

Kamal Abdulaziz Suliman Al-Shoumer (1961-2018)

On April 5, 2018, the endocrine community in Kuwait and the Gulf was shocked by news of death of Kamal Al-Shoumer, Professor of Medicine and Endocrinology at Faculty of Medicine of Kuwait University and senior consultant and head of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolic Medicine in the Department of Medicine at both the faculty of medicine and Mubarak Al-Kabeer hospital in Kuwait. He died in a London hospital after a short struggle with cancer.

Kamal was born in Kuwait on October 3, 1961. He obtained his BSc in 1983 and MBBS in 1986 from Kuwait University. He received his MRCP (UK) in 1993 after serving his residency in Kuwait [1987–1991] and at St Mary's Hospital, London, UK [1992–1993]). He was Endocrine Clinical Research Fellow in the Unit of Metabolic Medicine of St. Mary's Hospital, London, UK (1993–1996) under the mentorship of Professor Desmond G Johnston which resulted in the awarded his PhD (1996), and DIC (1997) from the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine at University of London. His PhD thesis was on the impact of hypopituitarism in adults on the intermediary metabolism and the interplay of cortisol and growth hormone deficiency and their replacement.

On his return to Kuwait, he established the endocrine division in Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital and founded its metabolic laboratory with its dynamic testing services (1997). He was recognized by election as FRCP (London) in 2002 and FACE in 2003. He was the president of Pan-Arab Society for Endocrinology and Diabetes (2007–2008) of which He was a founding member and counselor. He became the Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Kuwait University (2004–2008), founding member of the AACE Gulf Chapter (2012), and President of Kuwait Endocrine Society (2016–2018).

Prof. Al-Shoumer taught students, residents, endocrine fellows and conducted clinical research. He has published more than 120 articles in peer-reviewed journals, presented over 100 lectures in local, regional and international events. He is the recipient of AACE 2017 International Clinician Award.

Kamal was a caring friend sharing with his colleagues their moments of happiness and sadness, advising them on their future, and providing them with opportunities. He was generous, kind and often surprises friends and colleagues with a private dinner at his home, cooked and prepared by him. If the meal was fish, it is likely that Kamal has caught it himself knowing he was very keen on fishing.

Kamal will be remembered for devoting his working life to improving endocrine care, education, and research in Kuwait and the region. He will be missed by his family, friends and colleagues in Kuwait and the region. He survived with his wife and daughter.



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