

مجلس الصحة
لدول مجلس التعاون
Gulf Health Council



Annual Report

2025

Gulf Health Council

Table of Contents

About the Council

- 01** Introduction
- 02** The Health Ministers of the member states
- 03** General Manager Message
- 04** About the Gulf Health Council
- 05** Organizational Structure

Strategic Pillars and Objectives

Council programs and Department

- 06** Strategic Planning and Project Management
- 07** Wafid Program
- 08** Joint Procurement Program
- 09** Registration and Licensing

- 10** Corporate Communication

- 11** Information Technology

- 12** Shared Services

- 13** Internal Audit Unit

Gulf Center for Disease Prevention and Control

- 14** About the Gulf Center for Disease Prevention and Control
- 15** Strategic Planning and Projects
- 16** Public Health Emergencies
- 17** Public Health Information
- 18** Public Health Programs and Policies
- 19** Training and Capacity Building

Conclusion

Introduction

The **GCC Health Council** is pleased to present its annual report for 2025, which reviews its activities and achievements during the year, as part of its role in supporting and coordinating joint health initiatives among member states.

This report documents the initiatives and activities that have been implemented and the progress achieved in the areas of Gulf health cooperation. It reflects the Council's institutional performance during 2025 by presenting the achievements of its departments and programs and highlighting the developments in planning, implementation, and follow-up in its areas of work.

The report provides a comprehensive overview of the Council's role in promoting Gulf health integration, supporting joint efforts to improve public health, enhancing the quality of health services, and strengthening the readiness of the health system in GCC countries.



Achievements



**Council Initiatives
During the Past Year**



Efforts

The Health Ministers of the Member States



**His Excellency Mr. Ahmed bin Ali
Mohammed Al Sayegh**
Ministry of Health and Prevention,
United Arab Emirates



Her Excellency Dr. Jalila Al Sayed Jawad
Ministry of Health,
Kingdom of Bahrain



**His Excellency Dr. Qasim
Mohammed Qasim Buhaib**
Minister of Public Health and
Population - Yemen



**His Excellency Dr. Ahmed
Abdulwahab Al-Awadhi**
Ministry of Health,
State of Kuwait



**His Excellency Mr. Fahad bin
Abdulrahman Al-Jalajil**
Ministry of Health,
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



**His Excellency Mr. Mansour bin
Ibrahim Al Mahmoud**
Ministry of Public Health,
State of Qatar



**His Excellency Dr. Hilal bin
Ali Al-Sabti**
Ministry of Health,
Sultanate of Oman

General Manager Message



Suleiman bin Saleh Al-Dakhil
 General Manager of the Gulf Health Council

The **2025 Annual Report** of the Gulf Health Council reflects the collective institutional efforts undertaken throughout the year to advance joint Gulf health cooperation and strengthen integration among the Member States. The report highlights key achievements and programs delivered within the Council’s mandate, contributing to the development of shared health policies and initiatives while enhancing coordination and integration across regulatory and technical domains.

Throughout 2025, the Council continued to fulfill its responsibilities through its specialized departments and programs, in close coordination with relevant authorities across the Member States. These efforts were guided by the Council’s five strategic pillars: **prevention, awareness, development, health support, and financial sustainability.**

This report also highlights significant milestones achieved by the Gulf Health Council, underscoring its pivotal role in advancing **prevention**, strengthening public health, and addressing regional health challenges. Through the programs and initiatives of the Gulf Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (Gulf CDC), the Council supported surveillance activities and conducted risk assessments across Member States, enhancing proactive preparedness for public health emergencies. The year also marked the launch of the first Gulf Cancer Registry Report (2013–2020), alongside the development of unified Gulf guidelines and frameworks aimed at strengthening health capacities in line with regional health priorities.

Through the Wafid Program, more than 5.3 million expatriate medical screening requests were processed through a network of 862 medical centers across 31 countries worldwide, reflecting the scale and impact of the program in safeguarding public health across the region.

As part of its efforts to promote **health awareness** and improve quality of life, the Council launched the seventh season of the animated program “Salamatak”, designed to instill healthy behaviors among children. In addition, five digital health awareness campaigns were implemented targeting citizens and residents across GCC countries. These campaigns achieved more than 226 million impressions across social media platforms and generated over 1.8 million visits to the “Your Health Guide” platform. In recognition of these efforts, the Council received eight distinguished local and international awards in the field of health awareness.

In the area of health support, the Gulf Joint Procurement Program successfully conducted tenders exceeding SAR 2.4 billion, reinforcing the program’s role in enhancing health security and ensuring access to essential medical supplies across Member States. The Centralized Drug Registration Program also continued to strengthen regulatory approval processes, reaching 2,021 registered pharmaceutical products, while 1,728 pharmaceutical products were integrated with QR codes under the electronic drug leaflet initiative.

Under the development pillar, the Council reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening the capacity of healthcare professionals through GCC participation in major regional and international health conferences and forums, including Arab Health in the United Arab Emirates, the Global Health Exhibition in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the Bahrain International Public Health Conference. The Gulf CDC also introduced a series of advanced training programs aimed at enhancing professional competencies and further investing in health expertise across the region.

In pursuit of financial sustainability, the Council continues to advance toward long-term financial stability through the development of innovative initiatives and programs designed to enhance financial resources and ensure sustainable revenue streams.

The year 2025 also witnessed the approval of the updated strategy of the Gulf Health Council and the Gulf Centre for Disease Prevention and Control for the period 2026–2030, representing a strategic step toward keeping pace with the evolving health landscape and strengthening Gulf cooperation to address shared health priorities while ensuring the sustainability of joint health initiatives.

Through this report, the Gulf Health Council reaffirms its commitment to continuing its institutional mission, building upon the achievements realized during 2025, and working collaboratively with Member States to further strengthen Gulf health integration and support the sustainable development of the regional health system in line with the aspirations of the leaders and peoples of the GCC countries.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Their Excellencies the Ministers of Health, members of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Council in the Member States, as well as to all staff of the Council and the Gulf CDC for their dedication and sincere efforts, which have contributed to achieving these accomplishments and strengthening the Council’s leading role in advancing the joint Gulf health system.

About the Council

The GCC Health Council is one of the joint Gulf cooperation systems in the health sector. Since its establishment, it has played a pivotal role in supporting health cooperation and integration among GCC countries by unifying efforts, coordinating health policies, and working to develop programs and initiatives that contribute to the advancement of the Gulf health sector.

Throughout its nearly five decades of existence, the Council has worked to build regulatory and technical frameworks that support health systems. It has contributed to the launch of joint programs and projects that have formed the cornerstones of health work in the Gulf region, covering areas such as prevention, awareness, development, health support, and financial sustainability, thereby enhancing health performance efficiency and serving the health of the Gulf community.

The Council continues to perform its duties in accordance with its vision and mission, drawing on its accumulated experience, its coordinating role among member states, and its position as an umbrella organization for joint health action in the Gulf region. This supports the sustainability of the Gulf health system and enhances its readiness to face current and future health challenges.



Vision

A Gulf organization with a prestigious regional and global position, which has a pivotal role, contributes effectively to advancing the process of cooperation and joint Gulf health action to achieve sustainable health.



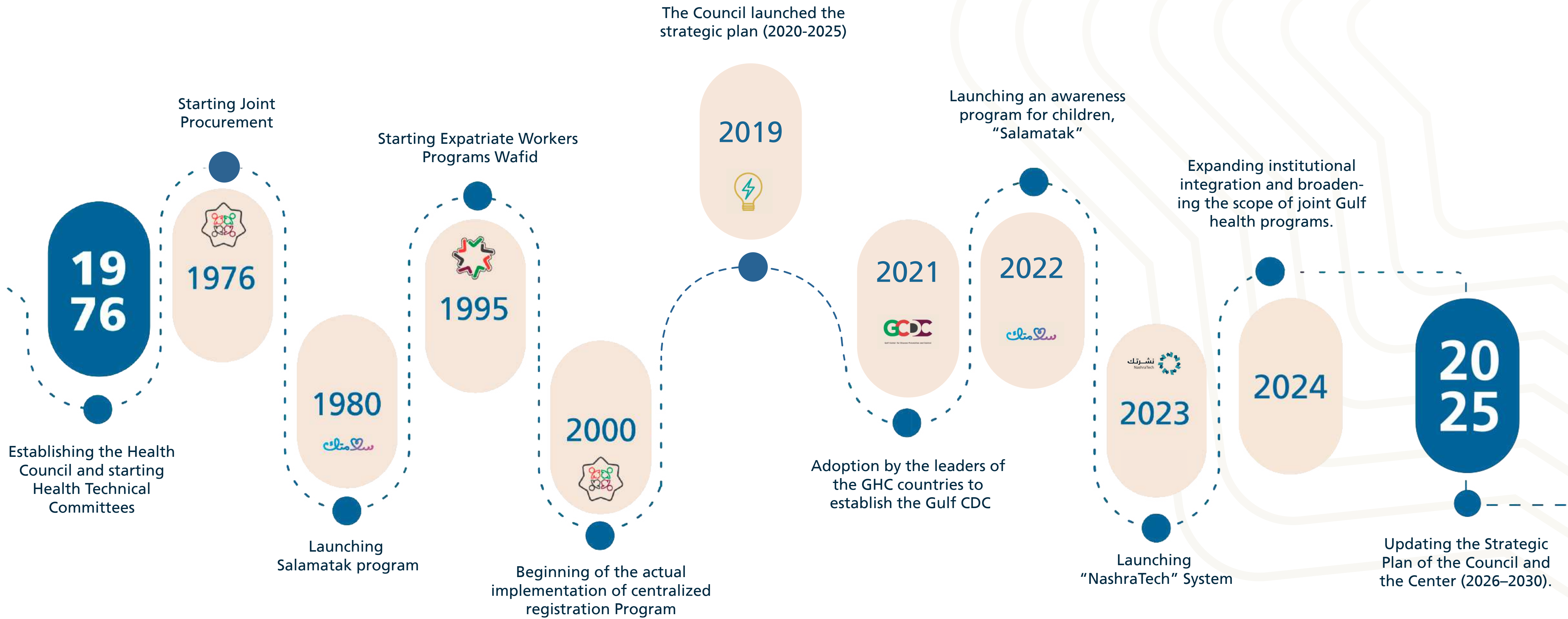
Mission

Advancing and upgrading the level of the health sector in Member States by presenting constructive initiatives, responding to regional and global health issues and challenges, supporting decision-making and health policies, and coordinating joint Gulf action to enhance cooperation and integration among Member States in the health field, in order to achieve the goals of the Council.

