

WISH 7 BACKGROUND

What is WISH?

WISH Summit is the 7th biennial global conference hosted by the World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH). The inaugural WISH Summit took place in Doha, Qatar in 2013. WISH is a global healthcare community dedicated to capturing and disseminating the best evidence-based ideas and practices. This summit is an initiative of the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), with Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser serving as its chairperson.

This year, WISH will be taking place from 13-14 November 2024 in the Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) in Doha, Qatar. It is expected to welcome approximately 2,500 delegates from all over the world to network and engage with over 200 expert speakers, and witness over 20 innovation showcases.

WISH 2024 Theme

The theme, “Humanizing Health: Conflict, Equity and Resilience”, will highlight the need for progress in health to support everyone, leaving nobody behind and building resilience, especially among vulnerable societies and in areas of armed conflict. Based on this year’s theme, there will be four ‘tracks’, categorizing sessions into sub-themes:

- **Health and armed conflict:** Pain management, disability, hunger and mental health
- **Health of vulnerable and minority populations:** TB in refugees and migrants and palliative care
- **System level innovation and change:** Antimicrobial resistance and the ethics of AI in health
- **Community-led engagement and interventions:** Obesity and women’s cancers in the region

Partnership with WHO

For this year’s summit, WISH has entered a strategic partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO), which involves a collaboration in the development of a series of evidence-based reports and policy papers, and the support of WHO in a post-summit implementation strategy. The WHO-led reports will focus on topics needing the urgent attention of the global health community - the elimination of tuberculosis, the growing importance of palliative care, and the protection of health in armed conflict - underscoring a joint commitment to improve policy and practice.

Doha Healthcare Week and Innovation Competition

Aside from the summit itself, WISH will be running the “Doha Healthcare Week”, an initiative running just prior to WISH that aims to promote health in the community through a series of public activities, awareness campaigns and professional workshops. In line with this, as in previous years’ summits, WISH will continue to promote innovation in the health sector through an Innovation Competition open to visionary entrepreneurs and early to mid-stage health-focused startups and innovators wishing to showcase groundbreaking solutions that address the world’s most urgent healthcare challenges. The winners of this competition will receive an investment award for their innovations.