



NEWS RELEASE (Dubai)

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For immediate release

UK's ClinTec International proud sponsors of Gulf's premier pharma expo

Scottish firm's President and CEO points to rapid expansion of local pharma and biotech sectors, says focus now needed on training and development to ensure a sustainable future

British global clinical research organisation ClinTec International is proud to be a major sponsor of this year's Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Middle East (PABME) to be held at the Dubai Exhibition and Conference Centre from April 20-22.

The Glasgow, Scotland-headquartered CRO, which has an office here in Dubai's Healthcare City, is Gold Sponsor of PABME, the region's premier event for the pharma and biotech industry. ClinTec International's founder, President and CEO, Dr Rabinder Buttar, is also scheduled to speak at and chair a session during the PABME Clinical Trials Congress.

Dr Buttar said: "We are proud and delighted to be Gold Sponsors of PABME. As the premier industry event in the region, PABME provides us with the opportunity to showcase the scientific and innovative expertise for which Scotland is so well known. It also provides us with the opportunity to forge links with other major industry players in the region too."

Despite the current economic downturn, the international pharmaceutical market has continued to demonstrate relatively strong growth. And while North America and the European Union (EU) constitute the bulk of pharma sales and clinical research development; markets in the Levant, where ClinTec also has a presence, as well as GCC countries such as the UAE are growing year on year and are estimated to be worth some US\$10 (£6.6bn) currently.

"The demand for affordable prescription medicines is set to grow dramatically here in the Gulf and the rest of the MENA region," said Dr Buttar, who was recently included in the UK's *Real Business*' list of Britain's 100 Most Entrepreneurial Women. "And like India, this region also stands ready to attract major international pharma and biotech firms and become a clinical research hub."

As with India, however, the expansion Gulf's promising pharma sector will also draw attention to regulatory and training issues and standards. In order for locally sourced research and results to be taken seriously internationally there needs to be a harmonisation of clinical research standards, more equitable standards of training, as well as, crucially, the ability to train the numbers of local staff required for the industry to have a sustainable future.



"As can be seen from the topic of my speech here, training is high on the ClinTec agenda. We have already set up an Academy of Clinical Excellence (ACE) in Bangalore, India, providing internationally-accredited qualifications from UK universities to some 700 Indian graduates so far. We are now ready to replicate this success here in Dubai," said Dr Buttar.

"While at ClinTec we are proud to be developing medicines that save lives around the world, we also recognise the huge potential in bringing new and emerging markets up to Western standards. We should now have ClinTec's Academy of Clinical Excellence in Dubai ready to admit students by the year's end."

Notes to Editors

About ClinTec International

ClinTec International is a global contract clinical research organisation, which was established in 1997 by Dr Rabinder Buttar, the company's President and CEO. ClinTec International has a presence in more than 30 developed and emerging countries, covering Western Europe, Central & Eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, Central and South Africa, Latin America, India and the US. In addition to ClinTec International's vast expertise in oncology, the organisation has also conducted over 150 clinical trials in other therapeutic areas including anti-infectives, cardiology, dermatology, gastroenterology, neurology, respiratory medicine and rheumatology.

ClinTec International excels in conducting clinical studies in diverse geographical locations, supported by a team of world-class project managers and clinical research associates. ClinTec International's 'fast, flexible and focused' approach to clinical research ensures an added advantage to the drug development process. The organisation's range of services includes Clinical Monitoring and Project Management, Regulatory Affairs, Medical Writing, Data Management and Biostatistics, Global Clinical Resourcing, Quality Assurance, Drug Development Consultancy and Clinical Training courses.

ClinTec International and PABME

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- ClinTec International Founder, President and CEO Dr Rabinder Buttar will speak on *Clinical Research Training: Challenges and Opportunities in MENA* during the PABME Clinical Trials Congress. Dr Buttar will also chair an afternoon seminar session.
- ClinTec International's Senior Director Corporate Development and Vice-President Caledonia Pharma Mr Bobby Bal will speak on *ClinTec International and Dr Reddy's Laboratories Co-Development Case Study* during the PABME Pharma and Biotech Opportunities in Emerging Markets conference
- Also during the Clinical Trials Congress: Linda Barkemo, Northern Europe Manager, ClinTec International Sweden, will speak on *Role and Responsibilities of the Project Manager*.



Recognition for Dr Rabinder Buttar and ClinTec International:

- Inclusion in Real Business' list of Britain's 100 Most Entrepreneurial women (March 2009)
- Scots Businesswoman of the Year [Evening Times, Scotswoman of the Year Awards] (Jan 2009);
- Business & Commerce Award at the Lloyds TSB Jewel Awards 2008 (April 2008);
- Entrepreneur of the Year, Scottish Asian Business Awards 2007 (Nov 2007).

For further information or to arrange an interview with Dr Buttar, please contact ClinTec International's Regional Manager Middle East and North Africa:

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