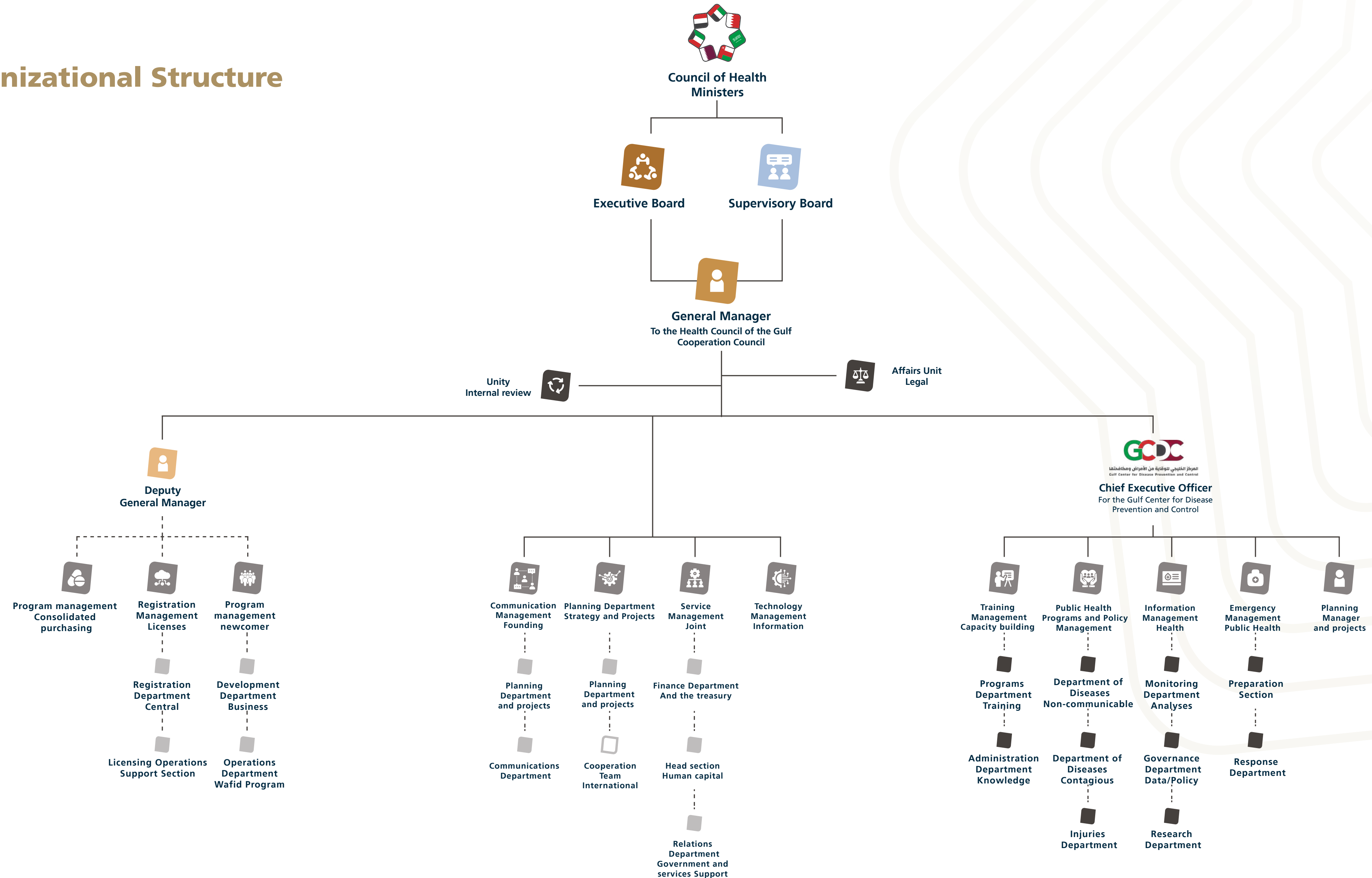
Tasks and objectives of the Council



About the Council



Organizational Structure



Strategic Pillars and Objectives

Strategic Pillars and Objectives



Prevention



Strategic Goal

Preserving public health in Gulf communities

0.03%

unfit cases in 2025.

5.3M

Number of expatriates registered through the electronic system

5

Number of Gulf countries integrated with the WAFID system

42

Number of technical visits conducted (in-person and virtual) during 2025.

126

Number of committee members participating in technical visits

31

Accredited Countries

862

Accredited centers

94%

WAFID program Customer Satisfaction

— Awareness



Strategic Goal

Enhancing healthy behaviors and practices while raising awareness

5

Awareness campaigns

226M

Awareness campaign views

1.1M

Followers of the council's accounts, Salamatak, and the Gulf CDC

1.8M

Visits to the Health Guide platform

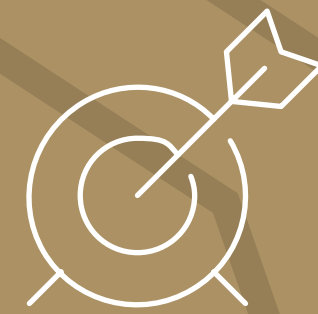
8

Awards achieved

10

Published episodes of the diverse awareness program

— Development



Strategic Goal

Building capacities and investing in Gulf healthcare professional

3

Scientific Conferences
And Symposiums Spon-
sored By The Council

2

Scientific Conferences
And Symposiums Attend-
ed By The Council

33 days

Average Hiring Duration

3

Joint Gulf Health
Studies And Research

64%

Employee Satisfaction
Within The Council

— Health support



Strategic Goal

Enhancing the efficiency of the Council's operations

496

Number Of Registered Pharmaceutical Companies

2021

Number Of Registration Products Pharmaceutical

1728

Number Of Pharmaceutical Preparations Applied Criteria

103

Number of pharmaceutical products that underwent re-registration

13

Number Of Recycling Companies Medical Device Rehabilitation

77

Number Of Rehabilitation Companies Medical Devices

93%

Customer Satisfaction With The Gulf Joint Procurement Program

87%

Customer Satisfaction With The Center Of Registration

4-5 months

Average Offering Period Tenders

Council Programs and Departments

Strategic Planning and Project Management

Strategic planning and project management

The Strategic Planning and Project Management Department is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the strategic plan and preparing periodic reports (monthly and quarterly). It also defines and monitors key performance indicators (KPIs) to ensure the achievement of both strategic and operational objectives. In addition, the Department supervises the follow-up of meeting outcomes across all programs and departments, consolidating them for presentation at the Executive Body and the Council of Health Ministers meetings, to support informed decision-making and the realization of the Council's vision and mission.



Highlights



Follow-up on strategic projects and initiatives

- Project to restructure the wage and benefits scale.
- Archiving of minutes and resolutions.
- Develop a collaborative system for registration, licensing, and centralized procurement management.
- Awareness campaigns and the Salamatak program.



Reports and Performance Measurement

- Preparation of the monthly report for the Board.
- Preparation of the Board's strategic performance report.
- Follow up on the standardization of monthly reports for departments.



Approval of the Council's Strategic Plan 2026/2030



Coordination of meetings and committees

- Coordinating meetings of the Ministers of Health of Member States and meetings of the Executive Board members.
- Coordinating and following up on meetings of various Council committees.



Wafid Program



The Wafid program is one of the regulatory health programs supervised by the Health Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. It is responsible for organizing and supervising the screening of expatriate workers in their countries before entering GCC countries, in accordance with approved health standards, thereby enhancing health security and contributing to the reduction of the transmission of infectious diseases.

The program has contributed to improving the efficiency of medical examination procedures and standardizing approved practices, which has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of cases of ill-health entering GCC countries and has supported efforts to prevent disease and protect public health at the Gulf level.

Sections

01 Operations

The Operations Department of the Wafid Program manages the program's operational activities, including the accreditation of medical centers, the organization of technical visits, the follow-up of the work of the Central Gulf Committee, and the supervision of beneficiary services and financial operations related to the program.

02 Business Development

The Business Development Department works on developing the electronic system to keep pace with digital development in line with the program's strategic objectives, as well as studying and analyzing the electronic work mechanism and coming up with improvements that are commensurate with the work mechanism.



Highlights



31 countries
Included In The Program



5.3 Million
Registered Appointments



0.03 %
Proportion Of Non-Compliant
Cases In The Year 2025



862 Medical
Centers
Number Of Accredited
Medical Centers



94 %
Wafid Program Client Sat-
isfaction Rate



700 Health
Facility
Participation In The Virtual
Wafid Forum

Visit by the Council delegation to the embassies of the GCC countries in:



Republic of Egypt



Republic of Bangladesh



Republic of Nepal



Kingdom of Jordan



Republic of Nigeria



Republic of Kenya



Republic of Uganda



Republic of Turkey



Republic of India



Republic of South Africa



















Sultanate of Brunei



Republic of Senegal

The aim is to strengthen communication, discuss challenges, and explore ways to expand the program's reach to new countries.

Achievements of the Wafid Program for 2025

<p>04 </p> <p>41 members were trained and qualified on the updated evaluation mechanism.</p>	<p>03 </p> <p>Over 100 healthcare facilities were assessed remotely through virtual visits.</p>	<p>02 </p> <p>A total of 312 new healthcare facilities were visited, of which 216 were accredited, achieving an acceptance rate of 69%.</p>	<p>01 </p> <p>Conducted visits to 404 accredited healthcare facilities.</p>
<p>08 </p> <p>Over 70 reports were issued (annual, monthly, and weekly).</p>	<p>07 </p> <p>Enabling expatriates to manage their medical appointments independently through the electronic system.</p>	<p>06 </p> <p>Over +200 accreditation requests were received and reviewed through the Wafid Program's electronic platform.</p>	<p>05 </p> <p>More than 5.3 million appointments were registered through the "Wafid" system.</p>
<p>12 </p> <p>Operational dashboards were developed to support performance monitoring and enhance data accuracy, in line with the Wafid Program's</p>	<p>11 </p> <p>Digitization of medical center licensing procedures to facilitate monitoring and ensure regular updates.</p>	<p>10 </p> <p>Electronic integration was implemented to enable automatic reporting of detected cases with the Ministry of Health in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.</p>	<p>09 </p> <p>The GCC Committee for Grievances and Appeals under the Wafid Program was established, and its first in-person meeting was held in the United Arab Emirates in October 2025.</p>
<p>16 </p> <p>Development of an application to support technical committees in evaluating centers during accreditation or reaccreditation visits.</p>	<p>15 </p> <p>12% of reported infectious disease cases from accredited centers were classified as unfit and fell within the scope of violations.</p>	<p>14 </p> <p>Development of a guidance tool to assess the need for new medical centers in countries and cities, and to evaluate accreditation opportunities prior to application.</p>	<p>13 </p> <p>Electronic integration was established for automatic reporting of detected cases with the Ministry of Health in the United Arab Emirates.</p>

Joint Procurement

Joint procurement

Since its establishment in 1976, the Gulf Joint Procurement Program has been the executive arm of the Health Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council in securing medicines, vaccines, supplies, and medical devices in various specialties for government sectors in member states.

The program operates through standardized and reliable procurement mechanisms that aim to:

01 Meeting the health needs of member states with high efficiency.

02 Enhancing the reliability and sustainability of medical supply chains.

03 Achieving the best value for public spending at the Gulf level.

The program represents a pioneering model for Gulf health integration and a fundamental pillar for supporting regional health security.

The program focuses on:

Procurement and purchase of medicines, vaccines, supplies, and medical devices in various specialties for government sectors in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

Implementation of procurement procedures through joint Gulf committees for tendering and awarding contracts, through procedural and technical meetings involving specialists from various medical disciplines, ensuring the highest levels of quality and transparency.

Link to the central registration process and the Wafid program within the scope of work, as stated in the approved files.



How the program works:

Gulf Joint Procurement Committees

It is responsible for managing and implementing all stages of centralized procurement, including updating manuals, opening envelopes, making decisions and awarding contracts, and considering companies' objections to preliminary award results. This is done through specialized committees comprising members from various medical disciplines, thereby ensuring integrity, transparency, and quality of decision-making.

Electronic Procedures Platform (Taawon)

An integrated digital platform used to automate all unified procurement procedures, from scheduling tenders for the next two years, updating manuals, and determining quantities for member states, to submitting and following up on bids, making award decisions, liaising with relevant authorities, and facilitating communication with manufacturing partners and member states benefiting from the program.



