

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SDG 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Al Ain University



جامعة العين
AL AIN UNIVERSITY

Contents

Current Collaborations with Health Institutions.....	3
1. Executive response and evidence alignment.....	3
2. Local collaboration	3
2.1 Fakih IVF Abu Dhabi Center — research, internships and exchange	4
2.2 Appolonia & Synergy Dental Holding Group — supervised clinical training	5
2.3 Health-system and rehabilitation engagement	6
2.4 Implementation through community health activities.....	8
3. National collaboration	10
3.1 Burjeel Group — formal healthcare-sector collaboration	10
3.2 Unified pharmacy exit exam — national quality and competence.....	11
3.3 National healthcare workforce development.....	12
3.4 Pharmaceutical training and humanitarian competency development	14
4. Global cooperation	17
4.1 Monash University — recurring health and biomedical research exchange.....	17
4.2 Global Academy for Digital Health — international digital-health forum	20
5. Demonstrated contribution to health and wellbeing outcomes	22
6. Conclusion: evidence against THE Indicator 3.3.1	22
Appendix A. Public evidence register	23

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 3

Current Collaborations with Health Institutions

1. Executive response and evidence alignment

Al Ain University (AAU) collaborates with healthcare providers, health authorities, health-focused universities, professional training bodies, humanitarian organizations and international research partners. These collaborations are not limited to isolated events: the strongest evidence consists of formal memoranda of understanding, structured clinical placements, joint research, faculty and knowledge exchange, shared facilities, national assessment initiatives and recurring international scientific programs.

Evidence summary by geographic scope

<i>Scope</i>	Principal collaborators	Ongoing mechanism and outcome pathway	Public evidence
LOCAL	Fakih IVF Abu Dhabi; Appolonia & Synergy Dental; Department of Health – Abu Dhabi; Al Ain Training & Rehabilitation Center	Formal MoUs, structured clinical internships, specialist-supervised placements, joint research, faculty exchange, shared facilities, and health-program coordination.	2025–2026 AAU announcements, WAM and Aletihad corroboration
NATIONAL	Burjeel Group; Gulf Medical University and Dubai Pharmacy College; Nafis National Healthcare Program; Trust Vision; Emirates Red Crescent	National healthcare MoUs, a unified pharmacy exit exam, health-workforce development, pharmaceutical training, and competency-building cooperation.	2024–2026 AAU, GMU and UAE-government evidence
GLOBAL	Monash University; Global Academy for Digital Health (UK), with IEEE and Dubai Health Authority	A four-year international health and biomedical symposium series, research exchange, and a global digital-health knowledge and innovation forum.	2024–2026 AAU, Monash and conference evidence

AAU therefore demonstrates the existence of collaboration in all three assessed scopes, supports each scope with substantive evidence, and provides stable public sources accessible from AAU or an external partner/publication.

Methodology reference: [THE Sustainability Impact Ratings Methodology 2026, Metric 3.3.1](#)

2. Local collaboration

For this report, local collaboration refers to external institutions operating in the city or emirate served by an AAU campus. AAU’s strongest current local evidence connects academic programs directly with clinical practice, research infrastructure, rehabilitation, health-system planning and community prevention.

2.1 Fakih IVF Abu Dhabi Center — research, internships and exchange

In November 2025, AAU—through its College of Pharmacy and Health and Biomedical Research Center—signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Fakih IVF Abu Dhabi Center. The agreement creates a continuing academic-clinical framework in reproductive medicine and related sciences.

Joint research in reproductive medicine and related health sciences.

Structured training and internship opportunities for AAU students at Fakih IVF centres across the UAE.

Faculty exchange, joint academic events and shared access to specialized laboratories and research facilities.

An explicit pathway from education and research to innovation, professional development and improved patient care.

[L1 AAU public announcement](#) | [Independent WAM corroboration](#)



Al Ain University, represented by the College of Pharmacy and the Center for Health and Biomedical Research, has signed a cooperation agreement with Fakih IVF Center – Abu Dhabi, aiming to strengthen academic collaboration, support research innovation, and develop professional training programs in reproductive medicine and related health sciences.

This partnership reflects the joint commitment to bridging the gap between academic learning and clinical practice by preparing a new generation of scientifically and practically qualified healthcare professionals, while enhancing the environment for applied medical education in the UAE.

Under the agreement, both parties will collaborate on implementing joint research initiatives in reproductive medicine, as well as organizing training programs and offering internship opportunities for Al Ain University students across the nationwide network of Fakih IVF Centers.

The agreement also includes the exchange of faculty members and experts, the organization of joint academic and research events, and the provision of access to specialized laboratories and facilities that support knowledge exchange and the development of research skills.

Prof. Amer Qasem, Vice President of Al Ain University (Abu Dhabi Campus), stated that this partnership will provide exceptional opportunities for students and faculty members to engage in innovative research projects and gain practical field experience that enhances their professional competencies and contributes to the development of the healthcare sector in the country.

