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Dubai Medical Research Agenda 2025

Executive Summary

The research agenda serves as a strategic action plan, outlining prioritized tasks and an execution system to drive innovation in medical education and research. The **Medical Education and Research Department - DHA** has established key research priorities aimed at enhancing the medical field and well-being of Dubai's residents by promoting prevention and ensuring access to integrated, innovative, high-quality, and cost-effective healthcare. To realize these ambitions, we have identified eight core research topics that will guide our efforts in the coming years.

Purpose

- **Promote Scientific Research:** Encourage and advance scientific inquiry across multiple disciplines.
- **Enhance Healthcare:** Improve the well-being of Dubai residents through research and evidence based preventative and curative healthcare and by providing access to integrated, innovative, high-quality, and cost-effective healthcare services.
- **Inform Policy:** Offer valuable insights that will shape future policy and strategic initiatives beyond the current agenda period.

Key Goals of the Research Agenda:

- **Global Competitiveness:** Position Dubai as a top destination for research, innovation, and technology.
- **Knowledge Economy:** Build a robust ecosystem that integrates academia, industry, healthcare providers and government for impactful research and development activities
- **Sustainability:** Ensure all research initiatives align with Dubai's sustainability and green economy goals.
- **Collaborative Networks:** Strengthen partnerships with global research institutions, fostering a culture of collaboration and shared knowledge

Suggested Research Areas:

Field of Study	Topics
1. Mental Health	• Causes, effects, and treatment of mental health issues. • Screening, assessment, diagnosis and early intervention for mental health concerns across different age groups. • Explore innovative perspectives and strategies to enhance mental health awareness, prevention, and care. • Social media and mental health • Digital mental health tools • Adolescent mental health
2. Environmental Health Concerns & Emergencies.	• Climate crisis, environmental change, sustainability, and related health problems. • Environmental sustainability and green hospitals • Enhance disaster preparedness and response strategies
3. Infectious Diseases Emergence	• Emerging infectious diseases. • Strengthen surveillance systems and genomic sequencing of pathogens. • Develop rapid diagnostic tools and predictive models. • Create preventative strategies to mitigate outbreaks.
4. Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)	• Obesity including community-based programs • Chronic disease Prevention and lifestyle interventions • , diabetes, and cardiovascular health. • NCDs and urbanization

5. Genomics/Genetics Research	• Population genomics: Large-scale genomic studies to identify disease susceptibility. • Integrate genomic medicine for precise diagnosis and treatment. • Genomic cancer research • Genomes in clinical care
6. Cancer Research	• Explore combinational immunotherapy and targeted treatment approaches. • Investigate novel biomarkers and treatment modalities.
7. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Digital Health Research in Healthcare	• Explore AI applications in diagnostics, treatment planning, and patient management and monitoring. • Investigate the evolution and potential of telemedicine and digital health platforms. • Develop data analytics tools to enhance healthcare outcomes.
8. Aging & Longevity	• Research biological, social, and environmental factors influencing healthy aging populations. • Develop innovative models of elder care and healthcare systems designed for aging. • Explore interventions aimed at extending longevity and improving quality of life.