Statistics for 2025



Achievement of joint procurement

- 01** **Implementation and management of a wide range** of unified Gulf tenders covering medicines, vaccines, medical supplies, and equipment, efficiently meeting the needs of member states.
- 02** **Enhancing Gulf coordination** through more than 40 joint technical and procedural committees involving over 300 specialized members from various member states and medical disciplines.
- 03** **Achieving significant financial savings** for member states through collective bargaining, price reviews, and promoting competition among manufacturers.
- 04** **Enhancing transparency and governance** by applying standardized procedures for bidding, opening envelopes, deciding and awarding contracts, and considering companies' objections in accordance with clear regulatory frameworks.
- 05** **Expand the base of participating manufacturers** and engage directly with suppliers to address participation challenges and improve the program's appeal.
- 06** **Preparing for comprehensive digital transformation** by developing the "Taawon" platform as a unified platform for automating procurement procedures, submitting bids, updating manuals, and determining quantities.

- 07** **Supporting health security in the Gulf** by enhancing the reliability of supply chains, accelerating the fulfillment of medical needs, and supporting emergency response readiness through working on medical supply exchange procedures between member states and updating strategic stockpile lists in coordination with the emergency management department at the Gulf CDC.
- 08** **Continue to develop** policies and procedures that balance purchasing efficiency, program sustainability, and price competitiveness, in line with global shifts in health purchasing.



Registration and Licensing

Registration and Licensing Department

The Registration and Licensing Department is responsible for standardizing and regulating the registration and licensing procedures for medical products in the GCC countries, including medical devices and supplies, standardizing the export price of human and veterinary medicines in the GCC countries, pharmacovigilance, and post-marketing surveillance of medical products. This is achieved through unified systems and procedures that ensure the quality, safety, and efficacy of medical products and promote integration and coordination among member states.

It Aims to:



Unify the registration of medical companies and products across the GCC countries.



Unify regulatory systems and procedures for registration and licensing.



Ensuring the safety and quality of medical products and monitoring them after marketing.



Unify regulatory and pricing policies related to medical products.

Central Registration Section

It is responsible for implementing unified registration systems for human medicines, medical devices and supplies, veterinary medicines and their manufacturers, through central Gulf committees that ensure compliance with quality, safety, efficacy and internationally recognized standards.

Licensing Operations Support Section

The Operations Support Department is responsible for implementing regulations related to drug price standardization, drug vigilance, inspection of factories and bioequivalence centers, and supervision of the "Nashratak" system, through central Gulf committees that ensure compliance with quality, safety, and efficacy standards in accordance with approved international specifications.



Achievements of the human medicine system and its factories for the year 2025:

Human medicines and their manufacturers:

A unified system for centrally registering human medicines and their manufacturers. No product is registered until it has been verified to meet quality, safety, and efficacy standards, and to ensure the accuracy of information and manufacturing in accordance with international specifications.



Establishment and updating of the electronic system for the submission and registration of medicinal products and their manufacturers (Taawon 2.0).



Work on a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to clarify the procedures and timeframes for reviewing requests (registration, change, renewal).



Approval of quality requirements guidelines for clinical studies of investigational cell therapies.



Approval of the registration of preparations classified as "promising drugs."



Update the Inspection Manual by adding a chapter on the manufacture of advanced therapies (Annex 2A).



Update the regulatory procedure for issuing factory certificates so that certificates are only renewed after a visit and a decision by the committee.



Updating the guidance manual for medicinal product information leaflets (PIL & SPC).



Holding a Central Registration workshop with pharmaceutical registration companies.



Change the name of the committee to (Gulf Central Committee for Drug and Medical Product Policies).



Holding a training workshop on the practical evaluation of clinical studies at the headquarters of the General Authority for Food and Drug Administration.



Meetings of the Gulf Central Committee for Drug Registration 2025

Statistics on the Committee's decisions for the year 2025

Number of meetings (10)



Total Decisions

419 Decision



Number of new preparations registered

17



Number of approvals for changes to product data

35



Average time for registering human medicines

24 months

Number of new factories/
Bioequivalence Centers
/production lines:

04

Number of renovated factories/
biocompatibility centers

37

Total requests and responses
for central drug registration of
preparations)

532 Requests

Number of renewed
preparations

103

Total requests and responses
for central drug registration
(for factories)

109 Request

Achievements of the medical devices and supplies system for the year 2025:



Approval of two payment tracks for registration applications.



Approval of documents required for re-registration.



Establishment and updating of the electronic system (TAAWON 2.0).



Preparation and approval of application forms.



Approval of the Council's administrative fees.



Update change request fees.



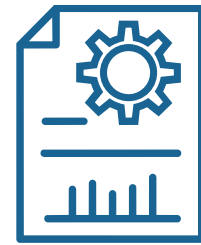
Identify mandatory and optional fields based on the type of request and level of risk.



Qualification and rehabilitation request statistics:

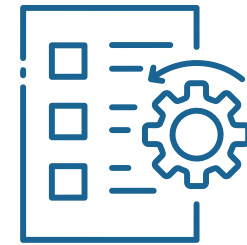
Total Qualification Requests

77



Total Rehabilitation Requests

13



Increase In Qualification Requests By

148%
Compared to 2024

Increase In Rehabilitation Requests By

30%
Compared to 2024

Veterinary medicines and their manufacturers

A unified system for centrally registering veterinary medicines and their manufacturers, in accordance with approved quality, safety, and efficacy standards.

Achievements of the human medicine system and its factories for the year 2025:

Establishment and launch of the Veterinary Products Registration System (Taawon 2.0).

Approval of the Prescription and Dispensing Status Guide for Veterinary Preparations.

Inspection of factories and bioequivalence centers

Inspection is one of the regulatory departments of the Health Council, and is responsible for supervising inspection activities related to factories and bioequivalence centers, and verifying compliance with regulatory and technical requirements approved at the level of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, through a unified system for verifying the application of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and Good Laboratory Practices (GLP).

Achievements of the Factory Inspection and Biosafety Centers Department for the year 2025:

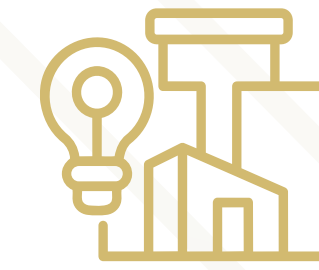
- 01 Launch of the automation and complete digital transformation project for the inspection system.
- 02 Creation of a comprehensive dashboard and database.
- 03 Reduced the waiting list from 62 factories to 4 factories, a reduction of 93.5%.
- 04 Updating inspection models and developing their operational mechanisms.



Factory Inspection Department Statistics:

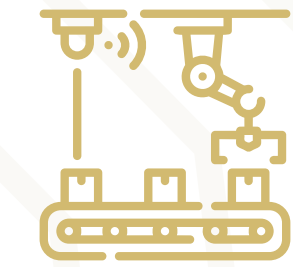
Factories visited:

20



Biological equilibrium centers

10



Actual waiting list

04



Waiting list due to lack of response

12



Pricing of human medicines:

A program aimed at standardizing drug prices and ensuring their availability in GCC markets by standardizing the import price (CIF).



Achievements of the Department of Harmonization of Prices of Human Medicines:

- 01 The project to fully automate and digitally transform the pricing system has begun.
- 02 Creating interactive databases and spreadsheets.
- 03 Develop pricing mechanisms.
- 04 Updating pricing models.
- 05 Standardization of the mechanism for submitting pricing requests (objections, reconsideration, committee interviews, price caps, price consultations).

Pharmacovigilance and post-marketing product monitoring

Inspection is one of the regulatory departments of the Health Council, and is responsible for supervising inspection activities related to factories and bioequivalence centers, and verifying compliance with regulatory and technical requirements approved at the level of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries, through a unified system for verifying the application of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) and Good Laboratory Practices (GLP).

Pharmacovigilance and post-marketing product monitoring achievements

- 01 Prepare a comprehensive pharmacovigilance action plan.
- 02 Work to harmonize pharmacovigilance systems in GCC countries with best practices and internationally recognized standards.
- 03 Contribute to the publication of the unified Gulf guide to the principles of drug vigilance.
- 04 Contribute to raising awareness among healthcare practitioners and members of the community about the importance of medication vigilance and its role in ensuring the safe use of medicines.
- 05 Strengthen mechanisms for information sharing among GCC countries, develop electronic tools and platforms that contribute to the rapid exchange of drug safety data, and support data-driven decision-making.

Statistics on circulars issued:





The Electronic Internal Bulletins (Nashratak) project is one of the projects that supports enabling patients and healthcare practitioners to access updated drug information digitally by scanning a QR code, thereby contributing to improving understanding of drug information, promoting the safe use of medicines, and supporting health sustainability in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

Highlights of the project's work during 2025

The year 2025 saw the continued development of the "Nashratak" system and the improvement of its operational efficiency through the implementation of a number of technical and organizational updates aimed at improving the user experience, facilitating review procedures, and enhancing the system's readiness for regional expansion. The most notable of these updates included the following:

Five updated **versions** of the system **were released**, featuring technical improvements and enhanced user interfaces.

Improve review mechanisms by opening requests in separate tabs.

Enable member **states** to add users directly without having to refer to the Council.

Develop a dashboard for the Council and countries to display statistics more clearly.

Activate the internal electronic circular service to facilitate the communication of updates to companies.

Allow reviewers **to download** all files at once.

Control QR codes without having to withdraw or cancel the request.

Participating in the Pharmaceutical Sector Workshop organized by the Gulf Health Council in Riyadh, to introduce the "Nashratak" system and address inquiries from local and international companies.

Participating in the Arab Health Exhibition in Dubai to introduce the project and the system's operational mechanism.

Standardize the names of certificates and bulletins when downloading to facilitate storage and use.

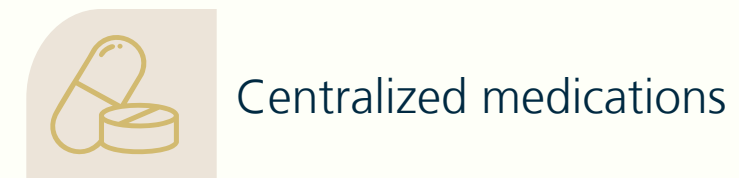
Improve system interfaces for countries by hiding elements that do not affect usage.

Approval of the Jordan Food and Drug Administration (JFDA) joining the "Nashratak" electronic patient information leaflet program.

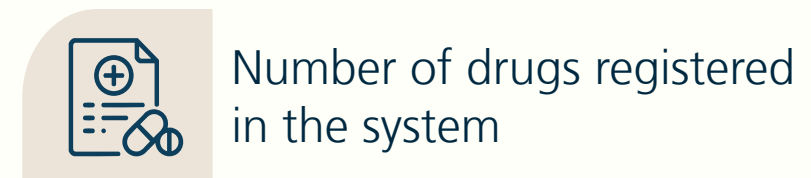
Participating in the Global Health Exhibition in Riyadh to introduce the project and the system's operational mechanism.