For his part, Dr. Michael Fakih, Founder and Chairman of Fakih IVF Center, emphasized that signing this agreement marks an important milestone in advancing medical education and scientific research in the UAE. He noted that the collaboration with Al Ain University represents a shared vision centered on innovation and the development of national talents in the healthcare sector.

Dr. Yasmin Sajad, Consultant in Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Fertility and Head of Academic Affairs at Fakih IVF Center, highlighted the importance of this partnership in empowering the next generation of medical professionals, noting that it serves as a model for integrating academic education with evidence-based practical training.

2.2 Appolonia & Synergy Dental Holding Group — supervised clinical training

In February 2026, AAU entered a formal partnership with Appolonia & Synergy Dental Holding Group. The collaboration links AAU's Bachelor of Dental Surgery curriculum with practical healthcare experience at partner facilities under the guidance of specialists and consultants.

Hands-on exposure to diverse clinical cases and advanced dental technologies.

Participation of the first BDS cohort of 25 students in the partner training programs.

A direct contribution to clinical competence, patient-safety readiness and the UAE's need for specialized healthcare talent.

L2 [AAU public announcement](#) | [Independent Alethiad report](#)



In a step that reinforces integration between higher education and the healthcare sector, Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi witnessed the signing of a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

between Al Ain University and Appolonia & Synergy Dental Holding Group, aimed at advancing the medical education ecosystem and elevating clinical training standards in the field of dentistry in line with global best practices.

The MoU provides structured, advanced clinical training programs for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Dental Surgery program at Al Ain University, within the Group's clinical facilities. The training will be conducted under the supervision of specialized, highly qualified medical professionals, enhancing students' clinical competencies and ensuring they are ready to meet the demands of the healthcare sector.

The agreement also covers collaboration on continuing medical education, scientific research, and clinical trials, as well as the ongoing development of academic programs aligned with the latest advances in dental science. The partnership aims to strengthen the integration of theoretical knowledge and hands-on clinical application within a quality-driven, innovation-focused academic environment.

Prof. Ghaleb Al-Refae, President of Al Ain University, affirmed that the MoU reflects the University's vision of building effective institutional partnerships with leading healthcare entities. He noted that the systematic integration of academic education and practical application is a cornerstone of preparing competitive national talent capable of contributing effectively to the development of the UAE's healthcare system, in alignment with national priorities centered on quality, innovation, and sustainability.

Dr. Yasser Haj Hamid, Founder and Chairman of Appolonia & Synergy Dental Holding Group, stated that the partnership represents a strategic milestone in preparing a highly qualified generation of dental professionals according to the highest professional standards. He emphasized the Group's commitment to leveraging its clinical capabilities and specialized expertise to support academic excellence and enhance practical training outcomes.

Dr. Firas Al-Qaraan, Dean of the College of Dentistry at Al Ain University, highlighted that collaboration with a specialized group of the scale and expertise of Appolonia & Synergy opens wide horizons for students to gain advanced clinical experience within a professional environment. He reaffirmed the College's commitment to continuously enhancing its academic and training programs in line with the latest scientific developments, with a strong focus on research and clinical studies to elevate academic outputs and strengthen Abu Dhabi's position as a regional hub for advanced healthcare and medical education.

This agreement serves as a model of institutional integration between academia and the private healthcare sector and underscores both parties' shared commitment to supporting Abu Dhabi Vision 2030 by fostering a knowledge-based economy, strengthening healthcare competitiveness, and enhancing overall quality of life.

2.3 Health-system and rehabilitation engagement

AAU's engagement with the Department of Health – Abu Dhabi supports alignment of its Dentistry, Pharmacy and Nursing programs with health-sector needs. Public reporting records discussions on practical training, research, academic conferences and workshops. In 2026, AAU also publicly recorded a Memorandum of Understanding with Al Ain Training & Rehabilitation Center, adding a formal local relationship relevant to rehabilitation and community wellbeing.

L3 Department of Health – Abu Dhabi engagement
L4 MoU with Al Ain Training & Rehabilitation Center



In line with its commitment to strengthening community partnerships and integrating efforts in education and rehabilitation, Al Ain University has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Al Ain Center for Training and Rehabilitation, aiming to enhance joint collaboration in supporting and empowering People of Determination.

The agreement was signed by Prof. Ghaleb El Refae, President of Al Ain University, and Mr. Ali Mohammed Abdul Shafi, Director of Al Ain Center for Training and Rehabilitation, in the presence of representatives from both entities.

Prof. Ghaleb El Refae emphasized that this collaboration marks an important step toward developing impactful initiatives that empower People of Determination and enhance their academic and professional readiness. He highlighted the University's commitment to leveraging its academic and research capabilities to support this group, in alignment with the UAE's vision of building a more inclusive and sustainable society.

