

Clinical Support Subcommittee (CSS) 2023 Annual Report:

Streamlining Clinical Research at CoM, Alfaisal University



Chaired by:
Dr. Baraa Alghalyini
Vice Dean, College of Medicine



Outline

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Introduction to CSS

- The Clinical Support Subcommittee (CSS) plays a pivotal role in cultivating a robust environment for clinical research at Alfaisal University (AU) and affiliated institutions.
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Introduction to CSS

- CSS aims to streamline and oversee the clinical research activities, ensuring efficiency, consistency, and by providing support and guidance to faculty, students, as well as clinicians.
 - We are dedicated to promoting excellence in research, encouraging collaborative initiatives, and facilitating the seamless integration of clinical research, mainly in primary care, into the broader academic and healthcare landscape.
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Introduction to CSS

- By centralizing the clinical research processes through CSS, we aim to enhance the quality of research, promote innovation, increase opportunities through collaboration, and ensure that Alfaisal University remains at the forefront of clinical research excellence.
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CSS

01

Our Mission

To facilitate and enhance the clinical research capabilities of Alfaisal University by fostering collaborations between the College of Medicine, Alfaisal University, and affiliated hospitals.



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Our Vision

To be a leading Clinical Support Subcommittee that drives innovative and impactful clinical research to improve healthcare outcomes.



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Core Values

- **Sustainability**
- Collaboration
- Innovation
- Quality
- **Equity/ Diversity/ Inclusivity**
- Patient-Centeredness
- Interprofessionalism





Role and Objectives of CSS

The CSS aspires to be the **central body overseeing all clinical research activities** within Alfaisal University and its affiliated institutions, mainly but not limited to, fields of **Primary Health Care, Community Medicine, and Public Health.**



Role and Objectives of CSS

Our role encompasses:

- Promoting collaborative research initiatives
 - Facilitating the integration of clinical research into the broader academic and healthcare landscape
 - Providing guidance and support to faculty, students, and researchers through “ **Research Mentorship Network**”
 - Ensuring compliance with established standards and guidelines
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Role and Objectives of CSS

- **Our main objectives for the upcoming year include:**
 - Centralizing clinical research processes through CSS through the creation of “**Alfaisal Clinical Research Dashboard**”
 - Collaborating with other subcommittees to develop & establish clinical research standards/ pathways
 - Launching the “ **Research Mentorship Network**”
 - Focusing on “Sustainability” as a clinical research priority
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Core Team Members: Alfaisal University

- The CSS comprises a dynamic team of experienced professionals from Alfaisal University, KFSHRC, and invited guest members(by invitation)
- We had Four “minuted” meetings with CSS team members
- Two meetings with MoH
- **Dr. Sabri Kemahli** – Professor of Ped. Hematology & Head, Curriculum Committee
- **Dr. Hani Tamim** – Professor of Epidemiology
- **Dr. Abdul Rehman Zaidi** – Senior Lecturer & Research Lead AU-DFCM
- **Dr. Fatima Adem** – Teaching Assistant
- **Baraa Alghalyini**



مستشفى الملك فيصل التخصصي ومركز الأبحاث
King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre

Invited Team Members: King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center

- **Dr. Ali Alshehri** - Deputy Executive Director, Academic & Training Affairs
- **Dr. Muhammad N. Qureshi** - Consultant Emergency Medicine, Director of the Emergency Medicine Research Dept
- **Dr. Hussam Jnaid** - Consultant Internist/Family Medicine, Director of Family Medicine Research Dept
- **Mr. Yaser Alendijanl** - Clinical Research Coordinator

ACTION PLAN TEMPLATE:

Goal: #1: Objective(s):	Current status	One-year target



Action Steps <i>What Will Be Done?</i>	Responsibilities <i>Who Will Do It? Who will participate?</i>	Timeline <i>By When? (Day/Month)</i>	Resources: A. Available/B. Needed <i>Financial, human, political & other</i>		Considerations <i>Facilitators/ barriers</i>	Evaluation Process <i>How to determine goal has been reached?</i>	Evidence of Success <i>Measures?</i>
Step 1:			A.	B.			
Step 2:			A.	B.			
Step 3:			A.	B.			

