



MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA SUMMIT 2025

PROGRESS WITH PURPOSE: Advancing Meaningful Partnerships



PRECISION FOR BETTER HEALTH OUTCOMES: A CONVERSATION WITH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ABU DHABI CHAIRMAN HIS EXCELLENCY MANSOOR IBRAHIM AL MANSOORI

Announcer 00:00

Please welcome His Excellency Mansour Ibrahim Al Mansoori, the chairman of the Abu Dhabi Department of Health, and Conrad Kiechel, the executive director of global programming and events at the Milken Institute.

Conrad Kiechel 00:14

Good morning. It's wonderful to see everybody here. This is going to be, I think, a really fascinating discussion with His Excellency for about 15 minutes. And then we're going to segue into another panel, and that will also be fascinating. So I urge everybody to stay here. You're going to learn a lot, but first you're going to learn a lot from His Excellency in the next 15 to 20 minutes. Because one thing that I thought would be a good way to frame this discussion was to make the point, which many of you, of course, know, but it's worth repeating that most other countries don't possess the special resources and the will that allow Abu Dhabi to be such a leader in health and health care. And they often don't possess even the vision or the will, but all health care systems around the world can learn what is from what is going on in Abu Dhabi. In the next few minutes, His Excellency will help us understand the unique approaches that Abu Dhabi is taking, and especially, I think it will be of interest to understand how those

can be, if I can say leveraged and benefit the rest of the world. Is that fair, Your Excellency? Great. Okay, so starting right off, two phrases that you use often are system level change and health versus health care. And since I think they're so key to the way you approach your portfolio and your job, can you give us a little explanation of how you think of each of those?

His Excellency Mansoor Ibrahim Al Mansoori 01:54

Sure. First of all, thank you for inviting. Thanks for Milken, for inviting me again. And I would like to say that globally, when you look globally at health you will have exceptional health facilities in different parts of the world, exceptional. But when we look at health system as an integrated health system today, you don't find a model that really can reflect the intelligent, integrated health system. And what we need for the future of health is a system that is purely integrated, intelligent, a system that care before it cure. Because that's more important. You need to care before it cure. And what I mean by that, when you think about the human life and humans, it's a system by itself. So you need to, if you want to address his health, you need to mirror to the health system that can know more about his medical record, genetics, his sleep, his food, the environment that he lives in, and its impact his daily life, his stress and multiple factor. Therefore, the only way to address a proactive health system that need to care before the cure and move from health care to holistic health is to be intelligent. And intelligent in Abu Dhabi is being defined with a playbook and blueprints that integrated multiple factors into a system. From a regulatory that is agile and ambitious, and as you said, have the will and work with partners to execute the way. Second, integrating our medical records into genomics, we have the world's largest whole genome sequencing program on a population level. Third, we didn't stop by that. We thought about environmental as well, because it's impact your health. We integrated our environmental data into our system, and we didn't stop here as well, because we believe lifestyle data today and the idea of sense to care to respond to cure will be the new name of the game soon. When I'm talking about sensory data, I'm talking about your Ouras or your [inaudible], or your wearables, you name it, regardless, any sensory device that will give you a 24 hours reading. Then you will create a system that can predict and prevent and act. And how we do it in Abu Dhabi, I'll give you three simple examples. What we do is predict today in our health system. We integrated around 17 AI use cases model based on the patient records and history. It. And predict chances of diabetes, cancer, cardiological diseases, and it enables the doctor to intervene much earlier and extend people healthy life. To prevent, everybody this year noticed that influenza A came much, much earlier. So we have an infectious disease AI model that looked at 24 basically numbers and in September, in August to September, and I can later on show if people are interested, we saw a trend, a weird trend, spiking, and immediately the AI model forecasted it's an abnormal activity. And then we launched basically a country wide vaccination program much, much earlier, and that's prevented many people to fall we had people falling sick, but at least we intervened much, much earlier. And if I'll take an example of act, we initiated a unified medical operation center, which is a center that worked for emergency system resilience. So when you call 9-9-9, in Abu Dhabi today, asking for an ambulance for a heart attack or a specific case, the ambulance itself will be allocated to you and to your place in two minutes, according to your medical records and your vital signs will be streamlined immediately to the hospital live while you are in, while you are on, on the ambulance, so the ambulance being turned into a mobile hospital, your bed is being prepared. And if the interventions and thus achieved for us that heart attack responses today in Abu Dhabi dropped from 90 minutes, which is global average, to 57 minutes from the day you call, from the moment you call to the procedure. And that's facts in here. And that by itself, saving minutes, equal for us, saving lives. And there are much, much more example into how when you have an integrated intelligent health

system, you can see much more benefits into it, just need from international players to believe in it. And we are publishing a paper about the Abu Dhabi blueprint model and the playbook that we took in order to replicate it globally and scale it.

Conrad Kiechel 07:41

And I want to get to that a little bit later, Your Excellency. I'm fascinated by the fact you were encouraged by the fact that you were able to cut back the ambulance time so dramatically, and not just cut back the time, but also provide the information to the hospital by the time the patient arrives there.

His Excellency Mansoor Ibrahim Al Mansoori 07:58

While you are transmitting the patient [CK: Right, right] so the data started to feed.

Conrad Kiechel 08:02

They're already there, ready for that particular patient.

His Excellency Mansoor Ibrahim Al Mansoori 08:05

They are integrating and talking as well. It's basically you are in hospital the moment you are in an ambulance.

