

### SIGNING OF MOU WITH CBAHI



Lieutenant General Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa meeting with General Director of CBAHI



#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

New strategy for NHRA.... 2

Optometrists facilities meeting..... 3

Nursing licensing highlighted ..... 3

NHRA statistics ..... 4

NHRA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Saudi Center for Health Facilities Accreditation (CBAHI). The MOU will support the efforts of NHRA in the accreditation and classification of hospitals and health centers.

The MOU was signed from the Bahraini side, by NHRA CEO Dr. Mariam Athbi Jalahma while it was signed for the Saudi side, by Dr. Salim bin Abdullah Al Wahhabi, Director General of CBAHI, and in the presence of Dr. Magda Abdel Hadi Chkdar, Credential Manager in CBHAI and in the presence of NHRA advisors and head of sections. This comes in application of Article 19 of the Decree (21) for the year 2015 on private health facilities, which states that NHRA will proceed on evaluation of health facilities to ensure the quality of health services and achieve higher levels of performance and make sure of their commitment to the terms of the licensing regulations, and standards.

## ***Developing a new strategy for NHRA***



A workshop was held on 14th of May with the participation of a large number of NHRA staff; that aims to develop a new strategic plan for NHRA. The workshop run by expert Dr. Osama Al Ali, discussed the strategic frameworks for plans and programs and supporting initiatives.

The strategy comes in line with Bahrain's 2030 Vision to regulate the professions and health services, where the government will continue in the development of health policies and monitor its implementation and to ensure optimal use of resources as accurately as possible, so as to

promote individual and community health and ensure the provision of high quality, and a fair and sustainable and accessible health services to all people in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The workshop ended with a number of recommendations including the strategic new vision and focused on three strategic goals; regulated and committed facilities, safe and reliable health services and reserving patients rights. NHRA will develop implementation procedures to achieve those goals.

## ***Developing a new IT system for NHRA***



NHRA held a meeting with the Information & eGovernment Authority (IGA), and the meeting discussed NHRA IT development project. NHRA is currently working on developing an IT business project aiming towards a paperless organization. The project will facilitate all NHRA operations and will facilitate services given to costumers. "IGA will provide all the required support to NHRA", stated Mr. Alqaed IGA CEO. A team from IGA will be working closely with NHRA team to choose the best proposal to implement the project.

## ***Aiming at facilitating drug registration in the Kingdom, NHRA signs a contract to implement an electronic drug registration program***



The National Regulatory Authority ( NHRA) has signed an agreement with the German company EXTEDO to carry out a special advanced program to register medicines called electronic Joint Technical document (eCTD) in order to facilitate drug registration processes in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The program will make it easier for pharmaceutical agents to upload their medication files which will be automatically validated to assess the readiness of the submitted documents required for approval of the drug registration process. It will also speed up the registration process at

NHRA to evaluate and ensure the safety of the drug. eCTD program will improve handling and archiving of drug registration submissions and will ensure better information management, at the same time it will reduce workload and ensure better controlled communication with external experts and the industry and will simplify the business process.

## Meeting with optometrist facility owners



A meeting was held at NHRA with optometrist facility owners wherein a number of issues concerning the licensing and regulations of the profession and facilities were discussed. The meeting discussed the issue of increasing the number of exams per year and years of experience required to be licensed.

The owners raised the need to change the current regulation related to optometrists licensing in order to overcome the current shortage in the profession regionally. The participants expressed their gratitude to the current developments in NHRA that was clearly reflected on the speed of issuing licensing of both profession and facilities and agreed to raise a proposal to update the regulations.

## Professional licensing for nursing students



NHRA was keen to engage with the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Bahrain and Nursing School in the Bahrain Medical University, wherein Mrs. Namat Al Subaie, the allied health advisor in NHRA, gave a presentation on the nursing profession licenses in the Kingdom of Bahrain and the role of the NHRA and its terms of

reference. The presentation included the terms and conditions for issuing licenses for practicing the profession of nursing for recent graduates from universities in the Kingdom of Bahrain, as well as the details of the work procedures for the submission of the application and the entry exam to permit them to be licensed. Al Subaie also reviewed the role of the disciplinary committees in NHRA responsible for investigating violation of code of ethics and malpractice.

