



An Overview

The American Mission Hospital is a private not-for-profit healthcare system serving the community of Bahrain, for over 120 years.

Established in 1903 as the *Mason Memorial Hospital*, it was the first modern hospital in Bahrain, and possibly, in the entire Arabian gulf region.

Marion Wells Thoms Memorial Hospital for Women and Children was also built in 1927. Together, both hospitals, and the healthcare system, formally renamed themselves as the 'American Mission Hospital' in 1962. And two more buildings were added in Manama, in 2000.

The hospital's first satellite clinic opened in Saar, in the year 2000. But the clinic expanded fast and moved to a large new building, in 2016, in the same area. New AMH clinics also opened in Amwaj Islands in 2014, and in Riffa in 2018.

In January 2023, on the 120th anniversary of the hospital, the new King Hamad American Mission Hospital opened in A'Ali. This new facility became the fifth and the largest hospital building of the AMH healthcare system. It has been built and equipped with state-of-the-art futuristic medical and surgical technology in mind.

AMH is now serving from FIVE locations. Three of them, the Manama, Saar and A'Ali facilities, are open 24x7.

The hospital has over 800 employees including nearly 140 physicians and surgeons. With active collaborations with Mayo Clinic and RCSI Bahrain, aims to provide high quality affordable healthcare to all who come to the hospital.



Accreditations

In May 2021, the hospital has been awarded the **Diamond** status, for the second time, consecutively. It is the highest level of accreditation given by the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) of Bahrain. In 2017 too, AMH was awarded the diamond status.

Ten years earlier, in 2007 itself, AMH had become the first hospital in the Kingdom of Bahrain to have achieved an international quality accreditation through ACHSI. The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) International is a leading health care accreditation agency recognized by the International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQua). It had awarded AMH with an accreditation status that it had reaffirmed in 2010.

In May 2021, the hospital also became the *first private hospital* in Bahrain to achieve the **CAP (College of American Pathologists) accreditation** for its Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, and second in the country to achieve this, after the government facility King Hamad University Hospital. It is now reaccredited by CAP in May 2023 too, reaffirming the quality focus on the hospital.

The hospital has been awarded the **certifications of ISO 9001 and ISO 45001**, in November 2021, for the Provision of In-patient and Out-patient Medical Services including Training, Dental, Diagnostic and Pharmacy Services through Bureau Veritas, UK.

Collaborations

In July 2023, the hospital signed a collaboration with Mayo Clinic, which is rated No.1 among "World's Best Hospitals 2023" (Newsweek and Statista). This collaboration allows for an engagement on three levels - governance, quality improvement and the clinical-academic development of staff. As a part of this tie-up, over 100 doctors will be trained on Mayo's gold standards.

The hospital is also the official teaching hospital for RCSI-Bahrain. Both, the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and AMH are not-for-profit organizations which aim to give students an access to world-class clinical and teaching facilities. RCSI Bahrain students will be able to undertake clinical electives in AMH's new hospital.



Awards

In May 2020, the hospital achieved first place in two categories of Business Worldwide Magazine (BWM) 2020 GCC Business Excellence Awards. Best Private Non-profit Healthcare Provider - GCC and 'Business Leadership and Outstanding Contribution to Healthcare - GCC', which was won by Group CEO Julia Maria Tovey.

In 2015, the hospital was listed among the best hospitals in the Arabian Gulf region by the International Socrates Committee based in Oxford, England.

In 2020 and 2021, Dr George Cheriyan, the corporate CEO of AMH, was listed among the winners in the CEO Today Middle East Awards 2020 and 2021, for the Arab region, by the CEO Today magazine.

Community Outreach

The hospital's mission is to provide healthcare "on the biblical principles of Love, Compassion and Grace".

With the approvals of the Ministry of Health, wherever required, and with the support of the Ministry of Social Development, the hospital collaborates with various social and philanthropic organizations to offer support to community on health-related matters.

Many Bahrainis as well as expatriate community groups and societies are given free health checks, educational talks, online discussions, and demonstrations, to spread health awareness, preventative care and wellness. Inter-School science competitions are also held by the hospital.

An annual fundraiser, the Island Classic Gold Tournament, helps raise funds for the hospital's community outreach projects.



Annual Island Classic Golf Tournament

AMH Island Classic Golf Tournament has become an annual fixture in the sporting calendar of Bahrain, usually around October–November. It is held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, at his private golf course in Saffriya.

In 1997, the hospital's growth necessitated the construction of a new building and also an overhead bridge to connect the old building with the new one, across a busy Isa Al Kabeer Street in Manama. In order to raise funds for their construction, the American Mission Hospital and the American Association of Bahrain had decided to organize this annual golf tournament.

Every year, the funds raised through this event are regularly used for the hospital expansion projects like new specialist clinics, for purchases of state of the art medical and surgical equipment, and for community outreach programs which include free health camps, village health checks, and events that spread awareness related to health and medical issues.

In October 2022, the 23rd Island Classic Golf Tournament was held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa at His Majesty's private golf course in Saffriya.

Wellness

AMH is among the first hospitals in Bahrain to focus on wellness and preventative health, instead of on illness alone. The Riffa clinic, which opened in 2018, has a Wellness Center, with a large portion of its facility allocated to health and fitness training. The trainers provide wellness advice, with health and fitness packages, that benefit our patients and members. The place has a well-equipped gym, a large indoor swimming pool, and other facilities.



Leadership

A board of directors, with American and Bahraini members, oversees this governance of this not-for-profit hospital. Dr George Cheriyan is serving as the Corporate CEO and member of the board of directors. He is the 11th Chief Medical Officer, and the first non-American to be leading the hospital. Julia Tovey is the Group CEO, and is also the first female to hold this leadership position in the hospital's 120-year history.

Role in Bahrain-US Relations

One of the key foundations for a strong bilateral relationship between Bahrain and USA has been the American Mission Hospital, since 1890s.

The American missionaries, who first came to set this hospital with the service mission, quickly realized that the need of the region is not religion, but healthcare. And they started building appropriate infrastructure, and in improving the medical and surgical facilities so that the community of Bahrain can benefit from accessible healthcare by professionals.

Perhaps, that is why, His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, in April 2018, addressing the American expatriate community in Bahrain, had said:

"Over a century ago, an intrepid young American named Samuel Zwemer travelled from New Jersey to Arabia with a noble mission in his heart. The medical dispensary he opened in Manama became a hospital that has saved countless lives.

"This hospital is a testament to American generosity of spirit – and a reminder of what we have in common. Here in Bahrain we have a hospital founded by a Christian mission, alongside mosques and churches, synagogues and temples. In the USA people of all faiths come to live the American Dream. We may be different nations, but we are united by this proud tradition of tolerance. Together we share the dream of a world where we can all live alongside each other in peace and prosperity".