Your publication system statistics for 2025

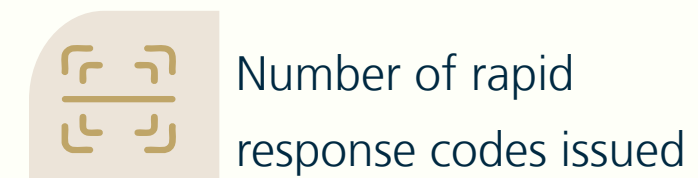
The following statistics reflect the extent of the system's use and prevalence during the year:



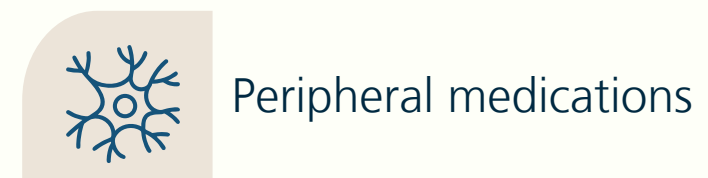
930



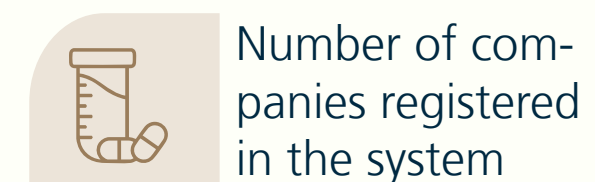
1800



1728



870



139



133



Corporate Communication

Corporate Communications

The Corporate Communication Department manages communication with internal and external stakeholders and oversees the preparation and implementation of the Council's media and public relations plan, contributing to projecting a distinguished image of its activities. The department also focuses on coordination among GCC countries to enhance health awareness efforts, maintaining the health and safety of citizens and residents in the Council's member states. Furthermore, the department contributes to achieving the goals and vision of the Gulf Health Council.

In the context of enhancing regional and international presence and activating the Council's role across various health and media sectors, the Council participated in several key events, including the Arab Health Exhibition and Congress held in Dubai and the Global Health Exhibition held in Riyadh.

Additionally, the department issued a monthly newsletter for the Council's employees and members of the Executive Body, totaling (12) newsletters. This period also witnessed an intensified media presence, with more than (150) press releases published to highlight the Council's achievements.

Communication

Organizes and manages communication channels within and outside the Council and with its partners, prepares and disseminates media content, and conveys institutional messages in a clear and consistent manner, thereby strengthening institutional cohesion and consolidating the Council's local and regional presence.

Health awareness

Leads the implementation of awareness campaigns and initiatives at the GCC level by developing targeted health content that focuses on health priorities, with the aim of raising awareness and promoting preventive behaviors in Gulf society.



Gulf Health Council Social Media Statistics for 2025



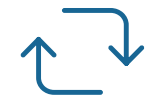
+1.1M User

Expanding Content Reach The Council Shall Include More Than



+395M Appearance

Total Appearances Of The Council's Content Across Platforms



+1.3M Interaction

Total Audience Engagement With Council Content Exceeded



+420

Media Appearances



+227M

Digital Access



+1.8M

Visits To The "Your Health Guide" Platform



61K

Total Participants In Health Tests During 2025:



49

Community Partnerships

Awareness Campaign statistics 2025

The Fortification Campaign

+44M
Digital Access

+100
Media appearances

214K
Campaign page visits



The Campaign of Rabo

+40.9M
Digital Access

+50
Media appearances

161K
Campaign page visits



Human papillomavirus vaccine campaign

+90M
Digital Access

+100
Media appearances

427K
Campaign page visits



Nutrition and Obesity Campaign

+30M
Digital Access

+70
Media appearances

105K
Campaign page visits



The Headache Campaign

+21.4M
Digital Access

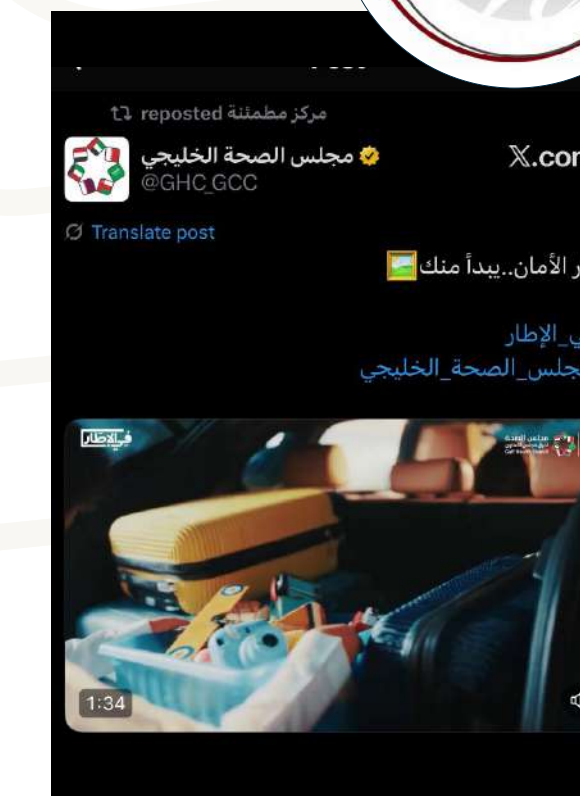
+100
Media appearances

303K
Campaign page visits



Community Partnerships

49
Partnerships



Awareness Guides

04

Awareness Guide

Asthma Test Guide
Promotes awareness of asthma by explaining its causes and complications, its impact on quality of life, and the importance of early detection and health monitoring.



Headache Guide
Contributes to raising awareness about types of headaches, their common causes, and ways to prevent them, while emphasizing the importance of proper diagnosis and safe use of treatment.



Immunization Guide
It aims to promote health awareness of the importance of immunization, build confidence in vaccines, and correct misconceptions associated with them, thereby contributing to reducing hesitancy and promoting health prevention.



Guide to Mindful Eating and Obesity Prevention
Supports the adoption of healthy lifestyles by promoting awareness of proper nutrition, encouraging balanced eating habits, and preventing obesity and its health complications.



Bulletins published throughout the year

12 Year-Round Publication

+160 Press Release

الرياض

الرئيسية / المحليات

الخميس 24 ذو القعدة 1446هـ. 22 مايو 2025م

مجلس الصحة الخليجي يطلق حملة «تنفس بوعي»

مجلس الصحة الخليجي يطلق (أخبارًا) سلسةً للتوعية بأهمية التنفس بوعي

مجلس الصحة الخليجي
Gulf Health Council

رحلة الربو على مر الأزمان

عُرف الربو منذ آلاف السنين، وتطوّر فهمه وعلاجه عبر العصور على يد علماء مثل أبقراط، الرازي، وابن سينا. واليوم، تمنحنا الأدوية والتقنيات فرصة تنفّس أفضل!

ما الذي يجعل الربو تحدي العصر الحديث:

- نمط الحياة العصري**
قلة الحركة، الاعتماد على الأجهزة، والتعرض للملوثات
- التغذية الحديثة**
نقص الأغذية الطبيعية التي تقوّي المناعة، أطعمة مصنعة ومحفزات للحساسية
- البيئة**
تلوث الهواء، عواصف ترابية

ابدأ بتنفس صحي اليوم

مجلس الصحة الخليجي | GHCC_GCC | Gulf Health Council | GHOUNCIL

مجلس الصحة الخليجي يطلق حملة لتوعية بعنوان "تنفس بوعي"

مجلس الصحة الخليجي يطلق حملة لتوعية بعنوان "تنفس بوعي"

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مجلس الصحة الخليجي
Gulf Health Council

النشرة الشهرية

نشرة دورية تتضمن أبرز فعاليات ومناشط المجلس
العدد 90 شهر أبريل 2025م

مجلس الصحة الخليجي
Gulf Health Council

النشرة الشهرية

نشرة دورية تتضمن أبرز فعاليات ومناشط المجلس
العدد 89 شهر مارس 2025م

مجلس الصحة الخليجي
Gulf Health Council

النشرة الشهرية

نشرة دورية تتضمن أبرز فعاليات ومناشط المجلس
العدد 88 شهر فبراير 2025م

Health Awareness Tests

The Corporate Communication Department implemented digital awareness activations accompanying health campaigns to measure health awareness levels and enhance community engagement.

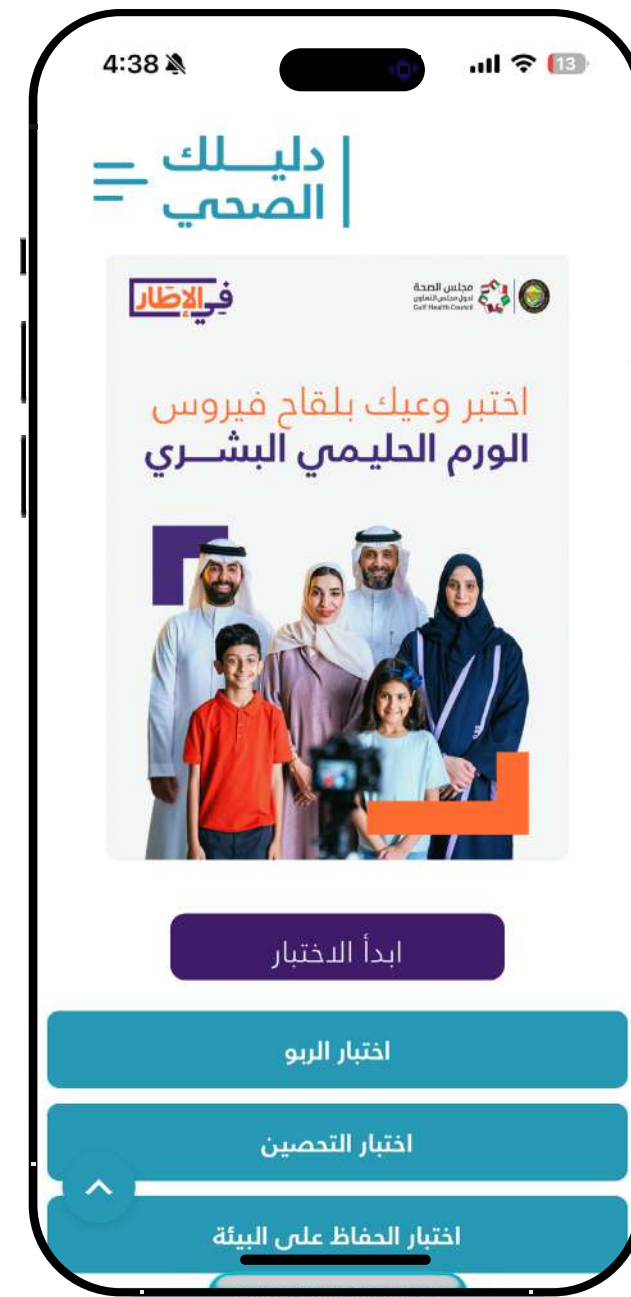
These included:



800 participants
Immunization Quiz



+3K participants
Asthma Quiz



+17.1K participants
HPV Vaccine Quiz



+19.3K participants
Obesity Quiz



+20.4K participants
Headache Quiz

Media Appearances

+65

Total Media Coverage:


Featured across Gulf television and radio channels, to deliver key media messages to a broad audience segment.

Television


البحرين Dr. Fatima Hassan



الإخبارية Dr. Youssef Al-Ramz



الكويت Dr. Namarq Al-Jaraki



aloc Dr. Yaqoub Marhoon




Radio

A. Samira Al-Shamrani **إذاعة جدة**



Dr. Mona Al-Shukaili **الوصول**



Dr. Mahmoud Al-Hamoud **إذاعة الرياض**



Dr. Dana Al-Sourti **إذاعة البحرين**



Awards and Honors

The GCC Health Council won **eight awards in 2025**, confirming its excellence and leadership in institutional communication and health awareness campaigns at the regional and international levels.