The MoU aims to establish an effective framework for cooperation between both parties, including organizing training and rehabilitation programs, conducting workshops and awareness seminars, and exchanging academic and professional expertise, ultimately enhancing the quality of services provided and improving beneficiaries' quality of life.

The collaboration also covers joint research projects in disability and rehabilitation, the development of specialized vocational training programs, and the provision of practical training opportunities for university students to enhance their employability and hands-on experience.

In addition, the agreement includes organizing joint community and awareness initiatives, participating in national programs that raise awareness of issues affecting People of Determination, and exchanging educational and technical resources to support sustainable community impact.

This agreement reflects Al Ain University's ongoing efforts to expand its network of partnerships with specialized institutions, reinforcing its role in community service and supporting diverse groups, in line with the UAE's strategic direction toward empowering People of Determination and promoting their full inclusion in society.

2.4 Implementation through community health activities

The following 2025 activities are presented as implementation evidence—not as substitutes for the formal and continuing relationships above. Together, they show how AAU works with local providers to translate institutional engagement into prevention, screening and health literacy.

A health-awareness campaign with Al Jahili Health Centre and specialist medical and nutrition providers, including public-health information and preventive services.

Heart-health awareness with Czech Rehabilitation Hospital, connecting specialist expertise with students and the university community.

Health awareness with Royal Health, including access to basic checks and preventive guidance.

L5 Specialized medical centres campaign



The Deanship of Student Affairs, in its Al Ain campus, organized a health awareness campaign under the slogan "We Care About Your Health," in cooperation with Al Jahili Health Centre, 4U Medical Centre, Life Nutrition Centre, and Dr. Nutrition Centre. The campaign offered free tests to measure salts, minerals, collagen, and body mass index, under the supervision of nutrition specialists who provided important advice on maintaining an ideal weight and explained the impact of weight gain and deficiencies in minerals and vitamins on health.

Additionally, Al Jahili Clinic provided seasonal flu vaccinations for those interested, and gifts and free samples were distributed to attendees by the participating entities, which were honoured at the conclusion of the campaign in recognition of their significant contribution to the event's success.

L6 Czech Rehabilitation Hospital heart-health activity



As part of its commitment to the health of its students and the university community, Al Ain University organized an awareness event on heart health and the prevention of cardiovascular diseases, in collaboration with the Czech Rehabilitation Hospital. The event was attended by Prof. Ibtehal Abu Rezeq, Vice President of Development and Follow-up, and the Dean of Student Affairs, as well as several faculty members, administrators, department heads, and students.

The event featured free medical checkups, including blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, and body mass index (BMI), as well as free consultations and health advice provided by a public health doctor and a nutritionist, aiming to promote awareness of the importance of heart health and disease prevention.

The event also included the distribution of gifts to participating students, in a positive and engaging atmosphere that reflects the university's commitment to its community role in promoting a culture of health and prevention.

L7 Royal Health awareness activity



The Student Affairs Department at Al Ain University, Abu Dhabi campus, in collaboration with Royal Health Hospital, organized a health event aimed at providing a variety of free and comprehensive medical tests for the university community. The tests included an electrocardiogram (ECG) to check

heart function, echocardiography for a detailed assessment of heart health, a respiratory function test to detect any respiratory issues, and a blood test to reveal various health indicators.

The event attracted a large number of students and staff, who eagerly participated to benefit from these unique medical services. The university emphasized that organizing such health events reflects its social responsibility towards the community, promoting health awareness among individuals and encouraging regular medical check-ups for early disease detection.

A representative from Royal Health Hospital highlighted the importance of collaboration between educational institutions and the healthcare sector to provide exceptional health services, contributing to improved community health and fostering health-conscious behavior among students and staff.

The event also featured educational lectures and medical advice from specialist doctors on the importance of maintaining a healthy and balanced lifestyle. Free consultations were offered to participants on how to prevent chronic diseases such as diabetes and high blood pressure.

This health initiative aims to enhance the quality of life for the university community and encourage individuals to take better care of their health by undergoing regular check-ups, ensuring early detection of diseases for timely and appropriate treatment.

3. National collaboration

AAU's national collaborations support health-professions education, workforce capacity, professional competencies and service to communities across the UAE. The portfolio combines healthcare-sector agreements with structured cooperation among health-focused education and national bodies.

3.1 Burjeel Group — formal healthcare-sector collaboration

AAU publicly recorded a new Memorandum of Understanding with Burjeel Group in 2025. As a multi-facility healthcare group with national reach, Burjeel provides AAU with a formal external healthcare partner at national scale. The current MoU strengthens the institutional basis for cooperation between higher education and healthcare practice.

N1 [AAU Memorandum of Understanding with Burjeel Group](#)



In a step reflecting its commitment to advancing healthcare education and strengthening integration between academic learning and practical application, Al Ain University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Burjeel Group to establish a strategic partnership aimed at supporting clinical education and training for students in health-related programs.

