



جامعة الشارقة
UNIVERSITY OF SHARJAH

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

NEWSLETTER

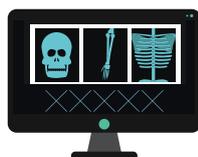
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COLLEGE NEWS



ONE CRIME AT A TIME



IMAGIN' THE SIGNS



MSA



PAC



STUDENTS' CORNER

DEAN'S MESSAGE OF THE MONTH

The last month has been very busy at the College with meetings, faculty development workshops, and seminars as well as visits from international university delegations. Most prominently, the Sharjah International Conference on Education in post Covid-19 was held under the patronage of and in presence of H.H. Sheikh Sultan bin Ahmed Al Qassimi, Deputy Ruler of Sharjah and President of the University of the Sharjah. He also inaugurated the University of Sharjah Diabetes Center on the same day and visited the Clinical and Surgical Training Center.

This month has also seen a close to many activities, including student ones. I thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed the efforts of our students in the Medical Student Association throughout the year in organizing and executing activities that were both beneficial and interesting to all of us. It has been very pleasing to see some of our students volunteering at the UOS COVID-19 Clinic. I would like to thank Mr. Mohammad Hammadi for facilitating and allowing our students to have such a positive involvement in our community. As we approach spring break, I would like to wish Years 3 and 5 the best of luck on their upcoming IFOM examinations. I wish you all a very productive month ahead before the preparation for the exams begins.



COLLEGE NEWS

University of Sharjah Diabetes Center Inauguration

Sheikh Sultan bin Ahmed bin Sultan Al Qassimi, Deputy Ruler of Sharjah and President of the University of Sharjah, inaugurated and toured the UOS Diabetes Center. This center is the first of its kind in the emirate and promises to be leading in patient care, educational opportunities, and training programs specializing in this field.



Inter-professional Education Webinar

With evolving trends in education, Prof. Qutayba Hamid, Vice-Chancellor of the Medical Colleges and Dean of the College of Medicine, and Prof. Salman Guraya, Vice Dean of the College of Medicine, contributed as speakers to the University of Sharjah's international webinar held on 15th March 2022.

Representing the College of Medicine, Kamel Samara (Year 4), Hind Zaki (Year 4), and Jennat Alamara (Year 3) were part of the webinar's student panel comprised of students from different universities.

Moderated by Dr. Mohamed Taha, the Medical Education Center's discussion addressed mechanisms to facilitate inter-professional coordination among healthcare professionals, attitudes towards practice, and patient-centered systems.

The poster features the University of Sharjah logo at the top. The main title is "Advancing Healthcare Systems with INTER-PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION & COLLABORATION" with "International Webinar" in a smaller font. Below the title, it lists the date as "15th March 2022" and the time as "2.00 - 4.30 PM UAE time". A QR code is provided for registration with the text "For Registration, SCAN the QR Code". The "SPEAKERS" section lists four individuals with their titles and affiliations: Prof. Qutayba Hamid (Vice Chancellor Medical Colleges, Dean, College of Medicine, University of Sharjah UAE), Prof. Salman Guraya (Vice Dean, College of Medicine, Professor of Surgery, University of Sharjah UAE), Prof. Hugh Ben (Academic Centre for the Advancement of Interprofessional Education (ACAPE), Emeritus Professor of Interprofessional Education, University of Westminster, Visiting Professor, University of Cremona, St. George's University UK), and Prof. Susanna Lindsay (Professor of Interprofessional Practice, Director of the Centre for Interprofessional Practice, Honorary Fellow of CMI, Plymouth Medical School UK).

Dubai Health Forum



Prof. Rabih Halwani was invited as a panelist and speaker at the Dubai Health Forum, under the patronage of His Excellency Mohamed Bin Rashid, Ruler of Dubai, to discuss the Emirati Human Genome project. The potential for this program to transform personalized medicine was highlighted, and its challenges and opportunities were displayed as attending ministers and strategy makers looked to consider future strategies of the Dubai healthcare system.



International OBGYN Journal Club



Representing the University of Sharjah, Kamel Samara, a Year 4 student in the College of Medicine – supervised by Dr. Ghada Mohammed – shined as a presenter in collaboration with students from UAE University, University of Mutah (Jordan), and Volgograd State Medical University (Russia) in their presentation titled “A critical appraisal tool on the use of Metformin during pregnancy in women with polycystic ovary syndrome.”