#خذ_احتياجاك

لافيك
ولا في
الحديد

#لعيب_لكن

راجح



Titan Awards Award

3 international awards

Traffic Safety Campaign

Environmental Health Campaign

The Electronic Gaming Disturbance Campaign



Awards during 2025



Muse Awards Award

4 international awards

Traffic Safety Campaign

The Environment Campaign, The Video Game Disturbance Campaign

Food Waste Campaign



Gulf Sustainability Awards









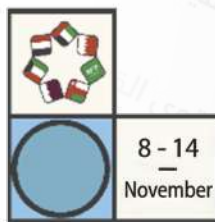


Gulf Award

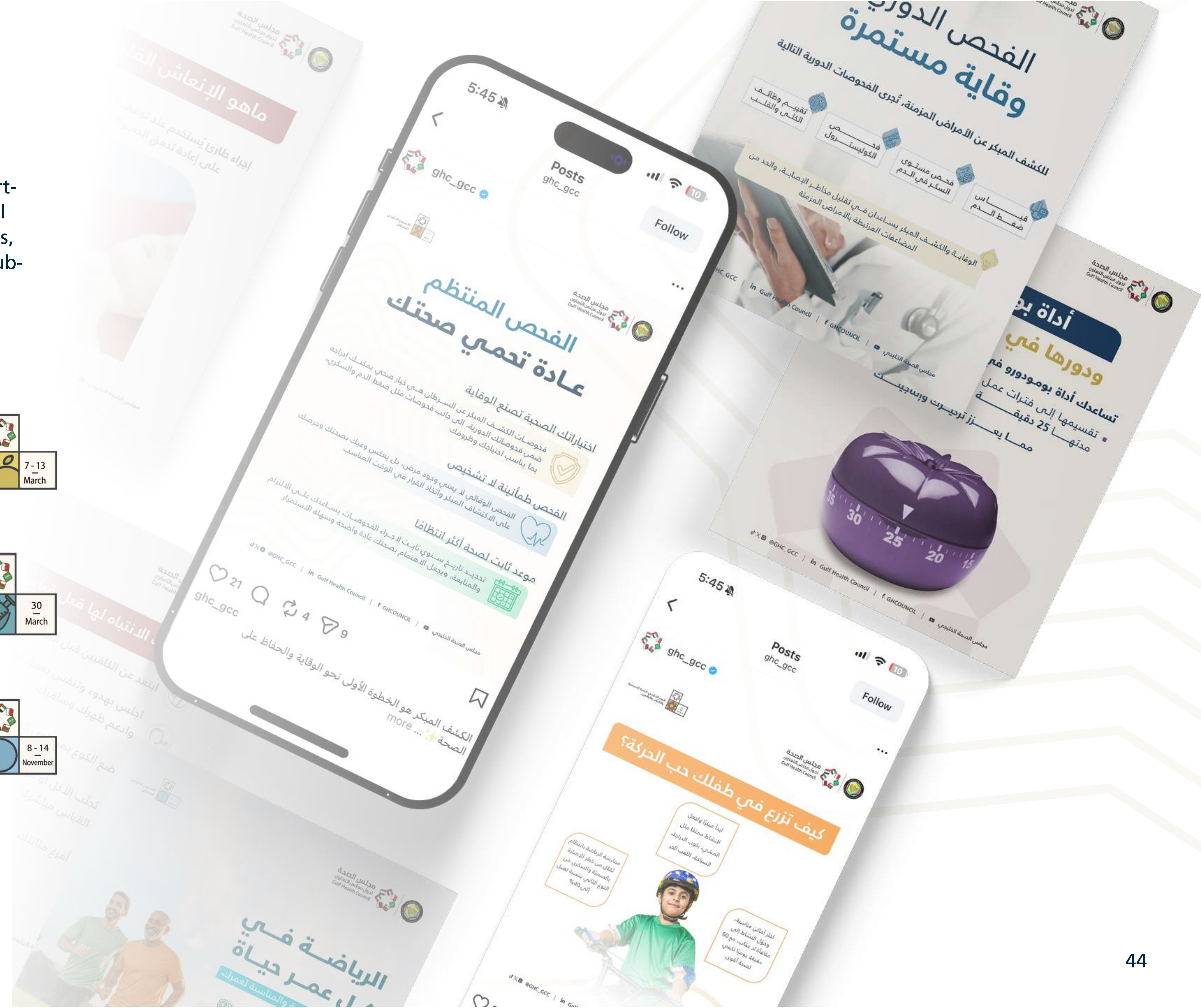
outstanding contribution award

Gulf and global health events

During 2025, the Corporate Communications Department organized a number of Gulf and international health events aimed at promoting health awareness, reinforcing prevention concepts, and supporting public health in the GCC countries.

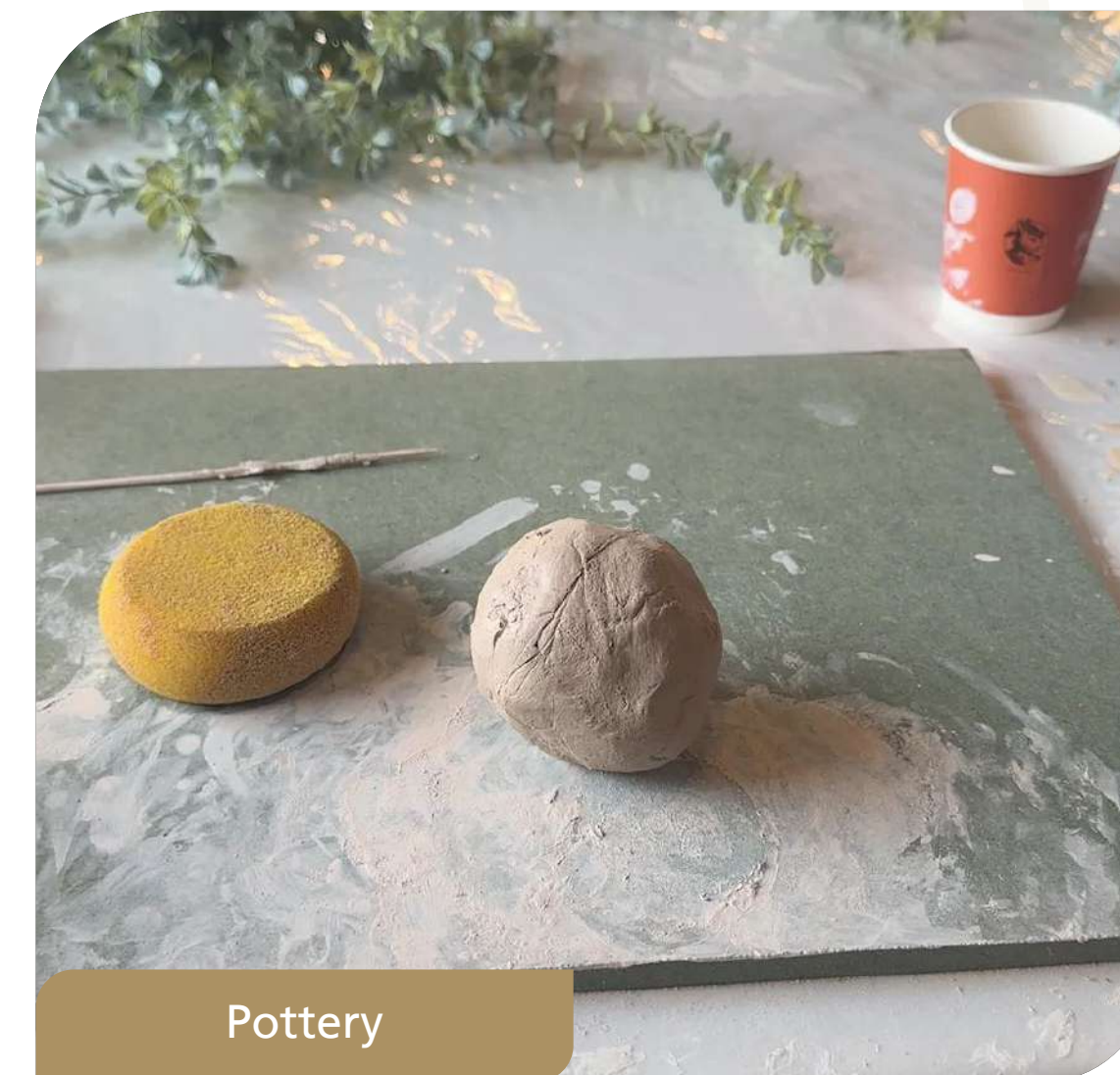
These occasions include:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Gulf Day for Child</p>  <p>15
January</p> | <p>Gulf Week for Cancer</p>  <p>1-7
February</p> | <p>Gulf Week for Nutrition</p>  <p>7-13
March</p> |
| <p>Gulf Day for Nursing</p>  <p>13
March</p> | <p>Gulf Week for Oral Health</p>  <p>25-31
March</p> | <p>Gulf Day for Immunizations</p>  <p>30
March</p> |
| <p>Gulf Week for Occupational Safety</p>  <p>26-30
April</p> | <p>Gulf Day for School Health, Youth, and Adolescents</p>  <p>30
September</p> | <p>Gulf Week for Diabetes</p>  <p>8-14
November</p> |
| <p>Gulf Day for Environmental Health</p>  <p>19
September</p> | <p>Gulf Week for Cardiovascular Disease Awareness</p>  <p>12-18
September</p> | |



Internal Communication

The Internal Communications Department organized a variety of interactive events and activities throughout the year, with the aim of enhancing the work environment, motivating employees, and promoting team spirit and communication among them. These activities included health, social, and recreational aspects, which contributed to creating a more positive and interactive work experience.



Field participation and activation of campaigns

In order to promote cooperation and exchange experiences, the administration participated in a number of exhibitions and conferences, including :

01 Participation in the Arab Health Exhibition and Conference – Dubai

02 Participation in the Global Health Forum – Riyadh

03 Implementation of the "Wafid" Forum First assumption



As part of the awareness efforts, an awareness lecture on human papillomavirus was held at the King Salman Center, schools across the Kingdom, Manarat Al-Yamamah schools, and Princess Noura University.

01 Activate mental health campaigns in educational institutions.



02 Implementation of digital and field activities for the obesity and nutrition campaign at exhibitions and universities.



03 Broadcasting the HPV vaccine campaign across media screens



04 Deliver awareness lectures on the human papillomavirus vaccine in educational and health institutions.



Salamatak

Salamatak is an awareness program with an Arab flavor and spirit that provides health tips and advice in line with the guidelines and standards of international organizations for achieving health and safety in a spontaneous awareness format that appeals to healthy individuals in particular and members of society in general.

80
Awareness
post

+32.9K
Total Followers

10
Awareness
Episodes

12.8M
Total Views



Information Technology

Information Technology

The Information Technology Department is responsible for developing, managing, and supporting the technical infrastructure and digital services of the Council and the Gulf CDC, including data centers, networks, communications and the Internet, and cybersecurity, as well as developing, managing, and supporting the digital systems and applications for the Council's various programs.

It Aims to:



Ensuring business continuity with high efficiency and reliability.



Enhancing information security and protecting digital assets.



Supporting digital transformation and improving the efficiency of technical services.



Adopting advanced technological solutions and utilizing modern technologies and artificial intelligence.



Enhancing the readiness of digital systems for current and future requirements

Sections:

01

Infrastructure

The Infrastructure Department manages and operates the technical infrastructure of the Council and the Gulf CDC, ensuring the readiness and stability of systems and the security of digital assets in accordance with international best practices.

