

## **1. Teaching and training activities**

### **i. Undergraduate teaching**

#### **Phase I**

The Department of Microbiology academic staff members are involved in coordination and teaching of the Biology course for the students of Health Sciences Centre admitted to the Faculties of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy. In this course, custom-designed lectures, practical, tutorials and workshops are conducted in conjunction with the Departments of Physiology, Biochemistry and Anatomy.

#### **Phase II**

The academic staff members of the Department coordinate and teach the Infection and Immunology module and participate in teaching of Foundation Block II, and different system modules, i.e. Cardio-Vascular, Respiratory, Endocrine, Musculoskeletal, Gastrointestinal, Central Nervous, Renal, Reproductive and Breast, and Blood. Furthermore, the academic staff extensively participate in the PBL sessions as facilitators in all years of Phase II and the clinical faculty of the department is involved in clinical skills training sessions for Phase II (Years 3 & 4) of Medical & Dental students. In addition, the Department offers 12 Elective Courses (Basic Principles and Practice of Clinical Mycology, Molecular Microbiology in Clinical Practice, Emerging and Re-emerging Viral Diseases, Climate Change, Infectious Disease and Ecology, Healthcare Associated Infections, Tropical Infections and Travel Medicine, Antimicrobials and Chemotherapy, Recent Advances in Clinical Virology, Evaluation of a Patient with Allergies, Research Techniques in Microbiology and Viral Infections in the Fetus and neonates) to 4<sup>th</sup> Year medical students.

#### **Phase III**

The academic staff members of the Department of Microbiology participate in teaching of medical students in the programs of the Departments of Medicine and Obstetrics & Gynecology. Furthermore, they actively participate in Medical School Days along with Departments of Surgery and Medicine in conducting multi-disciplinary seminars. The Department also offers elective courses in Clinical Microbiology for the 5<sup>th</sup> year medical students, coordinated by Microbiology Consultants attached to different government hospitals in Kuwait.

### **ii. Graduate / Postgraduate Teaching**

The Department currently has 6 graduate students at the MSc level, one student in the first year, two in the second year, one in the third year and two in the fourth year. Furthermore, the Department continues to contribute substantially to the University-based MSc Molecular Biology program. We also coordinate a Faculty-based MSc “Basic Immunology Course” and contribute to the teaching of “Molecular Biology Course”. In addition, 5 students are pursuing PhD in Medical Microbiology and 2 students have completed their PhD dissertation this year.

In conjunction with the Kuwait Institute of Medical Specialization (KIMS) and the Ministry of Health, the Department is actively participating in the Postgraduate Training and Residency Program of Kuwaiti Board. Currently, there are 11 Residents in Clinical Microbiology and 7 in Clinical Virology. Thus, the Department is in the forefront of manpower development with the aim of providing adequate number of well-trained Kuwaiti professionals and academicians in various disciplines of Microbiology.

### **iii. Continuing Education Programmes**

Continuing Medical Education (CME) is essential for the maintenance of high academic and professional standards. The Department organizes and participates in several academic activities on a regular basis. These include Journal Clubs, Departmental and Faculty Seminars, Grand Rounds with

Clinicians and Monthly Microbiology Meetings with Microbiologists from all of the Hospitals in Kuwait. In addition, the following Symposia and Workshops were jointly organized through KIMS and Ministry of Health.

1. 3<sup>rd</sup> Infectious Disease Hospital Conference (IIDHC), held in Jumaira Beach Hotel on September 22-23, 2018.
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Kuwait Medical Laboratory and OB/GYN Conference, Farwaniya Hospital (13 - 14 March, 2019), Salwa Sabah Al Ahmad Theatre & Hall, Kuwait.
2. MOH sponsored Conference: 18<sup>th</sup> Conference on Recent advances in Clinical Virology (27 – 28 March, 2019), Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Cultural Center, Kuwait.
3. MOH sponsored Workshop: 2<sup>nd</sup> National Conference of Kuwait Lab Week” (27 - 28 March, 2019), Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Cultural Center, Kuwait.
4. KIMS sponsored Symposium: Updates on Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases 2019, April 7 - 9, 2019.

Furthermore, our academic staff members have contributed to various symposia organized by other Departments in the Faculty. Of special note is that these Workshops and Symposia are becoming increasingly popular and attendances from the Hospitals and Clinics are high, which is satisfying.

#### **iv. Accreditation of Medical Education**

The Department is playing a pivotal role in getting medical education in the Faculty of Medicine accredited through an Internationally recognized body. Several of its academic staff are members of the Accreditation Unit along with Prof. Widad Al-Nakib as the Chairman of the Accreditation Unit and Prof. Abu Salim Mustafa as the overall Faculty coordinator and Chairman of Standard 9, Continuous Renewal. The other members from the Department who are contributing to accreditation process are Prof. Noura Al-Sweih, Prof. John Albert (Chairman of Standard 4, Students), Prof. Jamshaid Iqbal and Dr. Mona Al-Ahmad (Chairperson of Standard 3, Assessment of Students).