

ssmc

مدينة الشيخ شخبوط الطبية  
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City

In partnership with مع الشراكة  
MAYO CLINIC

80050  
ssmc.ae



ssmc

مدينة الشيخ شخبوط الطبية  
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City

In partnership with مع الشراكة  
MAYO CLINIC



Center for Graduate  
Medical Education



## Our mission

The Center for Graduate Medical Education (GME) aims to build and continuously improve education excellence in programs of medical internship, residency and fellowship. Our GME programs aim to provide a learner-centered environment that fosters the development of knowledge, skill and professional competence.

## Message from the designated institutional official

Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC) adopts the mission to “inspire hope and promote health through integrated clinical practice, education and research”. The Center for Graduate Medical Education, governed by the Graduate Medical Education Committee and its chair, the designated institutional official, is committed to building and continuously improving education excellence in programs of medical internship, residency and fellowship. Our GME programs provide a learner-centered environment that fosters the development of knowledge, skill and professional competence.



The center also provides the necessary educational, financial and human resources to meet and exceed all training requirements and standards of accreditation including leadership and faculty-protected time, scholarly activities and faculty development, technology support and simulation facilities, trainee supervision, safety and wellness, and faculty, staff and trainee reward and recognition.

The unwavering commitment of Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City to its sponsored and participating programs is a reflection of its integral strategy in building the future workforce and developing the next generation of health care leaders.

### **Abdulkarim Saleh, MD**

Associate Dean of Education  
Designated Institutional Official  
Center for Graduate Medical Education

## Our accreditation boards

- National Institute for Health Specialties
- Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I)
- Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada
- Arab Board for Health Specialties
- Jordanian Medical Board

## Institutional accreditation by the NIHS



## Our training outcomes for 2022

Placement	Number of Graduates
SSMC	11
Other SEHA hospitals	3
Private and government Hospitals	8
Further studies abroad	11

## Outcomes of training 2022

**88%** Composite Board Pass Rate

## Our resident scholarly activities

Research is an integral component and a curricular requirement of training in our programs. Our residents are required to complete a certified didactic course in research methodology administered by Khalifa University. Additionally, residents are provided ample opportunity to contribute to ongoing research projects or initiate research activity under the mentorship and guidance of academic faculty. Residents receive abundant support to assist them in scholarly activities, including presentations in clinical and scientific meetings, and publications in major regional and international peer-reviewed journals.

## Educational resources e-library

- Number of books 26,000
- Periodicals and Journals 9,000



## GME Center programs

### Current programs (positions per year)

Internal medicine	12
Hematology	2
Cardiovascular	2
Rheumatology	2
Gastroenterology	2
Infectious diseases	2
Neurology	2
Emergency medicine	4
Pediatrics	6
Pediatrics	1
Rheumatology	
Pediatric surgery	2
ENT	2

### Planned in 2024 (positions per year)

Radiology	4
Neurosurgery	2
NICU	1
Obstetrics and gynaecology	2
Critical care	4
Orthopedics	2
Ophthalmology	2
Anesthesia	2
General surgery	4

## Internal medicine

- The Internal Medicine Residency Program was established in 2008. It provides comprehensive clinical training with a focus on academic medicine. It aims to equip residents with the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to excel as internists and handle a wide range of diseases in patients. The program benefits not only those pursuing a career in internal medicine but also those interested in subspecialty training and academic medicine.
- A unique aspect of the program is the combination of inpatient and outpatient experiences. Residents gain expertise in diagnosing and treating patients in outpatient settings while managing diverse continuity practices. In inpatient rotations, residents gradually take on more responsibilities in patient care, teaching, supervision and medical knowledge as they progress through the program. The program fosters a strong sense of collegiality and support among residents in both outpatient and inpatient settings.
- The patient population at SSMC includes individuals from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, presenting with a wide range of common and rare diseases.
  - **Duration:** 4 years
  - **Number of residents accepted each year:** 12
  - **Accreditation boards:** National Institute for Health Specialties, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I), Arab Board and Jordanian Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is in process.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of an internship is required to join the Internal Medicine Residency Program.
  - **Interim program director:** Dr. Saqib Iqbal Dara





## Emergency medicine

- The Emergency Medicine Residency Program was established in 2014. The program offers residents the fundamental skills, knowledge and humanistic qualities that constitute the foundations of Emergency Medicine (EM) practices. Residents will develop a level of clinical maturity, judgment and technical skills required to practice EM, the ability to incorporate new skills and knowledge during their careers, as well as monitor their own physical and mental well-being.
- The Emergency Medicine Training Program is well structured, goal-oriented and designed to enrich the knowledge and skills that qualify physicians in training to provide independent, acute care to patients that arrive at the Emergency Department (ED).
- Upon completion of the program, all trained emergency physicians are expected to provide rapid treatment and stabilization of emergencies, as well as quickly differentiate between emergent and non-emergent conditions.
  - **Duration:** 4 years
  - **Number of residents accepted each year:** 4
  - **Accreditation boards:** National Institute for Health Specialties (soon), Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I), Arab Board and Jordanian Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is in process.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of an internship is required to join the Emergency Medicine Residency Program.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Sanjay Ayathan



