

Summary of Workshop

In line with Dubai strategic mission to transform Dubai into a global leader in the delivery of healthcare and fostering innovation across the continuum of care. Dubai Healthcare Authority promotes excellence in healthcare service delivery through world class health facility design Guidelines. Healthcare facilities need to be efficiently planned, appropriately briefed, competently designed and quickly delivered. They need to be sustainable in every respect as an essential public service. Therefore they need to carefully balance the required features and standards against capital and operational costs without compromising the quality of care. Sustainability demands that the precious knowledge of healthcare design be shared rather than wasted after every successful project. These guidelines bring that shared knowledge to achieve the following objectives:

- Establish the minimum acceptable standards
- Maintain public confidence in health facilities
- Provide a basis for the approval and licensing of healthcare facilities
- Provide guidance to designers on the special needs of healthcare facilities
- Consider the wellbeing, safety, privacy and dignity of patients, staff and visitors
- Eliminate design features that result in unacceptable practices
- Provide a knowledge base to inform future healthcare design consultants

The structure of the health facility guidelines includes a health facility design, an administrative provision, occupational health, infection control, infrastructure, engineering and feasibility costing. This initiative is to align with the DHA Strategy 2016-2021 Strategic Goal #3- Ensuring Patient Happiness by Providing World-class healthcare Services and Strategic Objective #1 Position Dubai as a global medical destination by introducing a value-based, comprehensive, integrated and high quality service delivery system and Strategic Objective #2 Direct resources to ensure healthy and safe environment for Dubai population.

Dr. Hanan Obaid, Director for Health Policies and Standards for the Health Regulation Sector opened Health Facility Guideline training session and praised the efforts of a wide range of stakeholders who supported the development of World Class Health Facility Guidelines for Dubai. Attendees included healthcare professionals, engineers, architects, facility management and representatives from the health regulation sector. Dr. Hanan highlighted the importance of ensuring our Health Facilities continue to be environments where healthcare services remain safe effective and efficient. The Guidelines apply to new entrants to the healthcare market or those seeking to undergo major structural reforms to their health facility. Dr. Hanan Obaid, assured members that the guidelines are in accordance with international best practice thus, will make Dubai more attractive for investment and medical tourism. Development of these guidelines will position Dubai as a pioneer in implementing best practices in Healthcare Design for all healthcare service types and settings in the region. Dr. Hanan Obaid, thanked members for their attendance A training session was delivered by Mr. Aladin from Tahpi followed by questions and answer session. These Guidelines will be continually reviewed, updated and expanded. Readers are encouraged to provide feedback and to contribute material for future updates. Dubai is the first city in the GCC to introduce such comprehensive health facility design guidelines and has already received interest from other regulators in the UAE.

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