



Wednesday, 30 Muharram 1424 (02 April 2003)

Issue 50

Movement Disorder Program



Dr. Ahmed Alkhani, Director, Movement Disorder Program

On 13 Muharram 1424 (16 March 2003) a press conference was held in the Postgraduate Center attended by a large number of news and media journalists. It was headed by Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Nuaim, Chief Operating Officer, and Dr. Khalid Al-Shaibani, Deputy Chief Operating Officer. Dr. Ahmed Alkhani, Movement Disorders Program Director, presented a brief talk on the surgical treatment of movement disorders and the aims of the newly established program. After the presentation, Dr. Ahmed Alkhani and Dr. Saeed Bohlega answered the questions from the audience.

The Department of Neurosciences at KFSH&RC established the first movement disorders program in Saudi Arabia. This program will help patients with movement disorders to receive a high standard of medical care and save them the costs and efforts of traveling abroad. Neurosurgical intervention became a relatively safe and valuable option in the treatment of these disorders.

Currently, Parkinson Disease, Essential Tremor and Generalized Dystonia are the three main movement disorders treated with stereotactic neurosurgical intervention. Management of these refractory movement disorders is best achieved by a multi-disciplinary team.

The program aims to:

- Insure that patients with refractory movement disorders receive the best available medical therapy.
- Identify patients who are good candidates for surgical intervention.
- Select the most suitable surgical target and surgical modality (radiofrequency lesioning vs deep brain stimulation) for each patient.
- Conduct surgical procedures with a high standard of efficacy and patient safety.
- Provide postoperative follow up and support for these patients.
- Establish a national database for movement disorders.
- Start clinical and basic sciences research in this field.

For more information about the KFSH&RC Movement Disorders Program, call 4647272 Ext. 32975 Pager 5760, or send an email to mdpkas@yahoo.com.