Dear organizers of the WDHD:

Celebrating the World digestive health day 2007 with the title of Hepatitis B day, a scientific day regarding hepatitis B, was organized by the Ministry of Health, World Gastroenterology Organization and the Jordanian Society of Gastroenterology in association with the Friends of the Liver Diseases Patient’s Society in Jordan. It was held in the conference theatre in Al Bashir hospital, on the 27th May at 9:00 a.m.

Distinguished specialists in the domain of Medicine, Hepatology and infectious diseases, presented the lectures.

The program was as follows:

Moderator: Dr. Waseem Hamoudi (Gastroenterologist & Hepatologist).

09:00 – 09:10 Welcoming remarks, and opening (under the patronage of his Excellency Dr. Mohamad Al Rawabdeh director of Al Bashir Hospital).

09:15 – 09:30 Hepatitis B virus, epidemiology in the light of vaccination efforts Dr. Najwa Khuri (Jordan University Hospital-Pediatric infectious diseases specialist).

09:30 – 09:45 Epidemiology and statistics of HBV in Jordan. Dr. Sami Sheikh Ali (Ministry Of Health-Epidemiologist)

09:50 – 10:05 HBV structure, genotypes. Dr. Nazeeh Ababneh (Ministry Of Health-Gastroenterologist & Hepatologist)
10:10 – 10:25  Clinical course of HBV infection.
Dr. Hashem Abu Hassan (Private-Gastroenterologist & Hepatologist).

10:30 – 10:45  Coffee break.

10:45 – 11:00  Diagnosis of HBV (serology and histology).
Dr. Emad Ghazawi (King Hussein Medical Services-Gastroenterologist & Hepatologist).

11:05 – 11:20  Transmission, prevention and complication of HBV.
Dr. Moh. Amer Al Khateeb (Jordan University Hospital-Gastroenterologist & Hepatologist).

11:25 – 11:40  Treatment of HBV infection.
Dr. Kareem Lutfi (Ministry Of Health-Gastroenterologist & Hepatologist).

11:45 – 12:00  Jordan and hepatitis B (facts, achievements and hurdles).
Dr. Waseem Hamoudi (Ministry of Health- Gastroenterologist & Hepatologist).

The lectures had wide audience, ranged between physicians, nurses, students and public.
Topics regarding epidemiology, transmission, prevention, clinical picture and treatment of hepatitis B were discussed. In addition, the situation in Jordan (facts, achievement and hurdles) in comparison with high standard medical facilities countries (such as USA and Japan) was discussed.

Conclusions and recommendations were formulated and to be presented to authorities for further steps to increase awareness and decrease the incidence in Jordan.
Other Activities in May:

1. Articles regarding hepatitis in Arabic and English daily newspapers, simplifying the issues of hepatitis for public, mod of transmission, treatment and prevention.
2. School awareness campaign in six schools in the Kingdom (2 in North, 2 in Middle and 2 in South) for students.

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