## Pediatrics

- The Pediatric Residency Program was established in 2008, dividing the year's rotation into 13 equal, four-week clinical rotations.
- The program offers pediatric residents an opportunity to develop and achieve competency in all aspects of health care for children of all ages. The training is hands-on, with graded levels of supervision. This allows residents to transition safely into independent practice and provide care to children across a broad spectrum of health needs and conditions. During their training, the residents will manage a wide range of acute and chronic medical conditions of general and subspecialty pediatrics in both inpatient and ambulatory settings.
  - **Duration:** 4 years
  - **Number of residents accepted each year:** 6
  - **Accreditation boards:** National Institute for Health Specialties, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I), Arab Board, and Jordanian Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is in process.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of an internship is required to join the Pediatric Residency Program.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Gamal Mohamed Hasan Ahmed



## Otolaryngology

- The Otolaryngology Residency Program was established in 2017. Our experienced health professionals and educators will provide students with the comprehensive training required to prepare them for their careers. We follow a mentorship program with rotations set up to cover the subspecialties and various fields of otolaryngology, head and neck surgery. Additionally, we provide students exposure to related specialties such as oral/maxillofacial-trauma surgery, pulmonary medicine, speech and language pathology, audiology and others. The training includes inpatient, outpatient clinics, consultations, operations and procedures.
- Our program has a variety of educational activities including hands-on courses, such as cadaveric dissection that supports students' growth and leverages their competencies for independent practice.
  - **Duration:** 5 years
  - **Number of residents accepted each year:** 2
  - **Accreditation boards:** National Institute for Health Specialties, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I), Arab Board, and Jordanian Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is planned.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of an internship is required to join the Otolaryngology Residency Program.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Sami Jean Melki



## Neurology

- The Neurology Residency Program was established in December 2021. It is the first Arab Board-accredited neurology residency program in the United Arab Emirates. The Neurology Program has a variety of educational activities that support the growth of residents and cultivate competencies in preparation for independent practice. The program recruited the most experienced faculty, who are American board-certified.
- The program offers unique subspecialties and experiences that will enrich the residents' learning journey in an environment that supports autonomy and encourages research.
  - **Duration:** 5 years (1 year in Internal Medicine and 4 years in Neurology)
  - **Number of residents accepted each year:** 2
  - **Accreditation boards:** National Institute for Health Specialties (soon), Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I), and Arab Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is in process.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of an internship is required to join the Neurology Residency Program.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Mohamad Istanbuli



## Pediatric surgery

- The Pediatric Surgery Residency Program was established in December 2021, and is approved by the Department of Health. The program will launch and be available to residents in September 2023.
- Residents in the Pediatric Surgery Program take part in a variety of educational activities that support their development and prepare them for independent practice. The program includes experienced board-certified faculty members across a spectrum of subspecialties, offering an experience that will enrich the residents' learning journey and prepare them for their future in the field of pediatrics.
- The program's learning environment supports autonomy and encourages research.
  - **Duration:** 6 years
  - **Number of residents accepted each year:** 2
  - **Accreditation boards:** Arab Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is planned.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of an internship is required to join the Residency Program.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad Jan Muhammad Suleman



## Rheumatology

- The Department of Rheumatology, Allergy and Immunology provides integrated state-of-the-art diagnosis and treatment of diseases affecting the joints, connective tissue and the immune system, including more than 100 types of arthritis and the spectrum of autoimmune skin diseases. The uniqueness of the department rests on its ability to offer an integrated and interdisciplinary approach to the care and management of complicated and difficult-to-treat rheumatologic conditions.
- The Rheumatology Fellowship Program was established in July 2019, and provides a variety of educational activities that support fellows' growth and leverage competencies in preparation for independent practice. The program offers unique subspecialties and a variety of experiences that will enrich the fellows' learning journey. The program learning environment supports autonomy and encourages research.
  - **Duration:** 3 years
  - **Number of fellows accepted each year:** 2
  - **Accreditation boards:** Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I) and Jordanian Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is planned.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of the Internal Medicine residency program is required to join the Rheumatology Fellowship Program.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Mumtaz Khan