Through this partnership, students will benefit from structured, hands-on clinical training across Burjeel Group's healthcare facilities, under the supervision of qualified professionals, contributing to their professional preparedness and equipping them with the practical skills required to meet labor market needs.

The MoU was signed on behalf of Al Ain University by Prof. Amer Qasem, Vice President of the University, and on behalf of Burjeel Group by Mr. John Sunil, Chief Executive Officer of Burjeel Holdings.

This initiative aligns with the UAE's strategic directions to develop the healthcare education system, enhance the readiness of national talent, and support the quality of healthcare services and community well-being.

3.2 Unified pharmacy exit exam — national quality and competence

AAU's College of Pharmacy joined Gulf Medical University and Dubai Pharmacy College to create a unified exit exam initiative. The collaboration standardizes assessment, benchmarks curricula and helps confirm that graduates possess the professional competencies required for safe and effective healthcare practice. The partners described the initiative as groundwork for a common national exit exam for pharmacy graduates.

Shared assessment design and institutional learning across three UAE pharmacy colleges.

Alignment with UAE professional competencies and international best practice.

Improved graduate readiness and a stronger national pharmacy workforce.

N2 Gulf Medical University public evidence



In a landmark move to enhance the quality of pharmacy education across the UAE, the College of Pharmacy, Gulf Medical University has teamed up with the Colleges of Pharmacy at Dubai Pharmacy College and Al-Ain University to launch a unified exit exam initiative. This collaboration aims to

standardize the assessment of pharmacy graduates, ensuring they meet high professional standards and are well-prepared for their careers in healthcare.

This initiative is crucial as it aligns pharmacy education with global best practices, ensuring that all graduates possess the necessary competencies for professional success. By standardizing exit exams, the initiative addresses the need for consistent and rigorous evaluation of pharmacy students, enhancing their readiness and employability in both local and international markets.

Central to this initiative are the efforts of the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA), whose advocacy for best practices in programmatic assessment has been a driving force. The CAA's support and encouragement have been instrumental in bringing this initiative to fruition, highlighting their commitment to elevating educational outcomes and setting new benchmarks for pharmacy education in the UAE. Moreover, such an initiative lays the groundwork for the eventual establishment of a common national exit exam for pharmacy graduates in the UAE, setting a standardized competency benchmark across the country.

Prof. Muhammad Al-Shorbagy, Dean College of Pharmacy, Gulf Medical University commented: "The unified exit exam is a pivotal advancement in standardizing pharmacy education across the UAE. This initiative ensures our graduates meet the highest professional standards, enhancing their readiness for the healthcare sector. It also underscores our commitment to collaboration and continuous improvement among the leading pharmacy colleges".

Prof. Sherief Khalifa, Dean Dubai College of Pharmacy commented: This project is the first step towards having a unified exit exam across the UAE. It serves to ensure that all pharmacy graduates in the country exhibit the UAE Professional Competencies for pharmacy graduates. It will also serve to bring all pharmacy academicians together to engage in wider discussions related to advancing pharmacy education and practice. I am extremely proud of this partnership with Al Ain University and Gulf Medical University.

Prof. Mohammad Ghattas, Dean of the College of Pharmacy at Al Ain University, commented: "This unified exit exam is a significant step forward in ensuring that our pharmacy graduates are evaluated with the highest standards. Our goals with this initiative are to learn from each other, benchmark our curriculums, maintain the areas of strength, and improve on weaknesses. We believe this experience will also encourage other institutions to join us in adopting these good practices."

3.3 National healthcare workforce development

AAU participates in the Nafis National Healthcare Program by offering full scholarships to eligible UAE nationals studying for the Bachelor of Pharmacy. This national collaboration expands access to health-professions education and supports Emiratisation and long-term workforce capacity in the healthcare sector.



Al Ain University has announced a strategic partnership with the Nafes Program to provide full scholarships for UAE Locals to study the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. This initiative reflects the university's commitment to supporting higher education and empowering national talents in priority academic and professional fields, contributing to the enhancement of national human resource capacities and addressing the growing demands of the job market.

The collaboration between Al Ain University and Nafes aims to advance education in health sciences, with a particular focus on the field of pharmacy, a cornerstone of the UAE's healthcare system. Through this initiative, the university reaffirms its dedication to creating a distinguished educational environment that equips students with the skills and knowledge needed for excellence in their fields.

In his statement, Dr. Noor Al Deen Atatreh, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Al Ain University, expressed the university's pride in its collaboration with Nafes, emphasizing that this project embodies the university's vision of offering innovative and advanced academic programs aligned with the educational aspirations of the UAE. He stated, "We are committed to providing educational opportunities for citizens and supporting them in achieving their ambitions, in alignment with the wise leadership's goals and the UAE's future vision."