A critical appraisal tool (CAT) on the use of metformin during pregnancy in women with polycystic ovary syndrome

The 4th International Journal Club of OBGYN Department
19th of February 2022

Presentors

SUPERVISORS

Volgograd State Medical University (VolgGMU) – Russia

College of Medicine & Health Sciences (CMHS) – United Arab Emirates

University of Mutah- Jordan

University of Sharjah – United Arab Emirates

European Association for Cancer Research Conference

Prof. Maha Saber-Ayad presented the results of her project titled "The Structural Microenvironment: Breaking down the walls of cancer" at the conference of the European Association for Cancer Research. This project is funded by the MBRU Al-Mahmeed Research Award.



SICE and Women's day webinar

Dr. Balsam Qubais presented her research titled: "The perspective of Medical & Health sciences students during the spread COVID-19" in the Sharjah International Conference on Education held on 14-16th March 2022. In celebration of International Women's Day, Dr. Balsam Qubais also participated in the 'Women from the Earth' webinar held on 8th March 2022, with a talk tackling the topic of 'Women and Health'.



Publications

Congratulations to our faculty in the College of Medicine for their recent publications:

- Dr. Mode Al Ojaimi in a publication for the Wiley Clinical Genetics Journal in a study titled: "A homozygous frame-shift variant in PROSER1 is associated with developmental delay, hypotonia, genitourinary malformations, and distinctive facial features."
<https://doi.org/10.1111/cge.14126>
- Prof. Maha Saber-Ayad, in collaboration with her colleagues from Health Sciences, for her study titled: "Ramadan diurnal intermittent fasting is associated with attenuated FTO gene expression in subjects with obesity" published in Frontiers in Nutrition.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fnut.2021.741811>
- Dr. Nihar Dash, Dr. Mohamed Taha, Dr. Sara Shorbaji, and Dr. Mohamed Elhassan Abdalla in their study titled: "Evaluation of the integration of social accountability values into medical education using a problem-based learning curriculum" published in BMC Medical Education.
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s12909-022-03245-6>



ONE CRIME AT A TIME



Skipped a Step

By: Salma Eldesouki

Carol Wetton had suffered from back pain for quite a while. She had been dependent on steroid shots to relieve her pain, but after she took an epidural methylprednisolone acetate (MPA) shot on September 12th, 2012, she became severely ill within days. A few months later, on April 16th, 2013, she passed away following her prolonged deterioration, leaving her family completely desolate. What could have been different this time?

Around the same period that Wetton received her shot, in September 2012, a fungal meningitis outbreak had been reported in the country. Spanning 20 states, the outbreak spread across America, alarming the entire nation. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), alongside the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), ignited a hasty investigation to trace back its origin.

A total of 793 cases and 64 deaths were recorded since the start of the outbreak, and a common factor among all cases was tracked down as the source. Like Wetton, all the victims who suffered from fungal meningitis had received an MPA shot prior to their infection, putting the manufacturers of the injection, New England Compounding Center (NECC), at legal liability. After all, it is quite rare for such an infection to occur in immunocompetent individuals.

It appears that the NECC's injections were contaminated as a result of their improper sterilization procedures, which was a result of an unvirtuous, corrupt leadership. Barry Cadden, the president and co-owner of NECC at the time, and Glenn Chin, the senior pharmacist, forged sterilization logs and failed to run all disinfection tests to ensure the safety of the shots. To make matters worse, they instructed their staff to mislabel the injections to conceal their misconduct and proceed with the shipments nationwide.

Up to 18 fungal types were identified as etiological agents during this outbreak, which led many health officials to believe that the NECC's labs were a 'fungal zoo'. Despite the wide variation in causative organisms, the most common cause of death was limited to either a hemorrhagic or ischemic stroke. Vascular complications, alongside many others, affected those who did survive the infection, with lacunar infarcts that reached different areas of the brain being the most common of all.

Following the devastating outcomes of their malpractice, Cadden was convicted of second-degree murder and was sentenced to 9 years of prison, then increased to another 14.5 years on July 7th, 2021. Chin, on the other hand, was acquitted of murder but was instead charged with racketeering, mail fraud, and introduction of misbranded drugs into the interstate commerce. He was sentenced to 8 years of prison.

This was marked as the largest healthcare-associated outbreak in US history, and its consequences are still suffered by many. Although it could have been prevented, this outbreak was a wake-up call to all healthcare officials to ensure strict compliance of all pharmaceutical companies to sterilization and safety standards.

