

# Kuwaiti surgeons use new surgical technique to remove brain tumor

Patient suffering from persistent headache



The Public Authority for Youth(PAY) organized Ramadan 'Gabqa' which was attended by Minister of Information Muhammed Al-Jabri



CMA delegation at the annual assembly at IOSCO

## CMA participates in annual assembly

A delegation from Capital Markets Authority (CMA) participated in the 44th annual assembly of IOSCO and 43rd assembly of the Regional Committee for Africa and Middle East in Sydney, Australia. The delegation led by Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of CMA, and the executive chairman Professor Ahmed Abdulrahman Al-Melhem, included

Head of the International Relations Office Abdulrahman Muhammad, Head of Strategies Office Nawaf Al-Saleh, Director of the Directorate of Studies and Capital Markets Development Fawaz Burseli, and Director of the Office of Chairman of the Commissioners Board Mua'ayad Al-Shakhs

## 'Provided with all necessities'

### 49 evacuation shelters allocated in various schools

KUWAIT CITY, May 19: A total of 49 evacuation shelters have been allocated in various schools in the six educational districts, reports Al-Rai daily quoting sources. Sources confirmed these shelters have been provided with all the necessities such as lights, relief goods

and medical kits since the heavy rains crisis. Sources said the engineering affairs departments in the educational districts will coordinate with the Civil Defense General Department to follow up the maintenance works. Sources disclosed these shelters

are distributed as follows: five in Mubarak Al-Kabeer Governorate, 11 in Ahmadi, six in Jahra, 10 in the Capital, 11 in Hawally and six in Farwaniya. Sources added these shelters, which are located in residential areas, are ready to receive citizens and expatriates if the need arises.

**KUWAIT CITY, May 19, (KUNA):** A Kuwaiti medical team succeeded in eradicating a brain tumor using the surgical technique (Curve), the latest in specialized treatment.

The 39-years-old Kuwaiti patient was suffering from a persistent headache due to seven-centimeter tumor in a sensitive area of the brain near the center of movement, said the head of Specialized Surgical Department at the Ministry of Health Dr Tarek Al-Sheikh.

In a statement to Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), Dr Al-Sheikh, who is also head of neurosurgery at Ibn Sina Hospital, added that the operation was critical and took three hours using a surgical navigator device called Curve. The new technique helped surgeons to accurately reach the tumor without causing any damage to brain cells or nerves.

The usage of this sophisticated German technique allowed the medical team to conduct the operation in a fast and standard time while minimizing the related complications.

The device used to determine the exact location and size of the tumor, which was easy for surgeons to remove completely without any side effects, he added.

The mechanism used in this technique, which is the first of its kind in Kuwait and the third Gulf after Saudi Arabia and the UAE, to collect more than 250 two-dimensional images of the patient's brain and turn it into a complete three-dimensional image that is stereoscopic and completely similar to brain geography.

It identifies the best and easiest routes to reach directly to the affected areas of the brain (tumors or congenital defects in the arteries) with amazing accuracy without compromising or exposure to the centers of the brain and sensitive tissues, ensuring the patient's full safety of any surgical complications, Dr Al-Sheikh explained.



Dr Tarek Al-Sheikh



Kuwaiti medical team using new surgical technique to enucleate brain tumor.

## MP push

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accept engineers and medical practitioners," he pointed out.

Furthermore, MP Abdullah Al-Kandari initiated a request to expedite discussion of proposals and reports on reducing fees for State services and utilities including petrol, electricity and water.

Signed by 15 other MPs, the request highlighted the positive impact of these proposals on the finances of the general public.

Moreover, MP Osama Al-Shaheen submitted a proposal for the concerned governmental authority to install a "progress board" in every State project.

He suggested the board should be installed permanently and it should include the name of the project, cost, the authority in charge of it, period of completion, contractors, design firms and suppliers.

He said this will improve the level of accountability of all concerned bodies as the public will be more aware of the projects, adding that it is also a gesture of appreciation for contractors that complete projects on time and without complications.

## No intention

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But President Donald Trump appears to have softened his tone in recent days, saying he expects Iran to seek negotiations with his administration. Asked on Thursday if the US might be on a path to war with Iran, the president answered, "I hope not."

The US Navy said Sunday it had conducted exercises in the Arabian Sea with the aircraft carrier strike group ordered to the region to counter the unspecified threat from Iran. The Navy said the exercises and training were conducted Friday and Saturday with the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier strike group in coordination with the US Marine Corps, highlighting US "lethality and agility to respond to threat," as well as to deter conflict and preserve US strategic interests.

