

## IMAQ Update October 2010.

### Launch:

IMAQ was officially launched at Michaels Oriental Restaurant on the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2010, at a function attended by over 100 members and invited guests. Guests included several Imams, representatives from community organisations, as well as Deputy Mayor of Brisbane, **Councilor Graham Quirk**, Minister for Natural Resources, Mines & Energy and Minister for Trade, **Stephen Robertson** and Federal Member for Moreton, **Graham Perrett MP**.

**Associate Professor Mohamad Abdalla** of the Griffith Islamic Research Unit (GIRU) delivered the keynote address on the evolution of medicine from a religious and ethical perspective.

IMAQ President Dr Mohammed Iqbal Sultan spoke on the rationale to establish an Islamic Medical Association in Queensland, one in which membership is open to all health professionals, including doctors, dentists, specialists, all allied health professionals and students in these various disciplines. Dr Yunus Solwa presented an overview of other IMA's around the world and the various projects they are involved in.



The IMAQ Executive



IMAQ members at the launch

For those who attended the launch, you would have received a CD in the launch folder, please note that this was a PDF version of a book on "Health guidelines in Ramadan" and will need to be used with your computer. (We've had a report of the CD not working, but realised that the doctor was trying to get to play in the car CD player).

### Pakistan Flood Relief:

IMAQ has partnered with the Islamic Council of Queensland (ICQ), all the Islamic societies, community organisations, the Lions Club and the Rotary Club to host a fund raising fete on the 31<sup>st</sup> October at the Islamic College of Brisbane. IMAQ will have a health screening and information stall at the fete.

Donations may be made on the day or if preferred you may deposit any donations into our bank account and ALL funds collected will be distributed by ICQ via several

accredited organisations including the Queensland based Muslim Charitable Foundation, the Imran Khan Foundation and the International Red Cross.

Several IMAQ members also attended a fund raising dinner at the College on the 6<sup>th</sup> October where \$60000 was raised towards the flood relief.

### **FIMA Membership:**

IMAQ applied for membership to the Federation of Islamic Medical Associations (FIMA). FIMA is the worldwide association of IMA's and holds an annual conference, which this year was held in Lebanon. IMAQ was invited to attend the conference. One of the IMAQ Executive, Dr Adel El-Mezin represented IMAQ at the conference in Lebanon in September. IMAQ was granted associate membership to FIMA.

Following the FIMA conference in Lebanon, one of the FIMA Executive members from Sudan Prof Mohamed El-Amin Ahmed visited the Gold Coast to present a paper at the Australian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine (ASUM) conference.



Prof Mohamed Ahmed with Dr Sultan



FIMA Conference in Lebanon

IMAQ president Dr Mohammed Iqbal Sultan met with Prof Ahmed where the activities of FIMA around the world were discussed. FIMA is involved in cataract eye surgery and to date has performed almost 60 000 operations around the world and is now involved in cleft lip repair surgery projects, said Prof Ahmed. Prof Ahmed encouraged and was highly supportive of the establishment of IMAQ.

### **CME Meetings:**

On the 28 September IMAQ hosted its first accredited Continuing Medical Education (CME) meeting. The meeting was sponsored by Boehringer-Ingelheim at the Runcorn Function centre, with Prof Rohan Jayasinghe (Director of Cardiology, Gold Coast Hospital) facilitating the evening. Almost 50 members attended the evening on

Cardio-vascular protection. This was followed by a talk by Dr Naadir Gutta on “The rights & responsibilities of the Muslim Health Professional”.



Members enjoying CME meeting over scrumptious dinner

Our next CME meeting is scheduled for the **30<sup>th</sup> November 2010** @ Runcorn Function centre @ 6:30. The dinner meeting will be sponsored by Lily on **Diabetes and new treatment options**. Details will be forwarded to members via email.

**Membership:**

IMAQ has about 130 members at present, including doctors, dentists and allied health professionals. Membership is free and application can be made via an online form on the IMAQ website at [www.imaq.org.au](http://www.imaq.org.au).