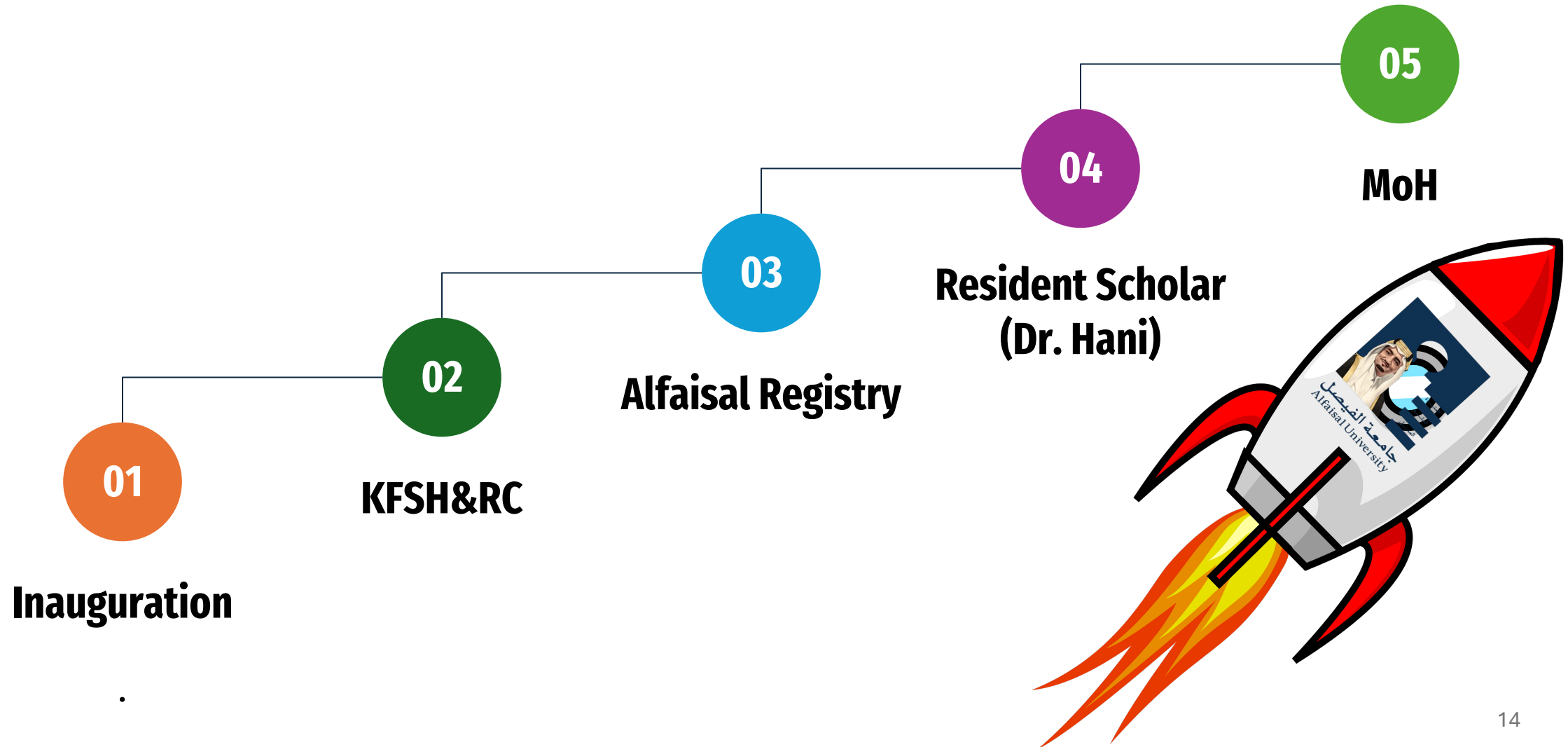
Template adopted from the Alliance for Research in Chicagoland Communities (ARCC)

Guest Members: MOH

The collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MOH) is crucial for the success of clinical research at Alfaisal University. CSS is proud to have the following MOH representatives to be invited as guests to future meetings:

- **Dr. Tarif Yusuf Al-Aama - Deputy Minister** for Therapeutic Services
- **Dr. Rajaa Abdullah Al-Baqami** - Director of Operational Excellence at the Therapeutic Agency - Director of the Research Unit in the Department
- **Ms. Ebtisam Faqih** - Head of the Research Unit in the Operational Excellence Department at the Therapeutic Agency
- **Dr. Adel Al-Rashees** - Director of Academic Affairs and Training Unit and representative of the Dental Research Unit
- **Dr. Abdullah Al-Dosari** - Deputy Director of the General Administration for Applied Radiology and representative of the Research Unit
- **Ms. Shadha Al-Muqait** - Representative of the Research Unit at the General Administration of Emergency and Ambulance Transport
- **Ms. Samia Al-Zahrani** - Director of Development and Rehabilitation and representative of the Research Unit in the General Administration for Nursing Affairs
- **Dr. Deema Al-Essa** - Director of the Research Unit at the Assistant Agency for Supportive Services
- **Ms. Nawal Al-Zahib** - Representative of the Research Unit at the General Administration for Hospital Affairs
- **Mr. Ghanam Al-Shammari** - Director of Academic Affairs and Training and representative of the Research Unit at the General Administration for Rehabilitation and Home Care
- **Dr. Fawzia Al-Harishi** - Director of the Research Unit in the General Administration for Nutrition

