

## **Pharmacy and Nutrition Students IPE Activity at Qatar University**



An inter-professional education event between the College of Pharmacy and the Human Nutrition Program at the College of Arts and Science at Qatar University recently occurred on December 16th, 2013. A two hour session that was integrated within courses from each respected college was conducted that had second-year pharmacy students collaborating with fourth-year nutrition students to solve a patient case relating to gastrointestinal disorders. Twenty-five pharmacy students formed small groups of five or six participants with seventeen nutrition students. Together, the students interpreted the case and formulated a comprehensive care plan that integrated both medication and nutrition recommendations.

With healthcare systems moving towards team-based approaches, inter-professional education has been deemed an essential tool for ensuring health professional students are ready to work together upon graduation. The benefits include enhancement of critical thinking skills, communication abilities, and understanding of one's own scope of practice and role within the healthcare team.

Future plans include expansion to integrate IPE activities into other courses and professional years, as well as development of initiatives between other professional groups.