

**Dr. Sara Hayder Ahmed, BSc. Pharm, PharmD**

Clinical Pharmacist, Internal Medicine

Medication Therapy Management (MTM) Clinic Coordinator

HMC PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program Coordinator (ASHP Accredited)

Al Wakra Hospital, Hamad Medical Corotation

Dr. Sara earned her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (BSc Pharm) in 2012 and a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree in 2013, both from the College of Pharmacy (CPH) at Qatar University (QU). She was awarded a full scholarship for her BSc degree and was listed on the Dean's List and Vice President (VP) list for multiple years. When she was asked about her preference to study at CPH, she said, *"When I attended pre-pharmacy students' orientation meeting, I was inspired and influenced by the dean and the pioneer Dr. Peter Jewesson's. In his speech about CPH's ambitious goals about investing in Qatar's future pharmacists, I believed then that CPH is the key to my future"*. She described how CPH uncovered windows of opportunities to broaden her learning experiences and education and how that encouraged her to participate in numerous student competitions and achieve multiple awards:

- 1st place for the best pharmacy student research oral presentation in the 2011 Dubai International Pharmaceuticals and Technologies (DUPHAT) Conference.
- 1st place for the advanced student counseling competition by the 2nd Eastern Mediterranean Pharmaceutical Symposium Conference, International Pharmaceutical Students Federation (IPSF).
- 1st place for the best pharmacist award in the 2013 College of North Atlantic Qatar Annual Skills competition.

Despite the demanding high standard program, Dr. Sara accomplished extracurricular activities representing CPH and QU as an ambassador at the national and international levels and in various leadership and volunteering outreaches and international academic experiences. She had her Trauma Intensive Care Unit (TICU) rotation in Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, as an exchange program between CPH and the College of Pharmacy, Xavier University. Dr. Sara was a vice president external for Qatar Pharmacy Undergraduate Society (QPhUS) and represented the society in the 55th IPSF Congress in Bali, Indonesia. Furthermore, she participated in Qatar-Mauritania humanitarian trip by QU to Mauritania, completed the Springboard women leadership program, and represented QU in the UAE women leadership conference.

Soon after her graduation, Dr. Sara worked as a teaching assistant at CPH in 2013. Then, she joined Al Wakra Hospital (AWH) at Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) as a clinical pharmacist in 2014. When she was asked to reflect on how the program helped her prepare for her career, she highlighted. *"From the day we cited the oath of pharmacist at the white coat ceremony, we were held accountable to be professional health care practitioners and trusted to serve the community. Driven by that purpose, our extensive and advanced training equipped us to be competent for the day we join the practice."*

Dr. Sara was the first HMC Post Graduate Year One (PGY1) Pharmacy resident for the 2015-2016 residency year. Then she was appointed as coordinator for the program and worked with the residency program director Dr. Rasha Al-Anany and the residency team to achieve and maintain the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) accreditation. She spoke about her experience, saying, *"I have a great appreciation for such experience and honored to be part of a program contributing to Qatar's pharmacy profession."*

Meanwhile, Dr. Sara has been working as a clinical pharmacist in the internal medicine unit since 2016 and was appointed as a coordinator for the Medication Therapy Management (MTM) Clinic at Al Wakra Hospital since 2018. She described her specialty, saying, *"My interest in the clinical pharmacy field started from the first PharmD rotation, which was the Internal Medicine rotation where I valued my future role through the eyes of my professors and preceptors. I felt excited learning from various patient cases and working with health care providers across different specialties. Learning something new daily made me passionate to pursue this career pathway."*

Dr. Sara highlighted the impact of being involved in research projects during her undergraduate years and how completing an Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP) project influenced her education. *"I was fortunate to get exposure to such valuable research learning experiences earlier during my undergraduate studies, which equipped me with the needed knowledge and skills through the application."* Accordingly, Dr. Sara participated in multiple quality projects throughout her employment, joined multidisciplinary teams and committees, delivered various professional development education activities, and participated in national and international conferences. She was recognized by HMC Employee Award and Recognition Program, stars of excellence awards due to her contributions to two impactful projects: The Award of Merit in research in 2014 (for the Antibiotic Utilization in Oncology

Patients research project) and in achieving excellence in Health Collaborative Achievement in 2019 (for the 1st Anticoagulation Stewardship Program in Qatar project). Recently, Dr. Sara completed the Principles and Practice of Clinical Research Program from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in 2021.

Dr. Sara continued embracing her interest in teaching by being a CPH adjunct clinical lecturer and PharmD students preceptor. Currently, she is back at QU to pursue a master's in Health Profession Education and looking for opportunities to advance pharmacy education and practice.

### **Publications:**

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- **Sara Ahmed**, Dania Alkhiymi, Eman Alhoud, Rasha Al Anany. Implementation of Qatar's first pulmonary collaborative practice agreement: Ambulatory care pharmacy clinic initiative. 2019 ACCP Global Conference on Clinical Pharmacy: October 6-29, 2019. *J Am Coll Clin Pharm.* 2020;3:145–391. DOI: 10.1002/jac5.124
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- Kheir N, Ghoneim O, Sandridge A, **Hayder S**, Al-Ismail M. Al-Rawi F. Concerns and considerations among caregivers of a child with autism in Qatar. *BMC Res Notes* 2012; 6(5):290
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