Clinical Support Subcommittee: Achievements & Milestones





Overview of 2023 Activities

Key Activities and Achievements:

- **Integration of research into the curriculum** at COM116 and COM358/COM366 level providing students with hands-on research experience.
 - Establishment of **collaborative research programs** with local hospitals, enhancing the opportunities for real-world clinical research.
 - Proposed **workshops and training sessions** aimed at building research capacity among **faculty and students e.g.(ASPIR Workshop lead by Profs. Tamim)**
 - Active participation in **national and international research conferences**, showcasing the research prowess of Alfaisal University.
 - **Development of a streamlined process for research proposal submissions and reviews**, ensuring efficiency and compliance with international standards. Proposed a Clinical Registry .(work in progress)
 - Engagement with the **Ministry of Health for potential research collaborations**, aligning our research efforts with national health priorities.
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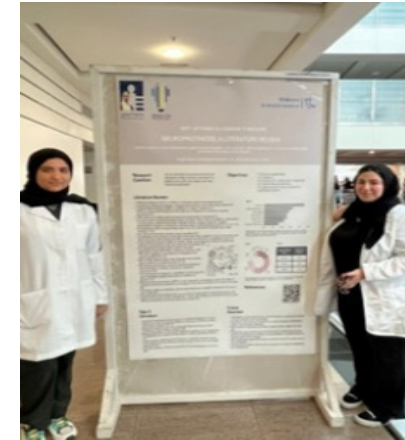
Preliminary Research Dashboard- contact list

Departments	Note	Chairman	Email	Committee Unit or someone in charge of research community	Email	Research Coordinator
Anesthesiology	?	Andrew Norris [1514483]	andrewnorris@kfshrc.edu.sa			Mohamad Nagy [1500685]
OB/GYN	'o research director	Wesam Kurdi [21419]	kurdi@kfshrc.edu.sa	Nada Alsahan	nalsahan@kfshrc.edu.sa	
Ophthalmology	'o research director	Elham Alqahtani [1511753]	f1511753@kfshrc.edu.sa			
Urology	'o research director	Waleed Altaweel	waltweel@kfshrc.edu.sa	Raouf Seyam	rseyam@kfshrc.edu.sa	Areej Alsuwaida
Dermatology	'o research director	Yousef Binamer [78222]	ybinamer@kfshrc.edu.sa			
Emergency Medicine	Present	Tawfik Alabdullah				
ENT Otolaryngology	Resigned	Eyas Othman [1507091]	eothonman91@kfshrc.edu.sa			Fatimah Algarni [1504961]
Family Medicine	Present	Loay Basudan [96694]		Hussam Jnaid [95526]	hjinaid@kfshrc.edu.sa	yaser Alendijani [1516410]
Heart Center	?			Ali zahrani	alisaz@kfshrc.edu.sa	
Critical Care Medicine	?	Abdullah Alrbiaan [87654]	arbiann@kfshrc.edu.sa			
Internal Medicine	No research director			Rayan al fadda	ralfadda97@kfshrc.edu.sa	
Mental Health	No response	Khalid Alzaid [49514]	kalzaid@kfshrc.edu.sa			
Neurology	director but cc Dr A	Najeeb Qadi	nqadi@kfshrc.edu.sa	Amaal Aldakheel	adakheel@kfshrc.edu.sa	
Oncology	?	?		Doha Fatani [54803]	dfatani@kfshrc.edu.sa	
Organ Transplant Centre of Excellence	?	Dieter Broering	dbroering@kfshrc.edu.sa	Abdallah Assiri	assiri@kfshrc.edu.sa	
Orthopaedic	'o research director	Mahmood Shaheen [31787]	hmoodshaheen@kfshrc.edu.sa	Thamer Alhussainan [71544]	alhussainan_t@kfshrc.edu.sa	
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine	?	Fouad Aldayel [20106]	dayelf@kfshrc.edu.sa			
Pediatric Hematology and Oncology	'o research director	Amani Alkofide [21023]	kofide@kfshrc.edu.sa			onette Geraldine Amao [150476]
Pediatrics	ace b/we the interes	Esam Albanyan	esalbanyan@kfshrc.edu.sa	Afaf Alsagheir [44588]	asagheir@kfshrc.edu.sa	Manal Mohammed [97683]
Radiology	?	Yusuf Alkadhi [29775]	yalkadhi@kfshrc.edu.sa			
Surgery	tor, only head of co	Mohammed Alomran	alomran@kfshrc.edu.sa	Amal Alhefdhi	alhefdhi@kfshrc.edu.sa	Hunida Mohamed