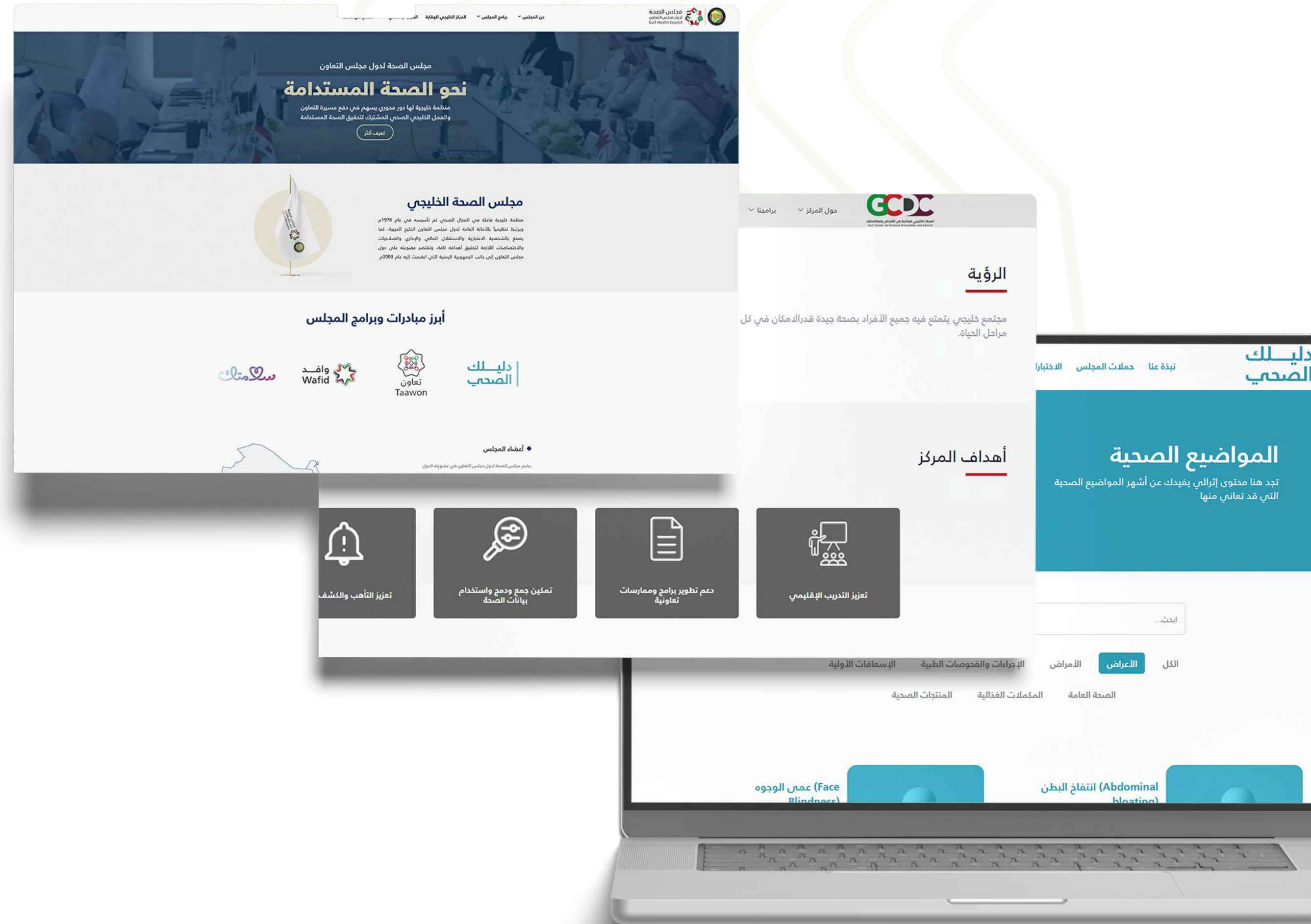
02

Business Development

The Business Development Department is responsible for developing digital solutions that support the programs of the Council and the Gulf CDC through process automation and systems integration, thereby enhancing service efficiency, supporting decision-making, and improving the user experience.

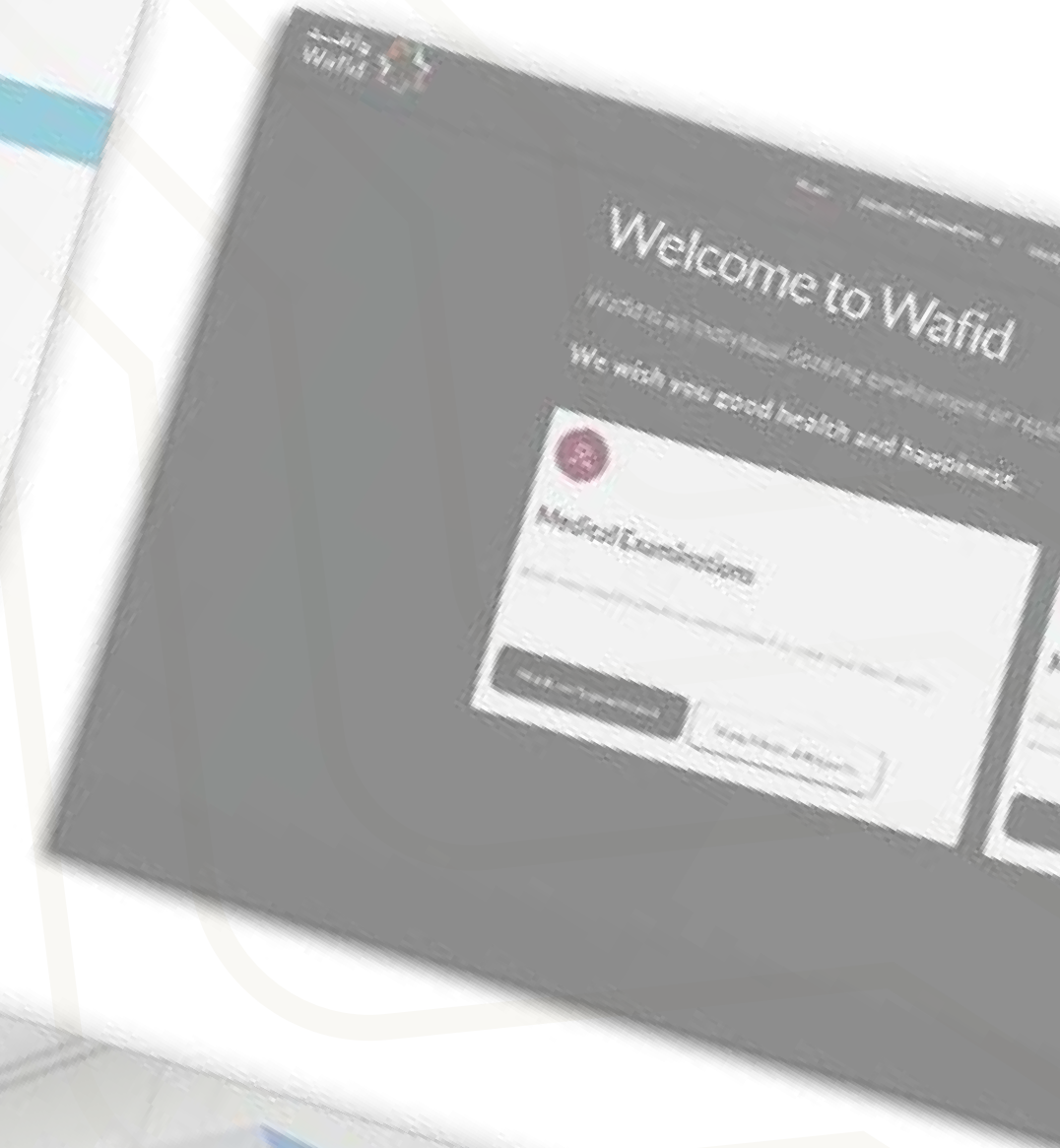
Information Technology achievements:

- 01 **Supervision of three Council applications:** WAFID, Taawon, and Nashratak.
- 02 **Supervision and provision of technical support for 5 websites:** the Gulf Health Council website, the Gulf CDC website, WAFID, Salamatak, and Taawon.
- 03 **Launch of the Knowledge Platform to unify knowledge sources,** enable intelligent search, and support decision-making, as well as the exchange and sharing of best practices among GCC health entities.
- 04 The total number of visits to the ghc’s websites **reached 2 million.**
- 05 **Upgrade and development of the Council’s website and the “Your Health Guide” platform,** with enhancements to user experience and strengthened compliance with accessibility standards.
- 06 **Activation of the Information Security Center** to enhance security monitoring, detect and prevent intrusions, implement information security governance, and respond to cybersecurity incidents.
- 07 **Upgrade of the virtual hosting system for the Council’s platforms,** including enhancements to the virtual server environment to improve performance, strengthen security isolation, and support backup and recovery.



Information Technology achievements:

- 08** Provided support for more than 1,241 tickets during 2025.
- 09** Conducted a cybersecurity awareness workshop for employees to enhance security awareness and build capabilities in detecting cyber threats, as part of ongoing awareness programs.
- 10** Issued more than 36 licenses for operating various software and applications within the Council.
- 11** Launching the meeting archive website for documenting the minutes and decisions of the council committees and relevant entities for in-person and virtual meetings.
- 12** Prepared 10 Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with operating entities.



Shared Services

Shared Services

The Shared Services supports the work of the Health Council and the Gulf CDC- by providing support services to departments and divisions, securing operational needs, and organizing administrative, financial, and human resources to ensure business continuity and improve institutional performance in accordance with approved regulations.

Sections:

01

Support Services

Provides administrative and operational support to the departments and divisions of the Council and the Gulf CDC, organizes official correspondence, manages logistics services for committees, and secures the necessary requirements for daily operations.

Internal Purchasing Unit

Responsible for securing the needs of the Council's departments and divisions and the Gulf CDC in terms of purchases, materials, and various supplies, and following up on procurement procedures until delivery in accordance with approved requests.

02

Finance

Responsible for managing the financial resources of the Council and the Gulf CDC, monitoring revenues and expenditures, promoting financial sustainability, adhering to approved financial plans, and monitoring collections, expenditures, deposits, and financial indicators.

03

Human Capital

Responsible for managing human capital affairs at the Health Council and the Gulf CDC, implementing recruitment processes, monitoring workforce indicators, implementing training and development programs, supporting the stability of human resources, and raising their efficiency.

Achievements of Shared Services for 2025

Achievements of the Support Services Section

Logistical Services for the Meetings of the Gulf Health Council and the Gulf CDC:

Number of internal committees in the Health Council.	21 committees
Number of internal committees at the Gulf CDC.	11 committees
Number of committees outside the Kingdom.	16 committees

Partners Services:

Number of Visitors	250
Internal and External Correspondence	1238

Achievements of the Internal Procurement Unit

Provision of the Needs of Departments and Sections:

Number of purchase orders	47
Total cost of purchase orders	50 M ₪
Number of invoices	2310

Achievements of Shared Services Management for 2025

Achievements of the Human Resources Section

Number of employees	112
Talent Attraction	28
Job attrition	17
Percentage of males	61%
Percentage of females	39%
Specialized training programs:	
Number of trainees	48

Local and international training centers



Internal Audit Unit

Internal Audit Unit

The Internal Audit Unit is responsible for assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of governance practices, risk management, and control systems in place at the Council, thereby contributing to strengthening compliance with approved regulations and policies and raising the level of institutional performance. The department also prepares and submits relevant reports based on the results of its reviews and makes recommendations to support continuous improvement.

