

# In the Name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

**Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

**Saudi Health Council**

General Secretariat

Resolution No. (79/9)

Date: 7/1/1439

**Subject:** Development of oncology services in the Kingdom

## **The Saudi Health Council:**

After reviewing the recommendations of the workshop for improving and integrating oncology services in the Kingdom, which was held by the Ministry of Health on 12/29/1438 AH in Riyadh, with the participation of specialists in the field of oncology, the health sectors in the Kingdom and the National Cancer Center of the Saudi Health Council under the auspices of the Minister of Health.

And the explanation given by Dr. Tarif Al-aama about the workshop, as well as the presentation made by Dr. Ahmed Balkhair, Director General of the National Center for Health Information, on the interactive platform in the Saudi Cancer Registry. After that, the issue was discussed by the members of the Council at the seventy-ninth meeting held on 1/7/1439 AH

It was decided:

1. Directing specialized hospitals and medical cities to activate joint cooperation programs with the hub and spokes system with the regions and governorates most in need, and to urge the use of the King Faisal Specialist Hospital's methodology with a joint cooperation system.

### **First stage:**

Connecting the oncology unit Arar, Madinah, and Asir. (Ministry of Health).

### **The second stage:**

Presenting a study by other specialized hospitals in the most referred areas and determining an action plan for twinning with them. (Ministry of Defense hospitals - Ministry of National Guard hospitals).

2. Implementing a unified referral system for all service providers, whether governmental or non-governmental agencies, to benefit from the (ehalty) program and work on developing it to meet the needs of these services as the implementation stages progress. (Saudi Health Council)

3. Publish an index that includes all service providers indicating the waiting period for the following:

- Waiting time to accept referrals.
- Waiting time to provide medical advice for oncology cases.

(Saudi Health Council)

4. Activating the National Cancer Registry and the necessity to publish results on a regular basis and to strengthen vital statistics and epidemiological analysis, and this will be in integration with the CDC. (Saudi Health Council)

5. Establishing training programs under the supervision of the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties to support the needs of the workforce and include doctors (senior oncology - adult hematology - oncology surgery - radiotherapy - palliative treatment - blood transfusion laboratories and medicine related to oncology. Nursing - pharmacists (clinical pharmacist - pharmacist preparing chemotherapy), nutrition, social and psychological services, physical and functional therapy, tumor registrar, medical physics. (Saudi Commission for Health Specialties).

6. Standardization of treatment protocols in all centers of the Kingdom. (National Cancer Center).

7. Study amending insurance controls to include cancer treatment. (Council of Cooperative Health Insurance).

8. Establishing a control mechanism for the process of purchasing radiation devices and cyclotron devices to be according to the needs and standards of each region. (Saudi Health Council).

9. Linking the expansion of the development and addition of radiotherapy devices in the regions of the Kingdom to studying the optimal distribution under the supervision of the Saudi Health Council and providing an opportunity for partnership with the private sector in this regard (Saudi Health Council)

10. Making the interactive platform available for the Saudi Oncology Registry on the Saudi Health Council portal for researchers after being reviewed by the Scientific Committee of the National Cancer Center. (The National Information Center).

**Minister of Health**

**President of the Saudi Health Council**

**Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al-Rabiah**

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