebanon should be proud that Clemenceau medical center is focusing on this most challenging goal - to continuously raise quality to higher levels.



Johns Hopkins Medicine International supported CMC in the JCI accreditation preparation assessments and." We commend the executive team, doctors, nursing staff, and all the ancillary and support staff of Clemenceau Medical Center for their commitment to providing quality care that meets the highest international health care standards in safety and quality," says

Harris Benny, CEO of Johns Hopkins Medicine International. "We are confident that reaching this milestone will help CMC become one of the leading medical facilities in the region and enable it to provide world-class health care to the local community and beyond."

The JCI Accreditation today is a recognition of our commitment to this excellence which has been CMC's passion all along says Dr. Mounes Kalaawi, Chief Executive Officer of CMC " Excellence and relentless commitment for high quality patient care is deeply instilled in Clemenceau Medical Center's culture and this is personified in CMC's physicians, nurses and staff. People who share a single focus and are devoted to helping patients. They are inspired to offer great service and gain the community confidence". Achieving JCI is not only CMC internal milestone, but also one for Lebanon as a hub and center of medical excellence in the region. It officially recognizes that the practices of our doctors, nurses, staff and the management team at CMC meet the standards of best facilities in the world.

About the Clemenceau Medical Center

Clemenceau Medical Center affiliated with Johns Hopkins Medicine International is a state-of-the-art medical center in the heart of Beirut. The mission of the center is "Caring, Safety, Excellence". It is JCI accredited and capable of delivering high quality healthcare services in a timely, cost efficient and pleasant environment to patients from Lebanon and the Middle East. CMC houses all the specialties branches and is fully equipped with the most advanced medical technology.