Prof. Mohammed Ghattas, Dean of the College of Pharmacy at Al Ain University, added, "The Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program at Al Ain University is distinguished by its international accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) and its adherence to the highest international academic and scientific standards. Through this collaboration with Nafes, we aim to attract Emirati students and support them in becoming leaders in the pharmacy field, contributing significantly to the nation's healthcare sector." He further noted, "We believe that these scholarships will help prepare a generation of outstanding pharmacists equipped with the scientific knowledge and practical expertise needed to address future healthcare challenges."

This partnership with Nafes aligns with Al Ain University's national efforts to support Emirati talent by equipping them with the skills required to drive development in the healthcare sector. The initiative

is part of the university's broader strategy to enhance collaboration with government entities and national institutions to achieve comprehensive development goals.

Al Ain University has invited eligible Emirati citizens to apply for these scholarships and enroll in the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program. The university confirmed that registration is now open through its official channels, emphasizing that the scholarships cover full tuition fees, enabling students to focus entirely on achieving academic excellence.

3.4 Pharmaceutical training and humanitarian competency development

Further 2026 public evidence shows AAU maintaining national engagement beyond degree provision. AAU signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Trust Vision Group for pharmaceutical training and reported competency-development cooperation with the Emirates Red Crescent. These relationships broaden professional training and community-service capacity relevant to health and wellbeing.

N4 MoU with Trust Vision Group for pharmaceutical training

N5 Cooperation with Emirates Red Crescent

MOU between Al Ain University and Trust Vision Group for Pharmaceutical Training



Al Ain University, represented by the College of Pharmacy, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Trust Vision Group to strengthen the integration between academic education and professional practice in the healthcare sector, and to expand practical training and professional development opportunities for the college's students.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the University by Prof. Ghaleb Awad Al-Refae, President of the University, and on behalf of the Group by Mr. Shadi Obaidat, Chief Executive Officer of Trust Vision Investment Group in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, in the presence of several academic and administrative leaders from both sides.

The MoU aims to provide practical training opportunities for students of the Pharmacy and Nutrition Programs at the medical centers and hospitals affiliated with the Group. This will enable students to acquire best professional practices and applied skills that qualify them for the labor market and enhance their practical readiness. The agreement also includes organizing specialized training programs and workshops, exchanging expertise, and utilizing the facilities and resources available to

both parties, thereby contributing to enhancing students' competencies in line with the highest professional standards.

The agreement further seeks to support professional development pathways, build capacities, and explore future employment opportunities for students and graduates, strengthening their readiness for the job market and aligning with the needs of the healthcare sector in the UAE.

Professor Ghaleb Al-Refaei stated that this agreement reflects the University's commitment to establishing effective strategic partnerships with leading institutions in the healthcare sector, in a way that enhances integration between the academic and practical dimensions.

For his part, Mr. Shadi Obaidat, Chief Executive Officer of Trust Vision Investment Group in Abu Dhabi, emphasized that the Group places special importance on building sustainable strategic partnerships with educational institutions, stemming from its belief in the importance of investing in national talents and refining their skills within professional work environments.

In turn, Prof. Mohammed Ghattas, Dean of the College of Pharmacy, explained that this partnership represents a qualitative step in developing the clinical and field training system for the College's students, as it provides them with direct exposure to advanced healthcare environments and practical experience in accordance with high professional standards.

Al Ain University's Supports Competency Development in Cooperation with the Emirates Red Crescent



The Continuing Education Center at Al Ain University delivered a specialized training workshop titled "Training Needs Assessment: From Analysis to Impact", hosted by the Emirates Red Crescent Authority at its General Secretariat headquarters in Abu Dhabi. The workshop brought together 65 department directors and section heads from across the UAE, as part of the Authority's commitment to developing human capital, enhancing institutional performance, and promoting training methodologies based on actual needs and sustainable impact.

The workshop was delivered by Dr. Ahmed Ibrahim Al Jumaa, Associate Professor at the College of Communication and Media at Al Ain University, who has extensive academic and professional experience in institutional development and human resources development.

The workshop aimed to enable leaders and supervisors to apply effective methodologies for identifying training needs, contributing to improved institutional performance and achieving sustainable training outcomes aligned with the Authority's strategic objectives and future work requirements.

It covered several key topics, including the concept and importance of training needs, the difference between training needs assessment and job evaluation, key methodologies and tools used in identifying needs, analysis of performance and productivity gaps, linking training needs to strategic goals and work requirements, measuring training impact, and mechanisms for continuous improvement.

The workshop witnessed strong engagement from participants and rich professional discussions that reflected their awareness of the importance of training and institutional development. In this context, Dr. Ahmed Ibrahim Al Jumaa commended the Emirates Red Crescent Authority's support for developing its human resources, praising the participants' interaction and their keenness to exchange expertise and practices that contribute to enhancing institutional performance and achieving sustainable excellence.

