

Dear Guests, Colleagues and Friends.

Allow me to welcome you to the Salim El-Hoss Bioethics and Professionalism Program's 5th National Conference. Our theme today is a very timely one, namely, medical mistakes, or errors and their ethical, social and legal implications. Errors are inevitable in the practice of medicine. Sometimes they ensue from medicine's inherent uncertainty. At other times they are the result of mistakes or oversights on the part of the particular provider. In either case, a healthcare practitioner will face situations where he/she must address mistakes with his/her patient. I hope this conference will shed light on the importance of looking at errors with a fresh eye, addressing the ethical, legal, and managerial aspect of dealing with medical mistakes and, perhaps most importantly, coming up with recommendations and plans of action. I wish us all a fruitful conference.