Internal Audit Functions:

- Review of the electronic system for Wafid Program.
- Review of the Gulf Center for Disease Prevention and Control's operations, within a multi-departmental scope.
- Follow up on the implementation of recommendations contained in previous audit reports.
- Providing technical advice within the governance and restructuring project, reviewing regulations and committee charters.

Achievements of the Internal Audit Unit 2025

Reports Issued	5
Observations Raised	32
Observations Closed	5





المركز الخليجي للوقاية
من الأمراض ومكافحتها
Gulf Center for Disease
Prevention and Control

Gulf Center for Disease Prevention and Control

Gulf Center for Disease Prevention and Control

Vision

A Gulf community where every individual enjoys optimal health throughout all stages of life.

Mission

Strengthening coordination, advancing knowledge, and generating evidence to support the prevention of communicable and non-communicable diseases, mitigate public health emergencies, and promote healthy communities across the Gulf region.

Strategic objectives:

Public Health Development Supporting and developing programs, policies, and practices in the field of public health.

Health Data Enhancement Enabling the collection, utilization, and quality of public health data through surveillance and research

Public Health Capacity Building Strengthening regional training in public health and capacity building.

Advanced Health Response Enhancing preparedness, early detection, and rapid response to health risks in the Gulf region.

Role of the Gulf Center for Disease Prevention and Control

Enhancing quality of life through the alignment and coordination of policies, procedures, and protocols.

Prevention of communicable and non-communicable diseases.

Enhancing health systems at the regional and national levels.

Expanding training programs and facilitating knowledge exchange.

Improving preparedness and response to public health emergencies.

Strategic Planning and Projects

Strategic Planning and Projects Department

The Strategic Planning and Projects Department aims to develop strategic plans for the Gulf CDC and implement projects that achieve its long-term goals. This includes defining the vision and objectives and developing appropriate strategies to effectively implement projects.

Aims to:

Developing and updating the Center's strategic **plans** and defining its long-term vision and objectives.

Follow up on the implementation of **projects** supporting the strategic plan in coordination with the center's departments.

Measuring and evaluating the overall performance of the center and monitoring performance indicators related to the plan and projects.

Sections:

Strategic Planning:

Responsible for defining the center's future vision, setting long-term goals, developing plans to achieve these goals, and evaluating the center's overall performance.

Projects:

This section is responsible for monitoring the implementation of projects that support the Center's strategic plan, from the planning stage to project implementation and follow-up on the achievement of related objectives with all departments of the Center.



Achievements Of The Strategic Planning and Projects Department For The Year 2025

Updating the Unified Health Strategy:

Develop a strategic review plan that includes clear and measurable tools, such as measuring the maturity of the organization and the extent to which employees understand the plan, as well as identifying the resources required to implement the plan for the coming year 2025.

Technical meetings:

Hold three meetings of the Technical Committee during 2025 to discuss topics related to pandemic response, health security enhancement, and the development of effective strategies for health awareness and prevention of chronic and infectious diseases, as a platform for cooperation and coordination among Gulf countries in the field of public health.

Supervisory meetings:

Hold five meetings of the Supervisory Board during 2025 in Riyadh, attended by representatives of member states, to discuss the latest developments in the Center's work and its future plans, present key performance indicators, and present the plan to update the future strategy for the period 2030-2026.

First consultative meeting of public health leaders

The Gulf CDC in the Kingdom of Bahrain held a consultative meeting for public health leaders in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries to discuss ways to strengthen disease prevention activities in the region.

Third anniversary of the center's founding

The Gulf Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Gulf CDC) celebrated its third anniversary, with the CEO reviewing the center's most notable achievements over the past years and its future plans, along with activities to enhance employee interaction and build a more innovative and collaborative work environment.



Visit to the World Health Organization headquarters – Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (Cairo):

With the aim of expanding areas of cooperation in pandemic preparedness, disease prevention, and health emergency response.



International cooperation in public health – Visit by a delegation from the Singapore Health Promotion Board to the Center

To exchange experiences, explore joint initiatives, and enhance cooperation in health awareness, preventive care, and population health strategies.



Visit by a delegation from the Center to the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Beijing)

To strengthen collaboration in disease surveillance, emergency response, and workforce development, supporting global health security and long-term cooperation.



Gulf CDC meetings with the IGWG team:

The Center held a series of meetings with the IGWG team to discuss the BAPS Annex and a number of joint technical topics, with the aim of improving coordination among member states, developing joint working mechanisms, and enhancing the efficiency of discussions on responding to health risks.



Visit to South Korea – Global Vaccine Institute and Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

As part of efforts to exchange experiences and enhance cooperation.

Public Health Emergencies

Public Health Emergencies

The Public Health Emergency works to raise the level of preparedness and response to public health risks in GCC countries, while supporting early detection and recovery assessment activities for public health emergencies of a biological, chemical, nuclear, and environmental nature.

Aims to

- 


Enhancing preparedness and response to public health emergencies in GCC countries.
- 

Monitor regional health risks and threats and provide early warnings.
- 

Support information exchange and coordination among Gulf countries through approved communication channels.
- 

Unify and develop best practices in the field of public health emergencies.
- 

Contribute to the development and implementation of joint activities and exercises.



Supporting countries' preparedness with modern preparedness tools and acting as a coordination center for response.



Activate and deploy rapid response teams to contain public health emergencies of regional significance.



Public Health Emergencies Achievements for 2025

Conducting (2) simulation exercises for the Gulf CDC's public health emergency team to test the team's readiness to respond to a regional health crisis scenario and identify opportunities for improvement to enhance future preparedness.

Preparation of the Gulf MERS report for the period (2024–2012) on prevention and control efforts, governance and surveillance frameworks, and capacity building, in support of the development of public health emergency preparedness and response plans in GCC countries.

Participation in five conferences and workshops, including the MENATOX conference, the Public Health Emergency Response Operations workshop, and the CREED platform, with the aim of highlighting the Gulf countries' preparedness for pandemics.

Holding (6) coordination and consultation meetings

590 health alerts monitored during 2025 and 6 threats followed up, reflecting the administration's ability to improve early warning systems.

Prepared (7) risk assessments, including assessments of mass gatherings, to support decision-making and enhance the Center's ability to predict and prepare for public health risks.

53 weekly reports on cyber intelligence to ensure enhanced information sharing across GCC countries.

12 monthly epidemiological intelligence **reports** containing comprehensive analysis of the most significant epidemiological indicators.

Prepare and publish the annual Epidemic Intelligence Report, which provides a comprehensive overview of health signals, threats, and events.

Prepare a risk assessment report on Hajj with the aim of supporting preparedness and enhancing coordination among GCC countries.

Organizing a regional workshop on the institutionalization and sustainability of Rapid Response Team (RRT) programs, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO).



Public Health Emergencies Reports




Public Health Information

Public Health Information

One of the fundamental and strategic pillars of the Gulf CDC, through which data on infectious and non-infectious diseases is monitored, collected, analyzed, and reported. Public health data is collected through disease indicators based on epidemiological surveillance and monitoring, health and behavioral surveys, disease and injury registries, and health research.

The Public Health Information Department aims to enable the collection and use of public health data across key indicators through the implementation of epidemiological surveillance, surveys, and disease and injury registries, as well as collaborative health research with GCC countries.

Aims to

-  Monitoring, collecting, and analyzing public health data and issuing reports on infectious and non-infectious diseases.
-  Implementation of epidemiological surveillance and monitoring activities, health and behavioral surveys, and disease and injury registries.
-  Support and enable the use of public health data through key indicators, and conduct collaborative health research with GCC countries.



Sections

01



Data governance and policies

Responsible for designing and implementing data management, protection, and usage strategies, policies, and procedures at the Gulf CDC, ensuring compliance with approved policies by internal and external users, creating guidelines, enforcing policies, and collaborating with stakeholders to establish frameworks for data collection, protection, and usage.

02



Surveillance and analysis

Oversees the development and management of a unified and integrated surveillance system that facilitates access to monitor diseases, health events, and risks in the GCC countries, by monitoring diseases, health events, and risks, utilizing information systems and technology initiatives, and unifying data sources, facilitating data search, analysis, and presentation, and issuing predictive reports on diseases and health events to members in the GCC countries.

03



Public Health Research

Aims to leverage access to data, advanced technologies, and applicable methodologies to conduct public health research on critical threats and risks to inform timely decision-making.

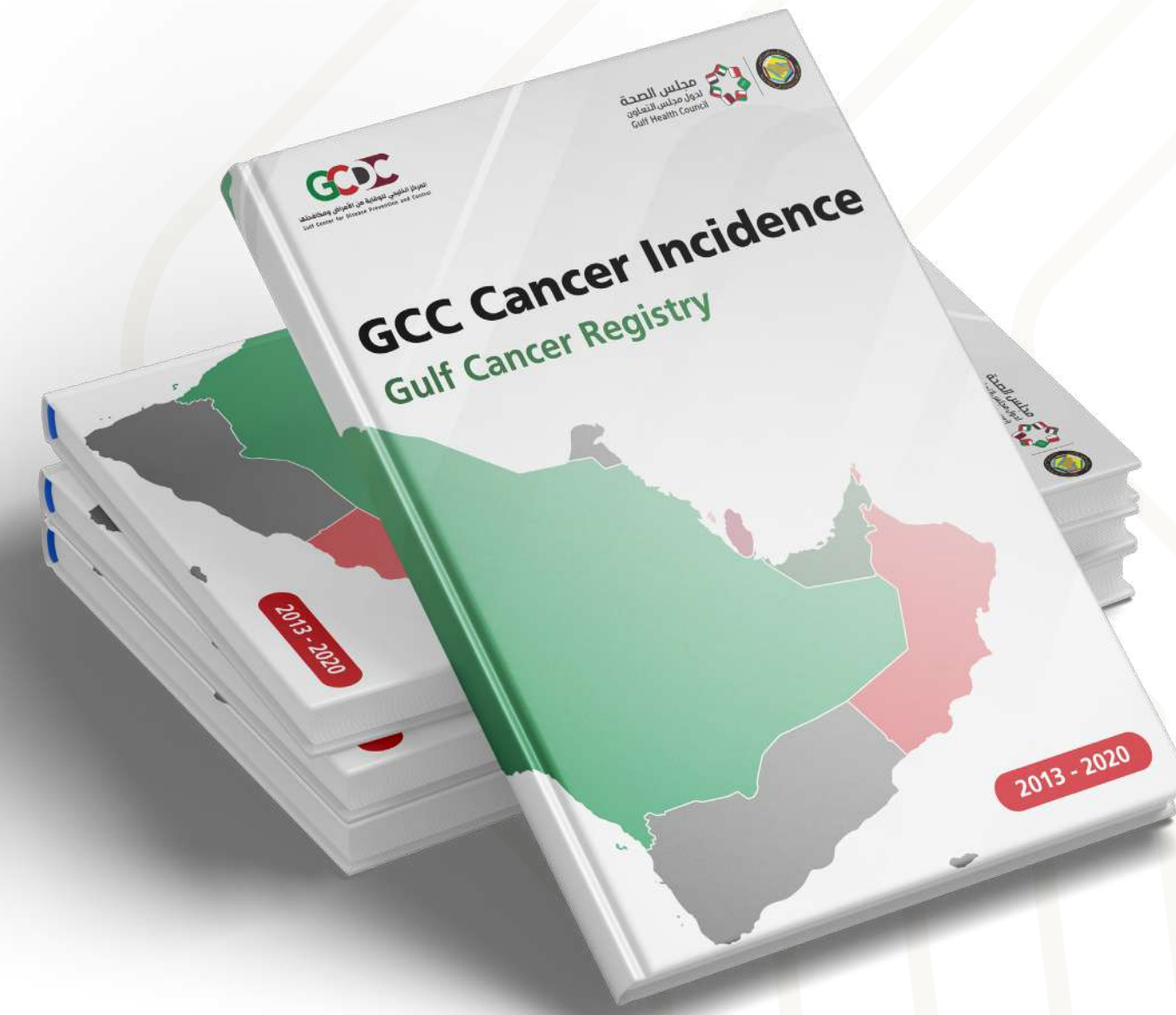
Public health information achievements

Held (5) specialized **meetings** with representatives of countries and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) to discuss the development of the Gulf Cancer Registry and improving data quality.