Conrad Kiechel 08:13

Yeah, that's fantastic. So that brings me to another key area at every conference, our own included, in the three years after ChatGPT was launched, we talk about AI and what AI can do, what it has done. Here in Abu Dhabi, we had the honor to welcome him yesterday, the Minister of AI, and that's been the case since I think 2017 so for almost nearly a decade, further ahead than I think most other countries were looking at that. So you and your colleagues and other people in the government have really seen the value or understood the value of the promise that, frankly, a lot of others in the world weren't looking at for many years. So you, in a way, have a kind of a head start over other countries with AI adoption the health-care system, and you've mentioned a few of those. Are there any others that you'd like to point out that you think are especially significant?

His Excellency Mansoor Ibrahim Al Mansoori 09:10

I would like to keep it to the second panels. I don't want to steal the thunder from my colleagues words and will I be to talk about their AI use cases. But as a regulator, we enable it, we support it, and we push as well, the boundaries for them to make the most use of it. So I'll give you a couple of examples. When it comes to radiologies today, all chest rays are looked at with AI system that can it saved us. It increased our productivity by 80 percent and cut radiologists by 50 percent that improved the efficiencies of the system and Cleveland Clinic today, they are using AI models for the ICU that can predict when to intervene, where it saved mortality up to 20 percent. And I'll ask George later on to talk about it in much more detail. And for IVF and fertility is a big file in the UAE as well. We are using AI today to choose the best embryo for the IVF. It increased the percentage of success 40 percent today. And we are today, Abu Dhabi is one of the highest when it comes to global success rate of IVF. So there are tons and tons of examples that I can talk about, but I'll say I welcome every innovative idea or an AI solution that really can increase our productivity, improve our efficiency, revolutionize how we address and cure diseases and as well, how to accelerate drug discovery in order to increase the health lifespan of our population and the globe as well.

Conrad Kiechel 10:57

Just a quick one on that incredible IVF statistic. Do you find people are coming from other countries to Abu Dhabi to take advantage of that?

His Excellency Mansoor Ibrahim Al Mansoori 11:05

Yep, we are seeing tremendous amount of medical tourism booming. And we are working to be the IVF capital of the world. And we are determined, and we are creating the infrastructure, the regulations, attracting the best doctors and introducing the most innovative therapies to achieve that.

Conrad Kiechel 11:29

Just a couple more things. I know our time is limited. One area that I was especially struck by, we've done a number of things in it, the Milken Institute, both panels and also some of our programmatic work is longevity. And I really like the fact that you and your team are focused on basically fact-based, evidence-based longevity, because anyone who's been exposed to the field knows that there's often a lot of claims that are not necessarily supported by data. So just as very general question, how? How do you approach for creating actual improved longevity of your citizens lives?

His Excellency Mansoor Ibrahim Al Mansoori 12:08

It's, of course, it's a hype. We are at the hype of the longevity era. But what's the meaning of longevity from our own definition is extending healthy lifespan. And today we are introducing a very simple examinations to our mandatory screening for all of our population, which is grip strength to be included in all of our data. That's by itself the vital sign of aging, right? And that will be a mandatory screening with leg

score and as well your grip strength. We are introducing and integrating the wearables that can give you HRVs, VO2 max, and much, much more. We are building the intelligence system that can really validate a lot of the approaches in the longevity field, and validate it. Because we are about real world evidence, not the hype, not certain activity that you see online, we want really to create an impact based on a real world evidence that you can depend and you can look at it from genetics, look at the impact on your on your human body, and as well your grip strength and other components. We are building the concept of biological age for all of our population, so we understand the status of your own population, not on a demographic level, but on a biological level. And that, by itself, gives you a bigger insight on the health of your population.

Conrad Kiechel 13:51

You touched on it before, but I want to come back to it before we wrap up. How do you see, with the successes that Abu Dhabi has had, both health and health care. How can that be best leveraged into the benefit of the wider world?

His Excellency Mansoor Ibrahim Al Mansoori 14:07

We have Milken this week. We have Formula One, and we have great brains sitting in this room. Abu Dhabi, we consider it in the health sector a living laboratory of the world. We invite all of the innovators, all the clinicians, all the scientists, to collaborate and co-create with Abu Dhabi. What we have as a system today, as a most intelligent system is the exceptions. But today, exception is the norm of tomorrow. And what do I mean by that? Today, I will have exception with an integrated health system. In three to four years, with the advancement of AI cloud, easier integration, you will have many system are catching up. Therefore that will be the norm. Then, if the exception of today is the norm of tomorrow, you can reimagine the future of health from Abu Dhabi, by testing your ideas, innovative approach to health from Abu Dhabi, build it, imagine it, scale it, and have a bigger impact.

Conrad Kiechel 15:14

That's fantastic. And just one last question, you were with us last year. We were honored that you were with us last year, just as we are this year, that you're with us. Is there anything that's happened in the last year, even, either in the world you work in, or the greater world that you think is especially—that you've really looked at and said that's either a great progression, that's one has wonderful promise, or that might be an obstacle to getting done some of the things

His Excellency Mansoor Ibrahim Al Mansoori 15:44

I'd like to speak about Abu Dhabi. We opened three museums in Saadiyat, Zayed Museum, National History Museum, and I'd like to invite everybody to visit it. That shows you the acceleration of progress

and the excitements we have. Globally there are many promising innovations happening. I'm not going to name specifically, but we are working with world leading scientists, companies, really, to push the boundaries and using our system to have an impact on the globe. And we would love to reveal it when it's ready to be revealed. [We hope you reveal it on our stage when that happens. If it happened earlier, I need to reveal it as well on your stage—probably in the US.

Conrad Kiechel 16:28

We have plenty of stages. Please join me in thanking His Excellency Mansoor Ibrahim Al Mansoori.

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