References:

<https://www.fda.gov/inspections-compliance-enforcement-and-criminal-investigations/press-releases/january-31-2018-new-england-compounding-center-pharmacist-sentenced-role-nationwide-fungal>
<https://www.cdc.gov/hai/outbreaks/meningitis.html>



IMAGIN' THE SIGNS



By: Anas Obaideen

EYE OF HORUS

Despite the millennia that have passed since the demise of ancient Egyptians, their art and mythologies remain a major source of interest for scientists of all fields. Medical researchers continue to be baffled by the correlations found between different forms of Egyptian art and the human anatomy.

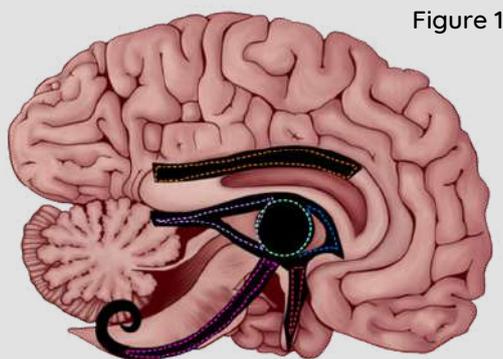


Figure 1



Figure 2

Recently, there have been peculiar similarities found between the structure of Horus's eye and the normal human brain anatomy. This led scientists to believe that the design of the eye is not merely random and that every part of it holds a specific meaning. Figure 1 shows how the eye and brain structures resemble one another, and the table explains what human sensation each part of the eye is believed to portray. Currently, the eye of Horus is used as a sign in radiology, where a normal sonogram of the great saphenous vein in transverse section corresponds to the pattern of this Egyptian symbol (Figure 2).

Considering the unavailability of radiographic and computational technology in their era, this discovery helps us appreciate the genius and foresight that the ancient Egyptian civilization had in deciphering the intricate functions of the human brain.

Highlighted area:	Overlapping area of the brain:	Sense represented:
Blue triangle	Olfactory area	Smell
Green iris	Interthalamic adhesion	Sight
Brown eyebrow	Corpus callosum	Wisdom and thoughts
Purple triangle	Auditory centers	Hearing
Red descending line	Somatosensory pathway	Touch
Pink tail	Gustatory centers	Taste

References:

- <https://www.cureus.com/articles/19443-the-eye-of-horus-the-connection-between-art-medicine-and-mythology-in-ancient-egypt>
- <https://radiopaedia.org/articles/egyptian-eye-sign>



COMMUNITY COMMITTEE



As brilliant as ever, the community committee shines bright as its members continue to provide English sessions for people of determination as part of its growing relationship with Al Thiqaq Club for the Handicapped. Members have also continued to volunteer in the COVID-19 PCR testing center and the Mobile Clinic as well as support the Clinical and Surgical Training Center as simulated patients.



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE



The Scientific Committee coordinated a two-day visit to the Dubai Forensic Lab on 9– 10th March 2022, where faculty members and students were given a guided tour around the incredible facility with personnel detailing procedures performed in a variety of cases, including natural and inflicted causes of death. The students were also able to view the morgue, the firearms section, and a case in the pathology lab. Finally, a lecture was given concerning locating illegal drugs, detecting identity theft and several different topics.



MSA EVENTS

OPEN MIC

The MSA media team organized what bloomed to be an award-winning event celebrating the jaw dropping talent of our students and faculty alike. Taking place on 2nd March 2022, the event showered gifted performers with cheers as it delivered a delightful atmosphere of passion and bonding. From elegantly executed piano pieces, and magnificent voices empowering the stage, to wonderful band performances accompanying hospitality provided by our sponsors – truly a night to remember.



AL MUNTADA AL ISLAMI EVENT

In the spirit of acquiring knowledge, the MSA arranged a discussion – by partnering with Al Muntada Al Islami, Sharjah – exploring the relationship between Islam and medicine. Held on 8th March 2022, speakers Dr. Mohammad Al Kubaisi, Prof. Ahmad Al Khatib, and Mr. Zayed Al Shamsi tackled issues related to ethics, decision making, as well as the relationship between Islam and practicing medicine. Attending faculty members and students were able to express their inquiries and reflected on the valuable experience.



