

## Kuwait among best in radiology sector

*It only takes money.*

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Under the patronage of Sheikh Ahmed Abdullah Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah, the Minister of Health, the First Radiological Society Conference and the Fourth Kuwait International Conference for Radiology and Nuclear Medicine was inaugurated yesterday. It was organised by the Kuwait Radiology and Nuclear Medicine Society in the Sheraton Kuwait. The four-day conference will end on April 20. Sheikh Ahmed Abdullah gave the opening address of the conference: "This is the largest gathering for any medical conference in Kuwait, where there are around 700 participants from inside and outside the country. I am here today because I am keen to know about the establishment of the Gulf radiological society and how to reach their aim, which is to unify the standards of clinical radiology services in the GCC countries."

He added, "Radiology in the past was not really admired, but now and due to the rapid advancement in technology, radiology has become the most coveted specialty in the medical profession. Kuwait now has the latest technology in the field of digital X-ray imaging, ultrasound, multislice and MRI and DSA. Kuwait has the highest density of MR units in the world. Not only do we care about having the latest equipment but we also have advanced and specialist technicians in this field."

He also described new procedures used by the Ministry of Health. "The ministry is now moving towards leasing rather than buying these machines, because after a while this equipment is considered old. The technology in this field is fast and we have to stick to the latest machines. In this way we are up to date with the latest in the market plus we save a lot of money that can be used in other things."

Dr Najib Al-Marzouk, the president of the Gulf Radiological Society and the chairman of Kuwait Radiology and Nuclear Medicine Society said, "This society incorporates all radiological societies belonging to the GCC, which includes Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, UAE and Oman. The conference will focus on the following themes: neuro radiology, interventional radiology, women's imaging, cardiac and chest imaging, nuclear medicine related topics and musculoskeletal radiology."

A medical exhibition is also on show where the latest equipment in this field will be available for professionals and experts. "Patient management is very important to get a diagnosis. When it comes to certain diseases, you can get a fast and accurate answer with the new technology. Routine check ups are very important as is early detection of any disease," Marzouk said.

Francisco Arredondo, the president of the International Society of Radiology noted, "I came here to present the International Society of Radiology which covers many nations and Kuwait is one of its members. This is the first time I have visited Kuwait." He told the press that they have journal which is published every three months. " We keep track of all the places we visit. Kuwait has a high level of radiology and this is due to the high technology machines and equipments they use. There are a large number of radiologists and other professionals in the field," she concluded.