The current tensions are rooted in Trump's decision last year to withdraw the US from the 2015 nuclear accord between Iran and world powers and impose wide-reaching sanctions, including on Iranian oil exports that are crucial to its economy.

Iran has said it would resume enriching uranium at higher levels if a new nuclear deal is not reached by July 7. That would potentially bring it closer to being able to develop a nuclear weapon, something Iran insists it has never sought.

Energy ministers from OPEC and its allies, including major producers Saudi Arabia and Russia, are meeting in Saudi Arabia on Sunday to discuss energy prices and production cuts. Iran's oil exports are expected to shrink further in the coming months after the US stopped renewing waivers that allowed it to continue selling to some countries.

OPEC and non-OPEC oil producers have

production cuts in place, but the group of exporters is not expected to make its decision on output until late June, when they meet again in Vienna.

Saudi Arabia's King Salman, meanwhile, has called for a meeting of Arab heads of state on May 30 in Makkah to discuss the latest developments, including the oil pipeline attack.

The kingdom has blamed the pipeline attack on Iran, accusing Tehran of arming the rebel Houthis, which a Saudi-led coalition has been at war with in Yemen since 2015. Iran denies arming or training the rebels, who control much of northern Yemen, including the capital, Sanaa.

"We want peace and stability in the region, but we won't stand with our hands bound as the Iranians continuously attack. Iran has to understand that," al-Jubeir said. "The ball is in Iran's court."

Al-Jubeir also noted that an investigation, led by the UAE, into the tanker incident is underway.

The state-run Saudi news agency reported Sunday that US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo called Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to discuss regional developments. There was no immediate statement by the State Department about the call.

Countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) began "enhanced security patrols" in the international waters of the Arabian Gulf area on Saturday, the US Navy's Bahrain-based Fifth Fleet said on Sunday.

The GCC countries were "specifically increasing communication and coordination with each other in support of regional naval cooperation and maritime security operations in the Arabian Gulf," the Facebook statement said.

House Democrats will hear from former CIA director John Brennan about the situation in Iran, inviting him to speak next week amid heightened concerns over the Trump administration's sudden moves in the region.

Brennan, an outspoken critic of President Donald Trump, is scheduled to talk to House Democrats at a private weekly caucus meeting Tuesday, according to a Democratic aide and another person familiar with the private meeting. Both were granted anonymity to discuss the meeting.

The invitation to Brennan and Wendy Sherman, a former State Department official and top negotiator of the Iran nuclear deal, offers counterprogramming to the Trump administration's closed-door briefing for lawmakers also planned for Tuesday on Capitol Hill. Democratic lawmakers are likely to attend both sessions.

Trump and Brennan have clashed openly, particularly over the issues surrounding the special counsel's probe of Russian interference in the 2016 election. Brennan stepped down from the CIA in 2017.

The president last year said he was revoking the former spy chief's security credentials after Brennan was critical of Trump's interactions with Russian President Vladimir Putin at a summit in Helsinki. Top national security officials often retain their clearance after they have left an agency as a way to provide counsel to their successors. It's unclear if Brennan actually lost his clearance.

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## News in Brief

**State security vigilant:** National security is stable and the Interior Ministry units, especially the State security system, are vigilant and ready to face repercussions of the current regional situation, reports Al-Anba daily quoting a high-level security source.

The source said the State security system has no information about targeting any community, clarifying that Britain's advisory to its nationals in Kuwait is an internal matter linked with recent developments in the region.

The source pointed out that expatriates can leave the country any time. "We have plans ready for implementation if the need arises," he concluded.

**Team to appoint citizens in co-ops:** Acting Ministry of Social Affairs Undersecretary Hanna Al-Hajri has formed a team tasked to appoint nationals in cooperative societies under the leadership of Assistant Undersecretary for Cooperative Sector Abdulaziz Shuaib, reports Al-Qabas daily.

The team will take measures to raise the percentage of national workers in cooperative societies, follow up the Kuwaitization of supervisory positions, and issue a memorandum on filling up vacancies in the concerned authorities and cooperative union.

**KPC to form fact-finding panel:** Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) will form a fact-finding committee to look into disbursements for administrative affairs officials in the oil sector who were promoted from 2016 till date, reports Al-Qabas daily quoting sources.

Sources revealed the KPC Board of Directors issued a decision in 2016 to grant KD 250 car allowance monthly to the officials and to suspend the payment of transfer allowance.

However, KPC discovered recently that the Administrative Affairs Sector has been disbursing the transfer allowance, in addition to KD 250, to the delegated members, CEOs and their deputies from 2016 till date. This is against the law, especially since these allowances will be included in the indemnity of officials, sources explained.