THE CLOSING CEREMONY



After an incredible year of thrill, connection and persistence, the Medical Students Association celebrated their successes in a sending off like no other. The closing ceremony, which took place on 15th March 2022, served as an opportunity to reflect on the board's achievements. Wonderfully, awards were given as an appreciation for hard working students in their respective committees, as well its representatives, the board members and committee heads. Surely setting large shoes to fill for the next edition of the MSA.



ROAD TO RESIDENCY

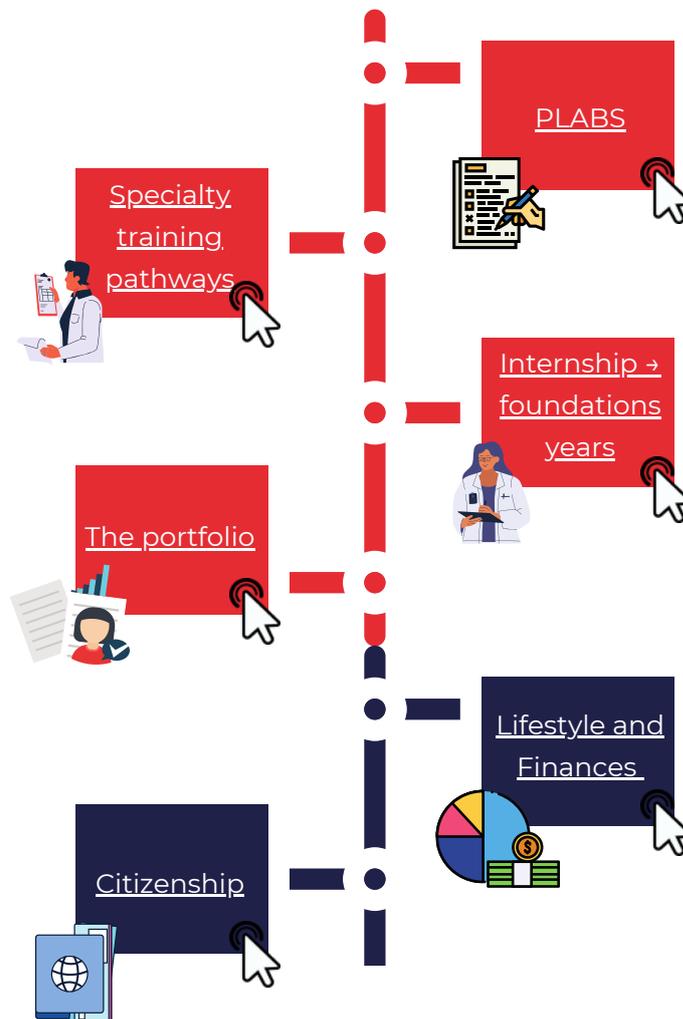


Medical Residency is the post-graduate training of medical doctors who are interested in enhancing their professional expertise. It can be done locally but it can also be done abroad in different countries. One of the regions that are popular amongst students in the UK. More information regarding medical residency in the UK is available in the diagram below.

Disclaimer

The material and information contained in this document are for general information purposes only. You should not entirely rely upon the material or information in the document as a basis for making any final decisions.

Whilst we endeavor to keep the information up to date and correct, PAC Road to Residency makes no warranties of any kind about the completeness, accuracy, reliability, or availability with respect to the document and related links. Any reliance you place on this material is strictly at your own liability.



STUDENTS' CORNER



RECYCLING PROJECT



A number of students from Years 1 to 5 initiated the 'Recycling Project' under the supervision of Dr. Anu Ranade. It was commenced under Linking Education and Farming (LEAF) to spread this action into the community, starting with the College of Medicine's faculty and students.

Exceeding all expectations, 66 kgs of plastic bottles as well as around 200 L of water were saved! Continuing with the same aim - raising awareness about recycling (especially with plastic containers) – the program was conducted on the 9th and 10th of March 2022. Bottles were collected from the medical campus and the different events conducted there, as well as student contributions. The total included 50 kgs of bottles and 105 liters of water.

