

H.E. MAHA BARAKAT

Managing Director

HAAD

H.E. Prof. Maha Barakat grew up in Abu Dhabi. She completed her education in the UK, receiving her medical degree and PhD from the University of Cambridge in 1994 as the first graduate of the Cambridge MB/PhD program. She subsequently worked in Cambridge, Oxford and London, and specialized to become a Consultant in Diabetes, Endocrinology and Internal Medicine, and Reader at Imperial College London.

In 2004 she was seconded from Imperial College London to establish the Imperial College London Diabetes Centre in Abu Dhabi, which opened in 2006 – a state-of-the-art facility wholly-owned by the Abu Dhabi Government specializing in diabetes treatment, research, training and public health - the first of its kind in the UAE.

Dr Maha is a doctor known to care not only for the health of her patients, but for the well-being of the community. She treats countless people outside of her regular practice, and continues to tackle the broader public health challenges that affect Abu Dhabi and the UAE.

Amongst the notable campaigns with which Dr Maha has been involved are the 2007 'Diabetes-Knowledge-Action' initiative under the Patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, and the healthy schools initiative of Her Highness Sheikha Salama bint Hamdan Foundation.

She continues to dedicate her time to initiating educational campaigns to raise awareness of diabetes and the need for a healthy lifestyle, sharing the message of improved dietary habits and regular exercise.

In recognition of her work in the UAE, Dr Maha was awarded the British OBE in 2010, the Abu Dhabi Award in 2011, and the Imperial Medal in 2013. She has been a member of the Board of Directors of Health Authority since 2011.