Holding a Traffic Safety Working Group meeting to create the Gulf Road Traffic Injury Registry and formulate a unified strategy to mitigate traffic injuries and foster regional integration.

Conducting (2) training workshops (the Gulf Road Traffic Injury Registry workshop and the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) workshop) aimed at establishing and operationalizing the Gulf Registry for Road Traffic Injuries, and executing a specialized training program to enhance the efficiency of the Center's and Council's staff in developing and implementing standard operating procedures.

Conducting a training course for cancer registrars in collaboration with IARC with the aim of improving registrars' proficiency in coding, quality assurance, and recording complex cases.



Launch of the first Gulf Cancer Registry Report (2013-2020) as a comprehensive reference containing in-depth analyses and a section dedicated to childhood cancers.

Participation in (6) Gulf and regional **conferences** and forums with the aim of exchanging experiences and strengthening the Center's regional presence.

International participation and meetings (IARC – KDCA – ICI – Izmir Center) to promote cooperation and exchange experiences.

Launch of the official public health data **portal** to support decision-making, promote joint action, and improve data governance efficiency.

Achievements of the Surveillance and Analysis

Held **(8)** coordination and technical **meetings** in partnership with relevant entities, including the Statistical Center for the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries, Wafid Program, and monitoring and research networks, with the aim of enhancing the integration of Gulf health data and standardizing definitions and methodologies.

Participation in two conferences (the Global Health Forum and the Bahrain International Public Health Conference) with the aim of highlighting the Center's efforts in promoting health security in the Gulf region.

Participation in a regional workshop on vector-borne and zoonotic diseases.

The Center's participation in the Integrated Disease Surveillance (IDS) Partners' Meeting.

Gulf CDC visit to the Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO) and review of the public health information strategy and the department's role in developing the Gulf Public Health Observatory.

Holding **(2) workshops**: wastewater monitoring and dengue fever prediction and surveillance models, to strengthen technical capacities, exchange best practices, and conduct an interactive decision-support exercise.

Participation in a regional workshop on immunization data management and surveillance of vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs).

Achievements of the Public Health Research

Holding (2) meetings of the Permanent Contact Network for Health Research.

Conducting a training course on the Economic Impact Analysis of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), covering Cost-Effectiveness Analysis (CEA), Budget Impact Analysis (BIA), and Markov Modeling.

Develop a framework for joint public health research in GCC countries through a participatory process and country voting on research areas, specifying levels of oversight, coordination, and implementation, as well as future plans for a fast track for ethical reviews and the preparation of SOPs and supporting templates.

Publication of the Public Health Research Priorities Report for 2025–2026.

Participation in **(2)** conferences (Global Health Forum, Bahrain International Public Health Conference) with the aim of highlighting the Center's efforts in promoting health security in the Gulf region.

Organizing a workshop on surveying the health behaviors of adolescents to discuss adopting the Global School-based Student Health Survey and assessing its adaptation to the cultural context of GCC countries.

Public Health Programs and Policies

Public Health Programs and Policy Management

The Gulf CDC works to support the development of collaborative public health programs, policies, and practices based on current health priorities in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

The Gulf CDC works to identify the activities needed to address health priorities in countries with the aim of identifying health gaps and working to fill them, as well as identifying health capacities and working to develop them.

Sections:

Injuries

The Injuries Section works to support and coordinate Gulf efforts to reduce the burden of injuries and accidents, including road accidents, drowning, falls, and post-injury care, and other leading causes of death and disability, through capacity building, sharing best practices, and supporting the implementation of evidence-based interventions and policies.

Noncommunicable Diseases

The Noncommunicable Diseases Section works to consolidate and strengthen regional initiatives aimed at reducing the prevalence of chronic diseases and their risk factors by supporting national health authorities, promoting research and knowledge, sharing experiences, and contributing to the design and implementation of evidence-based health policies and programs.

Communicable Diseases

Communicable Diseases section works to promote regional efforts to prevent communicable diseases and reduce their spread in member states, including support for vaccination programs, through the development of knowledge, exchange of technical expertise, strengthening cooperation between health authorities, and supporting the adoption of evidence-based policies and programs.

Its objectives:

01

Support the development of cooperative programs, policies, and practices in the field of public health in line with current health priorities in GCC countries.

02

Identify the activities needed to address health priorities in GCC countries.

03

Identify gaps and challenges in the public health system and work to address them in coordination with GCC countries.

04

Strengthening and building health capacities to support the sustainability and efficiency of public health systems in GCC countries.

Achievements of Public Health Programs and Policies Management

Promoting healthy governance and joint Gulf action through:

- Held and organized more than 20 in-person and virtual meetings for permanent communication networks and Gulf working groups in the areas of infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, injuries, and traffic safety.
- “Convening the first in-person meeting of the Gulf Advisory Committee on Immunization, fostering integration in vaccination policies.
- Support the harmonization of Member States' priorities in the preparation of regional frameworks and strategies.

Developing unified Gulf guidelines and frameworks through:

- Update of the Gulf Guide to Infection Control and Prevention (3 review meetings).
- Preparation of the Unified Gulf Guide for Medical Waste Management (3 development meetings).
- Update of the Gulf Guide for Surveillance and Monitoring in Healthcare Facilities (3 development meetings).
- Launch of a project to analyze the current status of early cancer detection programs in collaboration with the International Agency for Research on Cancer.

Support evidence-based public health policies by:

- Implementation of a Gulf training program for the preparation of evidence-based public health policies and decisions.
- Launch of a project to monitor and analyze policies related to non-communicable diseases in GCC countries.
- Supporting the standardization of health survey methodologies and building a unified Gulf database.
- Discussion on developing policies to combat digital marketing of tobacco and nicotine products.
- Promoting the integration of health issues into multisectoral policies.



Achievements of Public Health Programs and Policies

Addressing noncommunicable diseases and promot

- Organization of a Gulf workshop to combat childhood obesity in collaboration with UNICEF and the World Health Organization.
- Participation in the Obesity Conference at the Arabian Gulf University.
- Participation in the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) World Conference.
- Presentation of the regional framework for monitoring and evaluation of noncommunicable diseases at the PPHA 2025 conference.
- Participation in regional meetings on tobacco control among women and adolescents.

Reducing injuries and promoting traffic safety by:

- The second meeting of the Traffic Safety Working Group was held.
- Support the development of a Gulf framework and strategy for traffic safety.
- Participation in regional workshops on traffic regulations and legislation.
- Participation in a panel discussion on the transformation of mobility in the Gulf countries (Intermobility).

Strengthening immunization programs and combating infectious diseases by:

- Participation in regional meetings of the World Health Organization (RITAG).
- Discussion on the development of vaccination programs for all age groups.
- Participation in the 2025 World Immunization Week Forum.
- Organization of a regional workshop on the elimination of measles.
- Holding a specialized workshop on antimicrobial stewardship and resistance.
- Support for updating expatriate screening requirements (Wafid program).



Training and Capacity Building

Training And Capacity Building Achievements

Training and Capacity Building Departments:

The Training and Capacity Building Department is responsible for developing and implementing training programs and initiatives at the Gulf CDC, supporting institutional and national capacity building, and enhancing the efficiency of staff through internal and external training and specialized programs.

Sections:

Training

The Training Section is responsible for planning and implementing training programs, developing training projects, supervising internal and external training programs, and preparing competency frameworks and training plans, thereby supporting the implementation of joint programs with member states.

Knowledge Management

The Knowledge Management Section is responsible for developing the Center's knowledge system through the SharePoint portal by consolidating institutional content, automating forms and processes, enhancing collaboration and data management tools, and supporting internal training.

Training and Capacity Building Achievements for 2025

Launch of the first regional platform for public health leadership in the GCC countries through **(9) specialized sessions** that discussed health priorities within the first Gulf Public Health Forum.

Completion of the technical and functional evaluation phase of the Learning Management System (LMS) project and cost study, and preparation of the project for launch in 2026.

Conducting (8) internal knowledge **sessions** from the Spotlight series, covering technical, leadership, and health topics, with the participation of internal experts and an external expert.

Develop a unified framework for public health competencies for Gulf countries by preparing an approved framework based on professional needs and international standards, and approving key competency areas through a regional workshop.

181 training hours to support capacity building in public health areas, in collaboration with member states, with the participation of **225** trainees across **13** training workshops.

Develop (3) policies and standard operating procedures (SOPs) and standardize procedures for participation in seminars and conferences, training, and staff training.

Design and launch of the Knowledge Management Portal (KM Portal) and activation of a central SharePoint portal for knowledge management, including main sites, department sites, Knowledge Hub, and PCS, with the implementation of governance, data structure, and permissions.

Launch of the first competency-based implementation plan to support the implementation of the 2026–2030 training strategy, which included **(8)** regional **training programs**, with preparations for specialized fellowship programs for 2027–2028.

52 employees benefited from internal and external training programs covering key performance indicators (KPIs), standard operating procedures (SOPs), and leadership, technical, and administrative programs.

Training and Capacity Building Achievements

Implementation of the Project Collaboration System (PCS) and establishment of a unified system for managing the center's projects, which has improved document organization, streamlined approval processes, and enhanced project implementation efficiency.

Completion of the first phase by gathering requirements and internal meetings for the (12) digital models (CRs) for 2026 to convert operational models into unified processes managed electronically through the knowledge management portal, and the Knowledge Capture tool project to support the automation of procedures, evaluation of activities, and approval paths.

Launch of the internal Viva Engage community An internal platform to support communication, participation, and interaction among employees.

Developing work models and governance, standardizing content templates and publishing procedures, and ensuring content quality and consistency.

Specialized **external participation** in the First Gulf Health Forum, Global Health Forum 2025, Bahrain International Public Health Conference 2025, and Knowledge Summit in Dubai.

Training on the knowledge management portal and conducting training sessions for all departments on how to use the knowledge management portal, documenting and sharing the sessions to promote usage.

Conduct internal training sessions and prepare a user guide for the KM Portal and its tools to facilitate internal knowledge management processes for all employees.

Issuing a knowledge management guide to standardize usage practices, governance, and permission management on the knowledge portal.

Completion of the first phase of creating the external user portal (Power Page portal) to enable the publication of content designated for specific external members through a secure developer invitation system for sharing designated content.





Conclusion

This report reflects the overall efforts and work carried out during 2025 within the remit of the GCC Health Council and provides an objective presentation of the indicators and results achieved in various areas of work.

The report emphasizes the importance of continuing integration and coordination in health between member states, building on achievements to enhance the efficiency of the Gulf health system and support its sustainability, thereby contributing to improving public health and achieving common goals in the coming years.

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2025

Annual Report