## Cardiology

- Cardiology is a specialty that has seen some of the most revolutionary medical advances that have occurred in the last century. It is a field that embodies a unique mix of hands-on practical applications associated with physiological principles.
- The SSMC Cardiology Fellowship Program was established in 2015. Providing an appropriate mix of patient care, education conferences and professional growth in a collegial and scholarly setting, the program leads to the development of outstanding clinical and academic cardiologists.
- We provide an academically and clinically rigorous training program in general cardiology, as well as advanced training in clinical cardiology subspecialties and cardiovascular research. The SSMC Cardiology Fellowship Program is closely linked to Mayo Clinic in the United States, where our fellows can do electives and possible subspecialty training.
- Our Cardiology Fellowship Program prepares trainees for a career in cardiovascular medicine. Critical to this goal is a solid foundation in clinical cardiology in all areas within the rotations provided during the Fellowship Program. We aspire to train new visionary leaders in the field of cardiovascular medicine in the region.
  - **Duration:** 3 years
  - **Number of fellows accepted each year:** 2
  - **Accreditation boards:** Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I), Arab Board and Jordanian Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is planned.
  - **Requirements:**
    - » Completion of the Internal Medicine Residency Program is required to join the Cardiology Fellowship Program.
    - » The Internal Medicine Residency Program must be ACGME-I accredited or equivalent to a three/four-year residency training program and accepted by the faculty.
    - » To be in good standing and have passed all the Arab Board exams.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Seema El Khider Nour



## Hematology

- The Hematology Fellowship Program was established in 2019 and offers a three-year postgraduate fellowship in adult hematology. Following the integrated model, the training has been designed to prepare fellows for a career in clinical hematology by providing formal instructions on the various benign and malignant hematological diseases, clinical experiences and opportunities to acquire experience in treating several diseases. The program emphasizes formal instructions in treating individual blood diseases with a coordinated multidisciplinary approach, while also focusing on clinical experience that highlights patient management in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Furthermore, the program provides fellows with tools in basic science training that applies to patient management, allowing them to perform the relevant procedures.
  - **Duration:** 3 years
  - **Number of fellows accepted each year:** 2
  - **Accreditation boards:** Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I), Arab Board, and Jordanian Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is planned.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of the Internal Medicine Residency Program is required to join the Hematology Fellowship Program.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Mustaqeem Ahmad Siddiqui





## Gastroenterology

- The Gastroenterology Fellowship Program at SSMC was established in 2018, and offers a three-year postgraduate fellowship in adult gastroenterology and hepatology. It provides a wide range of clinical experience with an appropriate mix of patient care, educational conferences and professional growth to allow for the development of outstanding clinical and academic gastroenterologists in a scholarly and collegial atmosphere.
- The program had its first two graduates in 2021 with a pass rate of 100%.
  - **Duration:** 3 years
  - **Number of fellows accepted each year:** 2
  - **Accreditation boards:** Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I), Arab Board, and Jordanian Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is planned.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of the Internal Medicine Residency Program is required to join the Gastroenterology Fellowship Program.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Saeed Hussein Mohamed Husain Al Marzooqi



## Infectious diseases

- The Infectious Disease Fellowship Program was established in December 2021, and has been approved by the Department of Health to launch in September 2022.
- This will be one of the first infectious disease Fellowship Programs in the United Arab Emirates alongside one that recently opened at Tawam Hospital, Al Ain.
- There are a variety of educational activities within the program that are designed to enhance fellows' knowledge, growth and ability to leverage competencies in preparation for independent practice as infectious disease specialists. The program features experienced faculty members, who are board-certified in various subspecialties, and ensures our fellows have a rich and enlightening learning journey. The program learning environment supports autonomy and encourages research.
- To apply to this program, please proceed to the Department of Health website's Residency and Fellowship Application Process 2022 ([doh.gov.ae](http://doh.gov.ae)), and submit your application through Tanseeq.
  - **Duration:** 2 years
  - **Number of fellows accepted each year:** 2
  - **Accreditation boards:** Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education International (ACGME-I) and Arab Board. The Royal College of Canada accreditation is planned.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of the Internal Medicine Residency Program is required to join the Fellowship Program.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Zahir Osman Babiker



## Pediatric rheumatology

- The Pediatric Rheumatology Fellowship Program was established in December 2021 and was approved by the Department of Health to launch in September 2022.
- The program rotations will take place mainly at SSMC, with the other learning sites being Al Jalila and Tawam hospitals. The uniqueness of the Rheumatology Department rests on its ability to offer an integrated and interdisciplinary approach to the care and management of complicated and difficult-to-treat rheumatologic conditions.
- As part of the Fellowship Program, fellows are provided with a variety of educational activities to support their growth and develop their competencies in preparation for independent practice. The program features experienced faculty members that are American and British board-certified across a range of subspecialties ensuring fellows have a rich and enlightening learning journey. The program learning environment supports autonomy and encourages research.
  - **Duration:** 3 years
  - **Number of fellows accepted each year:** 2
  - **Accreditation boards:** National Institute for Health Specialties (soon). The Royal College of Canada accreditation is planned.
  - **Requirements:** Completion of the residency program is required to join the Fellowship Program.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Khulood Walid Khawaja



