

## **New Grading System for Health Professionals**

**14 May 2009**

JEDDAH — Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz of Saudi Arabia has approved a new grading system for Saudi health care professionals, according to Health Minister Dr Abdullah Al Rabeeah.

Speaking at the graduation ceremony of a new batch of physicians at the Saudi Council for Health Specialties (SCHS) in Riyadh on Tuesday, Al Rabeeah said the King, who inaugurated the ceremony, would support the SCHS budget with the infusion of SR15 million for the next three years in recognition of its role in capacity-building and professional development of health care professionals.

Four-hundred and seven Saudi physicians were awarded the Saudi Board Fellowship Certificate (SBFC) by SCHS.

The graduation ceremony witnessed the largest batch of Saudi physicians to ever graduate at SCHS. The 407 graduates, of whom 165 are women, received their certificates in 34 specialties.

With the graduation of this batch, the number of Saudi physicians awarded the Saudi Fellowship Certificate reached 2,620. The graduation of new physicians is expected to ease the shortage of senior physicians in the Saudi health care system.

Al Rabeeah appreciated the King's gesture and encouragement in attending the event. He extolled Saudi physicians to excel in their studies and be better equipped to serving their country by acquiring the latest knowledge.

(Khaleej Times)