The Senate of the Republic Enriched by the Presence of Medical Students Representing AMMEF

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On November 13, 2024, medical students from various parts of Mexico gathered at the Senate of the Republic to commemorate World COPD Day. The occasion featured the forum titled “Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and Cystic Fibrosis: Priority Public Health Issues.”

The event began at 1 p.m. As attendees made their way to the venue, prominent representatives from across the country could be seen in meetings or engaged in discussions in the common areas. Upon entering the forum, various participants began arriving, including the recording team, as the event was set to be broadcast on television and YouTube. Shortly afterward, the experts in the featured topics arrived and took their places at the presidium.

The forum commenced with presentations from COPD experts. They emphasized the critical need for continuous training of general practitioners, especially those in remote areas where early diagnosis and treatment can mean the difference between life and death. The speakers also highlighted the importance of investing in hospital resources for acute episodes, pulmonary therapies, and medications for chronic stages. Following their presentations, there was an opportunity for public participation and a Q&A session.

The event’s official inauguration was then conducted by the president of the health delegation, alongside various senators and presidents of prominent organizations such as Salud Justa. They addressed several proposals aimed at reducing the rising incidence of cases and supporting public health programs.

Afterward, a recess allowed attendees to enjoy refreshments and exchange ideas, projects, and contact information. This interaction included medical students (active members), AMMEF executives, and local and national representatives present at the forum.

The forum concluded with discussions on cystic fibrosis. Experts from leading hospitals in Mexico City shared insights into the current challenges in diagnosing and treating this condition, stressing the importance of raising awareness about the disease. This was followed by another round of questions and answers.

At the end of the event, participants had the chance to engage in various activities. These included carrying backpacks or weighted vests to simulate the experiences of individuals living with these conditions, taking commemorative photos with themed frames for COPD Day, speaking with experts on the topics discussed, and capturing a group photo of the delegation in front of the Senate's emblems, along with individual photos as keepsakes of the brief but enriching visit to the Senate of the Republic.

After leaving the forum, we took an unofficial moment to socialize among the attendees, which provided an opportunity to reconnect with friends and work teams.

Without a doubt, this was one of the most rewarding experiences I've had through AMMEF, and I highly recommend participating in future editions or other events offered to us.

Warm regards,
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