## NHRA & Tamkeen discuss training opportunities for professionals



Tamkeen discussed with NHRA the training support provided by them to health care professionals in the private sectors. NHRA explored opportunities for cooperation with Tamkeen to train professionals in the field of accreditation. Dr. Al Jalahma emphasized the importance of qualifying professionals to be certified surveyors, and discussed the

possibility of including such training within the professional development program in Tamkeen. Both parties agreed to continue cooperation in this field.

## Employee of the Month



### Namat Mubarak Al Subaie

#### Advisor for Allied Medical Profession National Regulatory Authority (NHRA)

- ◇ Associate Degree in General Nursing, CHS Bahrain, 1988
- ◇ Diploma of Community Health, CHS Bahrain, 2005
- ◇ Joined BDF Hospital as Second Lieutenant/ General Registered Nurse, 1989
- ◇ Bachelor's Degree in Nursing, CHS Bahrain, 2008
- ◇ Audit Certificate, Bahrain, 2011
- ◇ Master of Quality Health Care Management, RCSI- Bahrain, 2011



## Judicial Inspectors Training

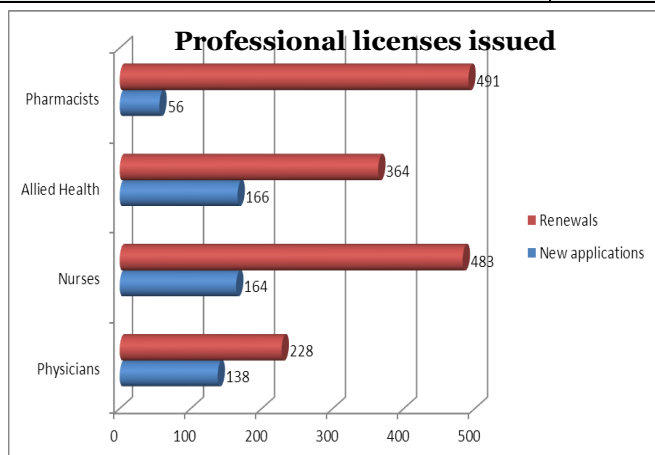
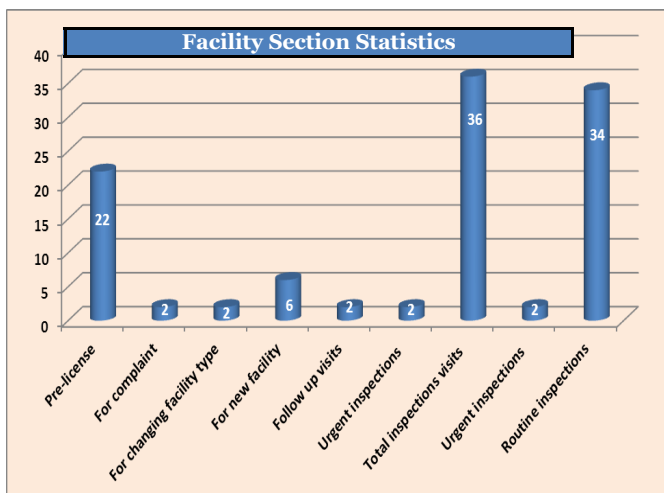
A training workshop was held by NHRA Legal Advisor, Mr. Osama Almeer, wherein NHRA staff were introduced to the legal responsibilities granted to them as Judicial Inspectors. The Legal Advisor highlighted specific violations in the laws governing NHRA duties, and the action that should be taken by NHRA Judicial Inspectors.

## SECOND QUARTER STATISTICS

Activities performed in Pharmaceutical Products Regulations Department	No.
Variations	113
New Drug Registration	42
Renewal of Registration	75
Manufacturing Site Registration	21
Health Products	48
Functional Food	13
Product Classification	116
Product Destruction	3
Local Inspections	67
GCC Inspections (GMP)	5
GCC-DR (Variation, New Registration, Renewal)	
Pricing (Average)	17
GCC Unified Pricing- Innovators	
Safety & Warning	4
Parcels (Average)	800
Invoices (Average)	1,470
Approval for Non Registered Pharmaceutical Products	484
Pre-Approval	1596

### Pharmacy Licensing

Renewals of pharmacies licenses	40
New pharmacies licenses	5
Renewals of health products licenses	15
New health products licenses	8
Issuing pharmacy payments	70
Issuing health products payments	60
Issuing new payments	15



### Complaints Statistics

