

# Rare Tumor diagnosed at Al Bateen Clinic SKMC Healthcare Facility

Press Release



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Abu Dhabi: United Arab Emirates: Dr Wael Karamah Karamah, a family Medicine physician was able to diagnose a rare tumor in a 45 year old patient. The lady had suffered from unstable blood pressure, diagnosed as episodic blood pressure by other physicians, and few others have related this instability to some psychological stress. *SKMC is part of the SEHA Health System and is owned and operated by Abu Dhabi Health Services Company PJSC (SEHA), which is responsible for the curative*

*activities of all the public hospitals and clinics in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi*

After taking her medical history, Dr Karamah investigated the causes of the high blood pressure where unlike the majority of high blood pressure, this type can be treated finally.

This patient also had other symptoms not associated with the common high blood pressure symptoms, where she had heart palpitation, headache, sweating face, breathing problems and fatigue. Thus, Dr Wael has doubted the possibility of having a tumor, known as pheochromocytoma usually located in the adrenal glands on the upper side of the kidneys and known also as very rare and may affect only 1 person in every 1 million people.

Dr Wael has confirmed the presence of the tumor after checking the amount of hormones released by the tumor in the urine during 24 hours. Also, laboratory analyses were done and shown a high sugar and blood cholesterol level due to having either these 2 diseases together known as part of metabolic syndrome also known as ( Syndrome x) or due to the presence of the pheochromocytoma tumor.

During the second week, the medical examination has shown a big raise in the hormones released in the urine over 34 times to the normal level. Thus, the laboratory diagnosis has found out about the tumor after the clinical expectations. The tumor was located with 5 centimeters of size in the right adrenal gland located on the right kidney obvious with the CT scan.

which carries de-oxygenated The CT scan also showed that the tumor is squeezing the inferior vena cava blood from the lower half of the body into the right atrium of the heart.

The patient was immediately transferred to Mayo Clinic in the USA, where she underwent a laparoscopic excision, which was successful. Hopefully, the tumor symptoms have disappeared and the patient was discharged healthy after 2 days.

Dr Karamah commented: " my patient was really lucky as I managed to provide the right diagnosis to her disease from her first visit. Her tumor was benign, 10% of such tumors are malignant and they spread in the lymphatic glands which are located in the neck, chest and abdomen."

Dr Atul Mehta, Chief Medical Officer at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City said: "Getting a thorough medical history and keeping in mind all probable diseases including the rare ones, is key in coming up with the right diagnosis for a family medicine physician. The success of the good medical job starts with the family medicine doctor to the specialist. If the first element of this group follows the right diagnosis process, results in the right orientation to the other elements for better treatment services for the patient and the community"

Dr Karamah further added: " this kind of tumor is extremely rare, yet very dangerous as it causes a high blood pressure that may cause a heart failure and lead to death. It becomes threatening if the patient is wrongly diagnosed and was operated for any other reason like appendectomy or cesarean section in pregnant ladies".

"In such conditions, if the tumor is wrongly approached, the patient dies because the tumor releases high levels of hormones. However, if well diagnosed, the surgical treatment will assert a 100% of recovery". Dr Karamah stated.

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### **About SKMC managed by Cleveland Clinic**

*Sheikh Khalifa Medical City (SKMC) is located in Abu Dhabi City, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, and operates under the management of Cleveland Clinic, consistently named by U.S. News and World Report as one of the nation's best hospitals in its annual "America's Best Hospitals" survey. SKMC is owned by SEHA, the Abu Dhabi Health Services Company, recently established to oversee operations of all public hospitals in the Emirate. SKMC is the flagship institution for the public health system in Abu Dhabi and has several 'Centers of Excellence', and aspires to practice contemporary medicine comparable to the best hospitals and medical centers in the world. SKMC provides comprehensive healthcare services in all of the disciplines relevant to the needs and priorities of the community to attain the highest levels of patient satisfaction.*

*SKMC consists of 568-bed Tertiary Hospital, 14 outpatient specialty clinics and Abu Dhabi Blood Bank, all of which are accredited by the Joint Commission International (JCI). SKMC is also accredited as a Cycle III Chest Pain Center with Primary Angioplasty Intervention. In addition, SKMC manages a 125-bed Behavioral Sciences Pavilion, 6 Family Medicine Clinics, 2 Walk-in Clinics, 2 Dental Centers, and an Urgent Care Center distributed over the city of Abu Dhabi. For further information, please contact us at [marketing@skmc.gov.ae](mailto:marketing@skmc.gov.ae) or visit [www.skmc.gov.ae](http://www.skmc.gov.ae).*

### **About the SEHA HealthSystem and the Abu Dhabi Health Services Company PJSC (SEHA)**

*SEHA is health in Arabic. The Abu Dhabi Health Services Company PJSC- whose marketing identity is SEHA - is an independent, public joint stock company created to develop the curative activities of the public healthcare system in Abu Dhabi. The company owns and operates all the public hospitals and clinics of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi which together make up the SEHA HealthSystem. SEHA is committed to providing high quality, cost effective healthcare in a socially responsible way on par with international standards measured through accessibility, affordability, choice and satisfaction. SEHA has partnered with internationally recognized hospital managers to achieve these goals. These include Johns Hopkins Medicine International, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, VAMED, Vienna Medical University and*

*Bumrungrad International. SEHA owns and operates 12 hospitals with 2,644 beds, 62 ambulatory care, family care and urgent care centers and 2 blood banks. SEHA is one of the largest integrated healthcare providers in the Middle East with 16,500 doctors, nurses, ancillary care and administrative personnel in its employ. Visit our website at [www.seha.ae](http://www.seha.ae).*

For more details, please call  
Imen Ouerhani  
Marketing - SKMC  
Tel.: +971508128892  
Email: [iouerhani@skmc.gov.ae](mailto:iouerhani@skmc.gov.ae)

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