DaVita Celebrates World Kidney Day with the Saudi Community

Riyadh (17, March 2016) – DaVita Kidney Care, a division of DaVita HealthCare Partners Inc., a leading independent provider of integrated health and kidney care services in Saudi Arabia, celebrated World Kidney Day on Thursday 10th March across the Kingdom. Local communities were invited to participate in events to learn about the prevention of chronic kidney disease and the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle.

Activities were held in six malls, in the cities of Jeddah, Riyadh, Al Ahsa, Buraidah, Abha, Al Majardah and Taif, areas where nearly 1,000 renal failure patients are already benefiting from DaVita’s dialysis centers. Those who visited the malls were given the opportunity to have their blood pressure, sugar levels and weight checked by trained healthcare professionals, so they could be individually assessed on their specific risk factors for kidney disease. Those visiting the stands were also able to receive tailored advice from doctors and nutritionists on how best to minimize their risk of kidney disease through minor changes in their everyday lives.

“DaVita is committed to raising the awareness of chronic kidney disease in Saudi Arabia,” said Dr Abdulkareem Al Suwaida, DaVita chief medical officer in the Kingdom. “This is a disease that can be significantly reduced through simple changes to lifestyle and diet, and we recognize the importance of working with local communities to highlight the need for prevention.”

As part of its commitment to provide the Saudi population with the best possible resources to help prevent the onset of kidney disease, DaVita has recently developed an online risk assessment and recipe tool, which offers a range of kidney-friendly recipes that are easy to cook and use a mixture of ingredients to suit all appetites.

According to the latest figures published by the Saudi Center for Organ Transplantation (SCOT), the incidence of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) in the Kingdom has been increasing in recent years, affecting more than 15,780 patients in 2014. In order to help bring best-in-class treatment and care to Saudi patients, the Ministry of Health awarded DaVita Kidney Care a contract in early 2014 to open and run approximately 75 new centers across the Kingdom by the end of 2018. DaVita has already opened eight kidney clinics across the Kingdom, offering cutting-edge technology and bringing world-class kidney care to isolated and hard to reach communities.

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About DaVita Kidney Care in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
DaVita Kidney Care is a division of DaVita HealthCare Partners Inc., a global company that, through its operating divisions, provides a variety of health care services to patient populations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and throughout Asia, Europe, and Latin America. A leading provider of dialysis services in the United States, DaVita Kidney Care treats patients with chronic kidney failure and end stage renal disease.

DaVita Kidney Care strives to improve patients' quality of life by innovating clinical care, and by offering integrated treatment plans, personalized care teams and convenient health-management services. As of December 31, 2015, DaVita Kidney Care operated or provided administrative services at 2,251 outpatient dialysis centers worldwide serving approximately 180,000 patients. In the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, DaVita Kidney Care operated or provided administrative services at eight outpatient dialysis centers serving approximately 900 patients. DaVita Kidney Care supports numerous programs dedicated to creating positive, sustainable change in communities around the world. For more information, please visit DaVita.com/SA.

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End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD)
End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) is the complete or near complete failure of the kidneys.
- Complications are severe, and death can occur from the accumulation of fluids and waste products in the body
- Typical ESRD patient suffers from at least three or four co-morbid conditions
- Patients require periodic vascular access interventions
  - Care requires multiple specialists including nephrologists, endocrinologists and vascular surgeons

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Contact Information

Ashley Henson
+1 303.876.6626
+1 937.477.5242
Ashley.Henson@davita.com

Annabel Gillett
+44 (0)20 3128 6336
Annabel.Gillett@mhpc.com