## Internship program

- The one-year Internship Program was established in 2006 and is accredited by the Department of Health. Upon completion of the program, the candidate will receive a completion letter and can then apply for further residency training. There are a total of thirteen four-week blocks. At least 28 weeks of each intern's curriculum will be provided by a discipline that offers fundamental clinical skills, namely: internal medicine, pediatrics, surgery and emergency medicine.
- Additional rotations should be a minimum of four weeks in duration to ensure reasonable continuity of education and patient care.
- Several educational activities are offered as part of the Internship Program to support the interns' growth and help them develop a variety of competencies in preparation for residency training. The program allows interns to rotate across all hospital departments, learning from the most experienced faculty members from various subspecialties who support them in their residency program selection. The program learning environment supports autonomy and encourages research. Completion of a Bachelor of Medicine is required to join the program.
- The purpose of the internship is to provide a well-balanced graduate medical education program focusing on multiple clinical disciplines designed to facilitate the choice of a specific specialty.
  - **Program director:** Dr. Hassa Saif Al Mazrouei



## Future programs

### Radiology Residency Program

- Will launch in September 2024
- The capacity is 4 seats per year
- Program Accreditation: Emirati Board (NIHS), the Royal College of Canada accreditation is planned
- The program director is Dr. Saeed Yahya Alseiri



### Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program

- Expected to launch in September 2024
- The capacity is 4 seats per year
- Program Accreditation: Emirati Board (NIHS), the Royal College of Canada
- The program director is Dr. Muhieddine Abdul Fatah Seoud



### Critical Care Fellowship Program

- Expected to launch in September 2024
- The capacity is 4 seats per year
- Program Accreditation: Emirati Board (NIHS), the Royal College of Canada
- The program director is Dr. Saqib Iqbal Dara



### Orthopedics residency program

- Expected to launch in September 2024
- The capacity is 2 seats per year
- Program Accreditation: Emirati Board (NIHS), the Royal College of Canada
- The program director is Dr. Hayder Saleh Abdul Hadi



### Ophthalmology Residency Program

- Expected to launch in September 2024
- The capacity is 4 seats per year
- Program Accreditation: Emirati Board (NIHS), the Royal College of Canada
- The program director is Dr. Abdel Hakim Taguri



### NICU Fellowship Program

- Expected to launch in September 2024
- The capacity is 1 seat per year
- Program Accreditation: Emirati Board (NIHS), the Royal College of Canada
- The program director is Dr. Junaid Muhib Khan



### General Surgery Residency Program

- Expected to launch in September 2024
- The capacity is 4 seats per year
- Program Accreditation: Emirati Board (NIHS), the Royal College of Canada
- The program director is Dr. Marcelo Augusto Ribeiro



### Anesthesia Residency Program

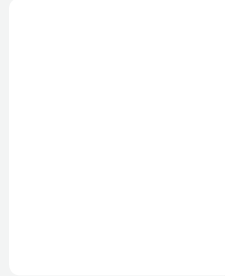
- Expected to launch in September 2024/2025
- The capacity is 2 seats per year
- Program Accreditation: Emirati Board (NIHS), the Royal College of Canada
- The program director is Dr. Masood Ahmad



## Future programs *continued*

### Neurosurgery

- Expected to launch in September 2024
- The capacity is 2 seats per year
- Program Accreditation: Emirati Board (NIHS), the Royal College of Canada




## Our House Staff Council


- The House Staff Council serves as the self-governing body, advocate and representative for the house staff (Interns, residents and fellows) of Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC).
- It acts as a platform for open discussion among house staff, promoting excellence in training and providing a safe space to voice concerns and issues without fear of retribution or retaliation from their programs.
- The council reports to the Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC), with representation by the House Staff Council president.
- It consists of six members, including a president, four vice presidents - one for each sub-committee, and an education coordinator appointed by the GME Center.
- The subcommittees are Training and Education, Quality Improvement and Research, Wellness and Ethics, and Communications and Community Service.
- Additionally, the council collaborates with core mentors and advisors from various departments within the hospital to receive support and enhance its success.
- The election process is peer-selected, and the term of tenure for the council presidency is two years.

## Our learning communities




## Center for Graduate Medical Education

 Abu Dhabi - Al Mafraq Area, United Arab Emirates

 02 314 4444

 SSMC-CGME@ssmc.ae

 Graduate Medical Education Center  
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City Abu Dhabi (ssmc.ae)