For his part, Mr. Raed Sghayer, Director of the Continuing Education Center at Al Ain University, emphasized that human capital development is a key pillar for achieving institutional excellence and sustainability. He noted that the Center is committed to delivering specialized training programs designed according to the needs of partner entities, ensuring a tangible impact on performance and productivity. He added that the partnership with the Emirates Red Crescent reflects the integration between academic and national institutions in preparing competencies capable of keeping pace with future developments and contributing to the UAE's national development goals and the vision of its wise leadership towards a more efficient, innovative, and sustainable society.

Meanwhile, Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim Al Teneiji, Director of the Human Resources Department at the Emirates Red Crescent Authority, stated that the Authority places great importance on capacity-building programs for its employees to achieve the highest levels of institutional excellence, perform assigned duties with efficiency and professionalism, and adopt best practices in humanitarian and social work. He pointed out that this workshop comes as part of the Authority's operational plan in the field of training and development, which includes organizing further courses and workshops to enhance employees' efficiency and refine their skills. He also praised the cooperation between the Emirates Red Crescent and Al Ain University's Continuing Education Center in this regard.

The Continuing Education Center at Al Ain University is considered one of the active centers supporting the culture of professional development and sustainable training pathways by offering specialized training and professional programs that meet labor market needs and institutional development requirements. The Center seeks to build fruitful partnerships with various government and private entities and provide quality training opportunities that contribute to skills development, competency enhancement, and the promotion of excellence and innovation in the workplace.

This workshop reflects the commitment of Al Ain University's Continuing Education Center to strengthening its role in community service and reinforcing its partnerships with various institutions through quality training initiatives that contribute to developing competencies, enhancing human resources readiness, and supporting the UAE's sustainable development journey.

National outcome pathway

Formal healthcare agreements + common professional standards + scholarships and specialized training → more work-ready health graduates, stronger institutional quality and improved capacity to serve UAE communities.

AL AIN UNIVERSITY | SDG 3 | INDICATOR 3.3.1

4. Global cooperation

AAU's global health cooperation is demonstrated by recurring programs with internationally active universities and associations. These programs enable research exchange, postgraduate development and knowledge transfer across health and biomedical disciplines.

4.1 Monash University — recurring health and biomedical research exchange

On 29 January 2026, AAU held the fourth AAU Health and Biomedical Postgraduate Symposium with international participation and involvement from Monash University. The fourth edition is important evidence of continuity: it is part of a multi-year series rather than a one-off event, creating a recurring platform for postgraduate research presentation, expert feedback and international networking in health and biomedical sciences.

The series began in 2023 and reached its fourth edition in 2026.

The program covers clinical pharmacy, public health, biomedical sciences and health-related innovation.

Monash University independently records the 2026 activity as international external academic engagement undertaken for AAU.

G1 [AAU fourth symposium announcement](#) | [Monash University corroboration](#)

G1a [AAU symposium program page](#)

Al Ain University Hosts the 4th Postgraduate Symposium in Health and Biomedical Sciences with Wide International Participation



Al Ain University, in collaboration with Monash University Malaysia, organized the Fourth Postgraduate Symposium in Health and Biomedical Sciences under the theme “Empowering Postgraduate Research and Innovation through International Collaboration,” with wide academic and research participation from within the UAE and abroad.

The symposium brought together representatives from more than 40 universities across 15 countries, including the United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, China, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Singapore, Pakistan, and India, reinforcing the University's position as an international platform for scientific exchange and its role in supporting cross-border research collaboration.

The symposium reflects the University's commitment to advancing high-quality research and fostering knowledge exchange among early-career researchers and international academic institutions. A total of 220 research abstracts were submitted by postgraduate and undergraduate students, presented through oral sessions and scientific posters, both on-campus and online, underscoring the strong interest in the symposium as a leading scientific forum.

The scientific posters, which were presented and discussed before specialized evaluation committees, covered seven main research tracks, including: Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacy Practice; Pharmacology and Molecular Therapeutics; Drug Design and Discovery; Pharmaceutical Technology and Drug Delivery Systems; Biomedical Sciences; Nutrition and Food Science; Public Health; and Artificial Intelligence in Health Sciences.

The symposium program also featured keynote lectures delivered by distinguished academic experts, most notably a keynote by Dr. Mahendran Sekar from Monash University Malaysia entitled "Integrating Artificial Intelligence across Pharmaceutical Sciences: Transforming Education, Research, and Practice," which highlighted the role of advanced technologies in enhancing education and research within the health sciences.

In addition, a specialized panel discussion addressed scholarship opportunities and national and international academic pathways for Master's, PhD, and postdoctoral programs, with participation from representatives of leading regional and international universities. The panel explored prospects for academic mobility, research collaboration, and available opportunities for students and researchers.

The scientific program included two parallel oral presentation sessions across nine scientific tracks, featuring 66 research presentations, alongside the Three-Minute Thesis (3MT) competition, which saw the participation of 10 contestants. The program also incorporated an interactive workshop titled "The 10×10 Strategy for Using Artificial Intelligence in Research and Scientific Writing," focusing on the responsible and systematic use of AI tools to enhance research quality and academic productivity.