Overview of 2023 Activities



Overview of 2023 Activities





Partnerships & Collaborations



- **King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center:** Established partnerships with ATA/ER/IM/FM.
- **Ministry of Health:** Working closely with the MOH to align our research efforts with national health priorities and explore potential collaborative research projects.
- **Collaborative Research Programs:** Engaging with local hospitals, including Dr. Sulaiman Al Habib Medical Group, Habib Medical Centers, and King Fahad Medical City, to facilitate joint research initiatives. **These are currently in the pipeline stage.**
- SFDA ?
- SSMG ?



Partnerships & Collaborations

The CSS has actively sought and nurtured partnerships and collaborations with various institutions to strengthen clinical research capabilities. Here's an overview of our key collaborations:



In-Depth Look at Key Partnerships

1. Ministry of Health (Ready to go):

- - Clinical Research and Health Systems Research with wide variety of data
- - Alignment of research efforts with national health strategies
- - Participation in public health initiatives and studies

2. Dr. Sulaiman Al Habib Medical Group and Medical Centers (Ready to collaborate):

- - Joint research initiatives in various medical fields
- - Exchange of expertise and resources for mutual benefit
- - Opportunities for practical training and internships for AU students

3. King Fahad Medical City (Ready to collaborate):

- - Collaborative clinical research and wellness research projects
- - Access to a wider patient population for research purposes

These partnerships not only enhance our research capabilities but also contribute significantly to the development of medical science and healthcare services in the Kingdom.



Challenges Faced



1. Streamlining & Centralizing Research Processes:

- **Challenge:** Delays and inefficiencies in research proposal reviews and approvals at AU & KFSH.
- **Strategy:** Implementation of a streamlined process and digital tools (dashboard, pathways, online forms, etc.) for quicker and more efficient reviews.

2. Enhancing Research Quality:

- **Challenge:** Ensuring consistent high quality across all research projects.
- **Strategy:** Introducing rigorous quality assurance measures and regular training sessions for student researchers.

3. Building Collaborative Networks:

- **Challenge:** Establishing and maintaining effective collaborations with external institutions.
- **Strategy:** Active engagement and regular communication with partners to nurture strong collaborative relationships.



Impact & Outcomes



1. Advancement in Clinical Research

2. Increased Collaborations

3. Enhanced Research Capacity through integration into the Curriculum:

- Integrating research into the curriculum for 1st and 3rd year medical students has had **both immediate and long-term impacts**. It has **enhanced research literacy, raised motivation to participate in research activities**, and equipped students with **essential research skills**.
- The inclusion of research in the curriculum has also **heightened engagement with national and international institutions** through activities such as poster competitions, further enriching the students' educational experience.

4. Alignment with National Health Priorities

5. Recognition and Visibility (Ranking)



Future Directions & Plans



1. Centralizing Clinical Research:

- **Aspiring to be the sole channel for all clinical research** at Alfaisal University, **overseeing all programs, active and future initiatives.**
- **Streamlining** all clinical research processes through CSS using the **Clinical Research Dashboard** as the foundation and integral component to ensure efficiency, consistency, and adherence to the highest standards.

2. Strengthening Partnerships:

- **Building on our existing partnerships and entering into new collaborations**, especially with Dr. Sulaiman Al Habib Medical Group, Habib Medical Centers, and King Fahad Medical City.
- Engaging in preliminary talks for partnerships with other leading hospitals/entities to **expand our collaborative clinical research network locally and internationally.**

3. Enhancing Research Quality:


- Introduction of **Research Mentorship Network** specially for faculty, alumni and students

4. Nurturing a Collaborative Environment:

- Encouraging collaboration within CSS and with other subcommittees, aligning efforts for the betterment of clinical research at Alfaisal University.
- Facilitating a seamless integration of research initiatives from the Medical Students Association (MSA)'s research programs (e.g. LRTP) and other local research efforts in Riyadh.