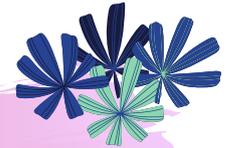
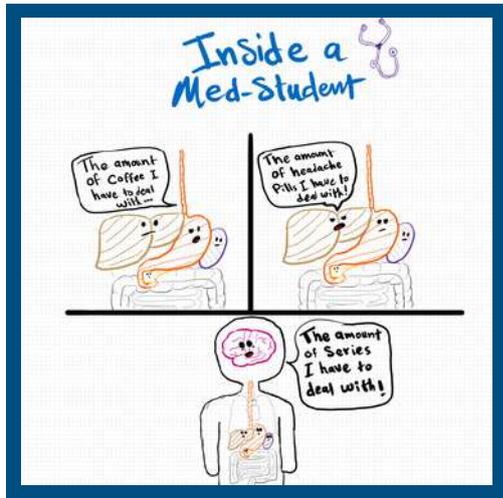
We are thankful for every single person's contribution, since it is crucial not to waste such resources that may seem unimportant. Hopefully, this project shall turn into a habit - not only at the University of Sharjah, but in our community as a whole.



Date (dd.mm.yyyy)	Weight of bottles (kg)	Water collected (litres)
Fall Semester 2021 - 2022		
11.09.2021	1	1.5
19.09.2021	2.5	3
4.10.2021	10.35	32
18.10.2021	9.6	20
08.11.2021	19.7	72
17.12.2021	22.5	61
Total	65.65	189.5
Spring semester 2021 - 2022		
23.01.2022	15.95	30.25
09.03.2022		56
10.03.2022	50	49
Total	65.95	135.25



STUDENTS' CORNER



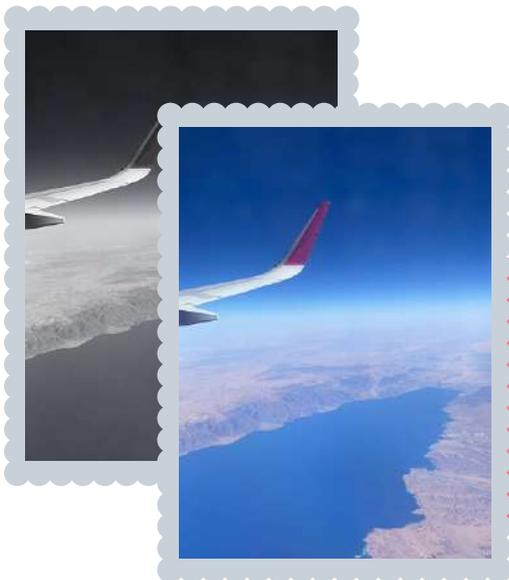
Not me tbh, but a lot of my colleagues for sure.

AWAB GRAIN - YEAR 3



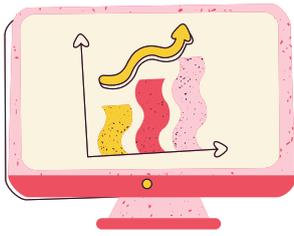
Life is not black and white, but a billion shades of grey.

FATIMA AL HAYALI - FY



Serenity

ROAA ALAYOUBI - FY



STUDENT-SELECTED



DO YOU THINK ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE WILL REPLACE DOCTORS?

Yes 14.3%

No 85.7%



WHAT SPECIALITIES DO YOU THINK MIGHT BE REPLACED?

THEY BETTER NOT!



SURGERY, BUT LITERALLY EVERY OTHER SPECIALITY AS WELL. KINDA DOUBTING MY REASONS INTO GOING INTO MEDICINE

ROBOTS CAN'T REPLACE DOCTORS PERIOD.



EVEN IF THEY DO REPLACE DOCTORS, REAL HUMANS ARE STILL NEEDED TO GUIDE OR BE READY TO INTERFERE ESPECIALLY IN EMERGENCIES. THEY MAY BE HUMAN ERROR FREE BUT IN MY OPINION THEY CAN'T FULLY REPLACE DOCTORS

MAYBE MAYBE ANESTHESIOLOGY (THERE HAS BEEN A LOT OF DEBATE ABOUT THAT THO)



I THINK AI MIGHT HELP RADIOLOGISTS GET THE JOB DONE BECAUSE IT IS DIFFICULT TO GET RID OF HUMANS ALTOGETHER.

