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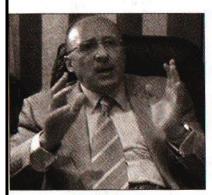




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Medical Briefs



Dr Adel Adawi

Egyptian expertise in Georgia

A DELEGATION from the US's Georgia State Centre for Disease Control and Prevention met Dr Adel Adawi, Minister of Health and Population, to tackle the possibility of using Egyptian expertise in treating the hepatitis virus C in Georgia.

The Georgian delegation acquainted itself with Egyptian expertise in dealing with certain health problems such as Hepatitis Virus C through the national programme applied three months ago to overcome this problem.

The Georgia government asked its Egyptian counterpart to draw up a similar programme enabling it to overcome the HVC issue over there.

Dr Adawi believes that Gorgian programme would be supported by a number of international pharmaceutical companies, including the company which produced the drug Sovaldi to cure HVC.

So the Egyptian National Committee for Viral Hepatitis (ENCVH) has provided the Georgian side with the techniques and mechanisms of the programme, starting with the registration of the names of the patients to the prescription for the treatment.

The population in Georgia state is now 4,900 million people and the VC problem is restricted to five per cent of the total. The Georgian delegation visited a number of centres affiliated to the ENCVH.



Co-operation with Red Cross

A joint protocol signed by Arab Medical Union and International Committee for Red Cross to train physicians and those who are working in the health sector in the Arab countries, especially in the field of crises and disasters medicine.

The protocol came as a result to a fruitful co-operation between two sides over the past three years through a programme how to deal with injuries resulted in wars. The protocol stipulates to train scholars on how to benefit of the International Red Cross to encounter crises and disasters, according to the international standards aims at promoting of the professional performance of doctors, he added.

Pomegranate, the natural healer

A gastric ulcer is known to be an injury of the gastric mucous membrane. It occurs as a result of smoking, stress and the habitual use of painkillers, all of which factors inflame and irritate the stomach lining. Experiments have confirmed that natural products are more effective in treating this condition than chemical ones. A study conducted by Dr Dalia Medhat, a researcher at the Biochemistry Department of the National Research Centre showed that pomegranate was effective in curing gastric ulcer, because it helped create a preventive environment. Being rich in antioxidants, pomegranate minimises the irritation to the lining of the stomach. An experiment was conducted, by administering a commonly used painkiller to a group of people. The researchers found that the group developed an increase in liver enzymes and problems with their kidney function, compared to the control group. The inflammation of the gastric mucous membrane had produced these symptoms. Remarkably, the inflammation had subsided and the antioxidant enzyme activity had increased in the group using the pomegranate cure, Dr Medhat noted. This confirms the health benefits of pomegranate, a fruit which is rich in vitamin B and which helps regenerate the gastric mucous membrane, she added.