Article

Hesitance and Misconceptions about the Annual Influenza Vaccine among the Saudi Population Post-COVID-19

Baraa Alghalyini, Tala Garatli, Reela Hamoor, Linda Ibrahim, Yara Elmehallawy, Dima Hamze, Zain Abbara and Abdul Rehman Zia Zaidi * 

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Abstract: (1) Background: Vaccination is a cornerstone of public health strategy for mitigating the morbidity and mortality associated with seasonal influenza. However, vaccine hesitancy and misconceptions pose significant barriers to this effort, particularly in the context of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. This study aimed to investigate the transfer of COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy to the influenza vaccine and to identify misconceptions about the influenza vaccine among the Saudi population in the post-COVID-19 era. (2) Methods: A web-based, cross-sectional study was conducted between February and June 2023 using a questionnaire adapted from the Adult Vaccine Hesitancy Scale (aVHS). The questionnaire was disseminated to 589 Saudi residents, aged 18 and above, with access to digital devices. Data were analyzed via logistic regression analysis to determine the associations between vaccine hesitancy, knowledge of influenza, and baseline characteristics. (3) Results: This study found that 37.7% of respondents exhibited vaccine hesitancy, while 56.7% demonstrated good knowledge about influenza. There was a significant relationship between nationality and vaccine hesitancy (p -value > 0.05), with non-Saudi respondents exhibiting higher hesitancy. Logistic regression analysis revealed significant associations between vaccine hesitancy, age, and nationality. Meanwhile, participants with higher educational qualifications showed greater knowledge about influenza. (4) Conclusions: The findings highlight an important crossover of COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy to influenza vaccines. This study underscores the need for targeted public health interventions to address misconceptions about the influenza vaccine, particularly among certain demographic groups, in order to improve influenza vaccine uptake in the post-COVID era.



Citation: Alghalyini, B.; Garatli, T.; Hamoor, R.; Ibrahim, L.; Elmehallawy, Y.; Hamze, D.; Abbara, Z.; Zaidi, A.R.Z. Hesitance and Misconceptions about the Annual Influenza Vaccine among the Saudi Population Post-COVID-19. *Vaccines*



Lessons Learned and Best Practices



1. Importance of Streamlined Processes:

- The implementation of streamlined processes for research proposal submissions and reviews has proven to be crucial for efficiency and effectiveness, setting a standard for future operations.

2. Value of Collaborative Efforts:

- Our collaborations with local hospitals, the Ministry of Health, and other entities have underscored the importance of partnership and synergy in achieving common goals and enhancing the quality of clinical research.

3. Need for Continuous Learning and Development:

- Investing in the continuous learning and development of our team members, researchers, and students has yielded positive results, enhancing the overall research capacity of Alfaisal University.



Lessons Learned and Best Practices



4. Alignment with National Priorities:

- Ensuring that our research efforts align with national health priorities has been pivotal, not only for the relevance of our work but also for its impact on public health and policy.

5. Recognition and Reputation Building:

- The CSS's commitment to excellence and innovation has contributed to building a strong reputation for Alfaisal University in the field of clinical research, both nationally and internationally.

6. Proactive Problem-Solving:

- Adopting a proactive approach to problem-solving has enabled us to address challenges head-on, laying a strong foundation for future success.



Acknowledgments



1. **CSS Team Members & Director of Research Committee**
2. **Collaborative & Future Partners**
3. **Faculty, Clinicians, and Researchers**
4. **Leadership of Alfaisal**



Closing Remarks & Call to Action



As we come to the end of our presentation, we would like to summarize the key points and make a clear call to action:

1. Commitment to Excellence:

- The Clinical Support Subcommittee (CSS) has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to enhancing the quality and scope of clinical research at Alfaisal University.

2. Significant Achievements and Progress:

- Through various initiatives, collaborations, and the integration of research into the curriculum, CSS has significantly contributed and is contributing to the advancement of clinical research and the enhancement of research capacity.

3. Strategic Partnerships and Collaborations:

- Our partnerships with local hospitals, the Ministry of Health, and other entities will play a vital role in strengthening the research ecosystem at Alfaisal University.

4. Vision for the Future:

- Looking ahead, CSS aims to centralize clinical research processes, strengthen existing partnerships, nurture collaborative environments, and continuously improve research quality.





Thank You

THANK
YOU!

On behalf of the Clinical Support Subcommittee (CSS), we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your time, attention, and engagement during today's presentation.

A special thanks goes to CSS members, Dr. Zaidi and Dr. Fatima. Their invaluable assistance and support has been instrumental towards the success of the CSS.