The symposium concluded with the recognition of winners across various categories of oral presentations and scientific posters, in appreciation of the academic excellence, research quality, and high scientific standards demonstrated by the participating studies.

Al Ain University affirmed that organizing this symposium aligns with its ongoing commitment to supporting scientific research, fostering an innovation-driven academic environment, and enabling postgraduate students to engage with international academic expertise, thereby preparing research-oriented graduates capable of keeping pace with rapid advancements in the health and biomedical sciences.

Fourth AAU Health and Biomedical Postgraduate Symposium



About the Symposium

4th Edition

AAU Health & Biomedical

Postgraduate Symposium

Our Mission

To provide a distinguished platform for postgraduate and final-year undergraduate students to present their research and foster academic excellence in health and biomedical sciences.

Key Focus Areas

- Interdisciplinary Collaboration
- Innovation & Research
- Academic Exchange

The College of Pharmacy at Al Ain University and Monash University are pleased to organize this transformative experience, which promotes regional and international academic exchange among emerging scholars in clinical pharmacy, pharmacology, drug design, pharmaceutical technology, biomedical sciences, nutrition, food science, public health, and Artificial Intelligence in Health Science.

AAU Health and Biomedical Postgraduate Symposium

AAU Health and Biomedical Postgraduate Symposium

Maran, S. (Member), Sundralingam, U. (Speaker), Sekar, M. (Chair/ Co-Chair)

Malaysia Sch of Pharmacy

Activity: External Academic Engagement > Committees and working groups

Period

29 Jan 2026

Work for

Al Ain University, United Arab Emirates

Degree of Recognition

International

4.2 Global Academy for Digital Health — international digital-health forum

AAU and the Global Academy for Digital Health (United Kingdom) jointly organized the 2024 Global Digital Health Knowledge Exchange & Empowerment Conference in Abu Dhabi, with IEEE and Dubai Health Authority among the organizers, partners and sponsors. The event was positioned as the Academy's annual global forum and created a structured platform for digital-health research, policy, training and technology exchange.

Research and workshops on artificial intelligence in healthcare, telemedicine, smart hospitals, digital pharmacovigilance, medical imaging, disability-inclusive digital health and healthcare governance.

International committees and speakers from universities, hospitals, health systems and professional bodies.

A stated objective to enhance the patient healthcare journey and help reduce the healthcare divide through digital technologies.

[G2 AAU Global Digital Health conference page](#)

The 2024 Global Digital Health Knowledge Exchange & Empowerment Conference



The gDigiHealth.KEE Conference is the Annual Global Academy for Digital Health Conference that is envisioned to become a global forum for knowledge exchange of the state-of-the-art research and development in digital health technologies, and for enabling and empowering stakeholders engaged in enriching and enhancing the patient healthcare journey.

The 2024 gDigiHealth.KEE conference is jointly organized by the Global Academy for Digital Health, UK, and Al Ain University, United Arab Emirates.

The 2024 gDigiHealth.KEE Conference is jointly organized by the Global Academy for Digital Health, UK, and Al Ain University, United Arab Emirates.

Global Academy for Digital Health (GA4DH) defines Digital Health as "the employment of digital technologies to enable and empower healthcare providers, whether people or organizations, to deliver innovative solutions to enrich and enhance the patient healthcare journey". The gDigiHealth.KEE conference is inspired by GA4DH's mission, and accordingly, the conference is aimed at contributing to reducing the healthcare divide amongst nations and people through the employment of digital health technologies.

The 2024 gDigiHealth.KEE Conference seeks to attract distinctive submissions of research papers, doctoral research proposals, and workshops/tutorial proposals in various digital health research and development areas. In particular, the 2024 gDigiHealth.KEE Conference is aimed at addressing unmet needs of digital healthcare strategy and policymakers, and providing accessibility to next generation novel digital healthcare research and development output in the following areas:

- AI and the Patient Journey
- Digital Pathology Technologies Frameworks, Processes, and Technologies
- Radiomics Methods, Processes and Technologies
- Epigenetics digital processes, methods, and frameworks
- Smart Hospital Frameworks
- Digital Health Standards
- Quality of Life (QoL) Modelling for NCDs
- Data Analytics Methods and Approaches to Digital Healthcare
- Digital Healthcare Frameworks for Caring for People with Disabilities
- Telemedicine & Intelligent Digital Platforms
- Robotics-enabled Surgery
- Clinical Cancer Informatics
- Digital Tumor Boards, Methods and Technologies
- Digital Health Knowledge Management, Methods, and Technologies
- Healthcare Quality Governance and Change Management with Digital Health
- Information Strategy & Architecture for Digital Health
- Process architectural frameworks for Digital Health
- Legal, Social, Ethical, and Professional (LSEP) for Digital Health

