

28<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Press release

### **Pioneering consultant retires after 23 years with Trust**

A pioneering consultant who led research into the speeding up identification of the fat gene at The Dudley Group is retiring from his full-time post after a 23-year career at the Trust.

Dr Mourad Labib has worked for the Trust since 1989 and is a well respected and valued member of our Pathology team.

During his time at Russells Hall Hospital, Dr Labib has introduced and expanded many new services to the Pathology Department, helping to make it one of the best in the West Midlands.

Dr Labib said, "I've tremendously enjoyed my clinical and managerial roles over the past 23 years, and am proud of all I have achieved during my time here.

"But most of what I have achieved would not have been possible had it not been for an outstanding team around me, from doctors and nurses, to laboratory staff and managers – I can't thank them enough.

"Everyone I've had the pleasure to work with has been wonderful, and I must say that in Paula Clark, Paul Harrison, and Paul Assinder, the Trust has the best Chief Executive, Medical Director, and Director of Finance it has ever had," he said.

Speaking at Dr Labib's retirement presentation yesterday, Medical Director Paul Harrison said, "It's been a great privilege and an honour to work with Mourad for the past 15 years.

"I'm very sorry that he is retiring – his absence really will create a void that will never be filled.

"You can't underestimate how very grateful I am for all his work and dedication. I'd like to thank him not only myself, but also on behalf of the people of Dudley."

Dr Labib said he was looking forward to spending his newly acquired time learning to play the piano, playing tennis, learning to speak Italian and, spending more time with his wife Sally, a part-time sister on the Intensive Care Unit at Russells Hall Hospital.

Although Dr Labib is stepping down from his full-time roles, he will be returning to the Trust on a part-time basis to focus on clinical work and research.

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### *Notes to Editor*

- Dr Labib gained his first medical degree from the University of Alexandria in Egypt before moving to the UK for further training in 1980. It was here that Dr Labib first began to specialise in chemical pathology, when he trained as a Registrar and Senior Registrar in Leicester and Guildford.
- After just six weeks at the Trust, Dr Labib introduced Dudley's first Lipid clinic - one of the first in the region. He then went on to set up a specialist weight management clinic which has since grown to become one of the largest in the country.
- In 2007 Dr Labib was asked to become the gatekeeper of Bariatric surgery for Dudley. He created the *DUBASCO* scoring system for selecting patients for bariatric surgery. This work was published nationally and has since been adopted by other hospitals around the country.
- Dr Labib has been a Clinical Director at the Trust for 20 years, during which time he has managed specialities such as Pathology, Radiology and Orthopaedics, as well as the Emergency Department.
- Throughout his career he has had over 160 publications and has written several chapters for advanced medical textbooks.
- He is also an Honorary Senior Lecturer at the University of Birmingham Medical School.
- *Lipid clinics* provide specialist treatment and support for people who have raised blood fats and those considered at high risk of cardiovascular disease.
- *DUBASCO* is the Dudley Bariatric Surgery Comorbidity Score.

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