BASED ON A TRUE STORY



Ready for a laugh? Students from the COM have shared some of their funniest experiences as medical students below. For a chance to share your story, contact us at comnewsletter@sharjah.ac.ae

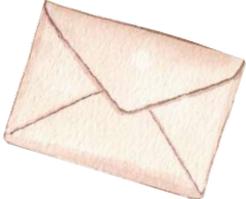
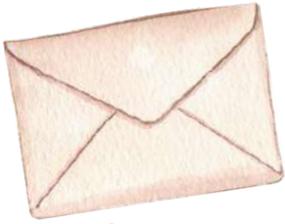
While in the emergency department, I performed an examination for a gentleman in his 70s visiting for a colonoscopy. Laying on the hospital bed with a blanket covering him, I continued to perform history taking and an abdominal examination. Discovering the patient is diabetic, a foot examination was logically required. Somewhat surprisingly, informing the patient of this was met by resistance from his daughter. “No, you don’t need to do that. We don’t want it.” Despite my lengthy pseudo seminar explaining its importance, the gentleman’s daughter absolutely refused. All while my patient confusingly remained silent. Witnessing this awkward interaction, my colleague decides to step in as back up. “No, no... I’m afraid we HAVE to do a foot examination.” And proceeded to abruptly lift the patient’s blanket. He had an amputated leg...



Here I am, in an operating room during my surgery rotation... ready for the challenges unfolding before me. All instruments are set, and we are ready to go! *A few incisions later* Time to use the cautery machine, a specialized pedal-controlled instrument producing heat used to close up incisions and stop minor hemorrhage. Unusually, I feel a weird sensation on my foot that steadily increases in force, I wonder if I’ve been standing for too long. “Why is the cautery not working!” the surgeon complains, “It is not doing anything.” Unfortunately, my innocent foot was subject to extensively repeated attacks instead of pressing the actual pedal, and we built the courage to finally tell him he targeted the wrong location.



Student's Letterbox



What is it about you that I gravitate so strongly towards? Why is it impossible for me to resist your allure? No matter how hard I try, I always seem to circle right back to you. It doesn't matter to me that I have to defy the sheer framework of our societies, it is with you that I belong. I've pondered my options numerous times, and I've considered what my life would be like if I were to sacrifice you. Certain aspects of that sacrifice might cater to me, but what you are able to grant me is simply irreplaceable.

It might sound preposterous when I say that it is with you that I feel whole, and that it is with you that I feel my soul blossom. The majority find you undesirable, and they work so diligently just to avoid having to encounter you. They associate you with malevolence. They claim that you evoke in them feelings of despair, and that the thoughts they ruminate whenever they inevitably face you are too desolate for anybody to endure. None of that is congruent with how I feel when I am graced by your presence, for nothing is as paramount as the sense of security you offer me, and the empowerment I feel is undeniable. I might go as far as to call you my enabler, but doesn't that term have a negative connotation to it? I have seen what it is that you are willing to condone, and I have also seen the ways in which people misbehave whenever you arise, without them having to face any reprimands from you. I guess that the fault lies within them, for they so willingly choose to take advantage of the obscurity you grant them and of your trusting nature, whereas I feel nothing but gratitude for it, and I would confidently call you my confidante. Perhaps it's the way in which you never flutter whenever I shed a tear or two in your midst. It is precisely this utter lack of responsiveness to my sorrows that appeases me. Not that I feel dismissed or invalidated, on the contrary. It is simply that I feel as though you are unburdened by whatever it is that I feel the need to unburden myself of.

The moment you emerge, is the moment when they all are overcome with lassitude, but it is the moment when I feel revitalized. Whole infrastructures were sprung just to combat your darkness, but it is in this darkness that I find myself, and it is in this darkness that I begin to thrive.

But alas, your bounties are too immense for me to be the sole recipient, for who am I to forbid the hopeless from gazing at your starry sky in search of hope, and who am I to forbid the destined souls from gazing at your moon in search of one another? Your prosperity, nevertheless, gratifies all those who seek solace in you, so I do not imagine there ever being any complaints. I wish I were powerful enough to thwart the sun whenever it emerges and obliterates you with its incandescence. I know I can only ever have you for a few hours... that holds to be my only complaint. And there you have it. The rays of the sun are beginning to seep through your horizon. I promise to grieve you until we meet again at dusk, and I know that you will then and forever be a good night.

MEDICAL CROSSWORD



Click on the icon to the right to access an interactive version of the crossword. You can type in your answers and it will check if they are correct. Good luck!

[CLICK HERE](#)

ANSWER KEY

Across

- 4. Same side
- 7. Dry eyes, dry mouth
- 8. Most abundant WBC
- 10. Released from adrenal cortex

Down

- 1. Main component of hair
- 2. Site of IM injections
- 3. Kidney injury can lead to an elevation in
- 5. Surgical removal of the uterus
- 6. Infection spread from cat feces
- 9. Aspirin side effect

KIDNEY STONES

By: Hanae Al Chame