CONFERENCE DIGITAL HEALTH WORKSHOPS

1. AI & Clinical Radiology
2. Digital Pathology & AI
3. Robotics-Assisted Orthopaedic Surgery
4. Cancer Epigenetics: Methods & Challenges
5. Smart Hospitals, Process Architecture & Workflow Modelling
6. Data Analytics for Speech, Language & Hearing Disorders
7. Digital Pharmacovigilance
8. Pharmacy Automation and Informatics Workshop

Conference Digital Health Exhibition

Selected key leading international digital health technology providers are being appointed to run an introduction of their innovation in plenary sessions and demonstrate their key digital health technologies products in the state of the art 2024 gDigiHealth.KEE Conference Exhibition. Interested

leading digital health technology providers can visit the conference Corporate Sponsorship Packages Section.

Global outcome pathway

Recurring international programs connect AAU students and researchers with global expertise, accelerate dissemination of health research and create networks that support innovation in healthcare practice and policy.

AL AIN UNIVERSITY | SDG 3 | INDICATOR 3.3.1

5. Demonstrated contribution to health and wellbeing outcomes

Taken together, these collaborations create a coherent institutional pathway from education and research to healthcare quality, workforce readiness and community wellbeing. The partnerships contribute through the following mechanisms:

<i>Outcome area</i>	How collaboration improves health and wellbeing
<i>Clinical readiness</i>	Structured reproductive-medicine internships and supervised dental placements bridge classroom learning and real patient-care settings.
<i>Research and innovation</i>	Joint research, faculty exchange, shared laboratories and international symposium participation strengthen health and biomedical research capacity.
<i>Quality of health education</i>	The unified pharmacy exit exam benchmarks curricula and tests professional competencies across UAE institutions.
<i>Health workforce</i>	Pharmacy scholarships, professional training agreements and clinical exposure contribute to a skilled national healthcare workforce.
<i>Community wellbeing</i>	Provider-led screenings, vaccination and awareness activities translate institutional partnerships into prevention and health-literacy outcomes.
<i>Global knowledge exchange</i>	Recurring international forums connect AAU with global researchers, healthcare professionals and digital-health specialists.

6. Conclusion: evidence against THE Indicator 3.3.1

Al Ain University has current collaborations with external health institutions at local, national and global levels. The evidence demonstrates more than the existence of contacts: it shows formal agreements, structured clinical training, joint research, faculty and student exchange, national assessment initiatives, workforce development and recurring international health-science programs.

Appendix A. Public evidence register

The links below are the public evidence set supporting this report. AAU-hosted sources are supplemented by government, partner-university and independent public records where available. Source years are shown so the evidence can be filtered to the reporting window required by the submission portal.

<i>ID</i>	<i>Scope</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Evidence and relevance</i>	<i>Public source</i>
<i>M1</i>	Methodology	2026	THE Sustainability Impact Ratings methodology: Metric 3.3.1 definition and evidence test	Open evidence
<i>L1</i>	Local / national	2025	AAU–Fakih IVF MoU: reproductive-medicine research, internships, exchange and shared facilities	Open evidence
<i>L1b</i>	Corroboration	2025	Emirates News Agency report on the Fakih IVF partnership	Open evidence
<i>L2</i>	Local / national	2026	AAU–Appolonia & Synergy Dental collaboration	Open evidence
<i>L2b</i>	Corroboration	2026	Aletihad report on supervised clinical training for AAU dental students	Open evidence
<i>L3</i>	Local	2025	AAU delegation engagement with Department of Health – Abu Dhabi	Open evidence
<i>L4</i>	Local	2026	AAU MoU with Al Ain Training & Rehabilitation Center	Open evidence
<i>L5</i>	Local outcomes	2025	Health awareness campaign with specialist medical centres	Open evidence
<i>L6</i>	Local outcomes	2025	Heart-health awareness with Czech Rehabilitation Hospital	Open evidence
<i>L7</i>	Local outcomes	2025	Health awareness with Royal Health	Open evidence
<i>N1</i>	National	2025	AAU memorandum of understanding with Burjeel Group	Open evidence
<i>N2</i>	National	2024	Unified pharmacy exit exam: AAU, GMU and Dubai Pharmacy College	Open evidence
<i>N3</i>	National	2025	AAU pharmacy scholarships under the Nafis National Healthcare Program	Open evidence
<i>N4</i>	National	2026	AAU MoU with Trust Vision Group for pharmaceutical training	Open evidence
<i>N5</i>	National	2026	AAU competency development in cooperation with Emirates Red Crescent	Open evidence
<i>G1</i>	Global	2026	Fourth AAU Health and Biomedical Postgraduate Symposium	Open evidence
<i>G1b</i>	Corroboration	2026	Monash University record of international engagement with AAU	Open evidence
<i>G2</i>	Global	2024	Global Digital Health Knowledge Exchange & Empowerment Conference	Open evidence