

# ZOHAIR Y. AL HALEES, MD, MSC, FACC, FRCSC, FACS



**DATE OF BIRTH:** 06 March 1954

**PLACE OF BIRTH:** Gazzah - Gaza Strip

**CITIZENSHIP:** Saudi

**MARITAL STATUS:** Married

**WORK ADDRESS:** Heart Center (King Faisal Heart Institute)  
King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre  
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## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

1966 - 1969 High School, Al Thagher Model School  
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

1969 - 1976 King Saud University Medical School (formerly Riyadh University)  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia  
1969 -1971 Premedical Studies  
1971 -1973 Preclinical Studies  
1973 -1976 Clinical Studies

1976 - 1977 Internship (24 August, 1976 - 23 August, 1977)  
King Saud University and Ministry of Health Hospitals  
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

	3 months	General Surgery, Riyadh Central Hospital
	3 months	General Medicine, King Abdulaziz University Hospital
	3 months	General Pediatrics, Riyadh Children's Hospital
	3 months	Gynecology & Obstetrics, Riyadh Maternity Hospital
1977 - 1979		Surgical Resident (October 1977 - June 1979) King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
	4 months	General Surgery
	4 months	Thoracic Surgery
	2 months	Orthopedic Surgery
	2 months	Urology
	9 months	Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery with Baylor College of Medicine Cardiac Surgery Team, Houston, Texas
July 1979 - June 1980		General and Cardiovascular & Thoracic Surgery Resident Ottawa University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
July 1980 - June 1981		General Surgery Resident Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA
July 1981 - June 1982		Cardio Thoracic Surgery Resident Ottawa University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
July 1983 - June 1984		Chief Resident, Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery Ottawa University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
August 1984 - April 1985		Fellow, Pediatric Cardiovascular Surgery Denver Children's Hospital Denver, Colorado, USA

#### **DEGREES:**

- M.B.B.S. 23 June, 1976
- F.R.C.S.C., GENERAL SURGERY 21 November, 1983
- F.R.C.S.C., CARDIOVASCULAR & THORACIC SURGERY 27 Nov. 1984
- FCCP - 23 September, 1986
- FACS - 19 October, 1992
- FACC - 1 February 1994
- FAHA – February 2002
- Fellow – Gulf Heart Associate – January 2003
- FESC – August 2014
- Fellow – F.I.A.C.S – 23 February 2017
- MSC – 08 November 2018

#### **LICENSURE:**

Texas Medical License G4775  
 E.C.F.M.G. Certified ECFMG No. 299 538 9  
 (Passed ECFMG, VOE and FLEX examination)  
 Saudi Council for Health Specialties  
 No. 00-R-M-693

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION:

- ❖ Graduate, King Saud University medical School 1977
- ❖ FRCS – Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (General Surgery) 1983
- ❖ FRCS – Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (Canada) Cardiovascular and Thoracic 1984
- ❖ FCCP – Fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians 1986
- ❖ FACS – Fellow of American College of Surgeons 1992
- ❖ FACC – Fellow of American College of Cardiology 1994
- ❖ FAHA – Fellow of American Heart Association 2002
- ❖ Fellow Gulf Heart Association 2003
- ❖ Fellow of European Society of Cardiology 2015
- ❖ Honorary Saudi Board in Cardiovascular Surgery, Saudi Commission for Health Specialties (SCHS) 2016
- ❖ FIACS - Honorary Overseas Fellow of Indian Association of Cardiovascular Thoracic Surgeons 2017

Dr. Al Halees held many positions within the KFSHRC. Together with Dr. Carlos Duran, the department of Cardiovascular Diseases was established at the hospital in 1987. Under his leadership since 1996, the department evolved into the King Faisal Heart Institute in 2002, which he directed till 2005.

Dr. Halees earned recognition as a leading cardiac surgeon performing over 20,000 major heart operations in both adult and pediatric patients in Saudi Arabia and many countries around the world. He has special interest in helping children with heart diseases in underprivileged areas and led many missions to perform surgeries, educate, upgrade and help build programs in many countries (Yemen, UAE, Qatar, Iran, Pakistan, India, Thailand, Taiwan, Indonesia, Egypt, Sudan, Morocco, Mauritania, Oman, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia, Italy, USA and Canada).

## SPECIAL AWARDS:

- Takreem Award for Scientific and Technological Innovations – November 2017
- Honorary Fellow of Indian Association of Cardiovascular – Thoracic Surgeons – February 2017
- Saudi Commission for Health Specialties Honorary Higher Certification in Specialty Cardiovascular Surgery – May 2016
- Diamond Medical Affairs Award for Research, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre - 2015
- Recipient of Sheikh Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Award – Distinguished Personalities in the Arab World – November 2014
- Recipient of Al Moftaha Award presented by Province of Aseer in Saudi Arabia – Aug 2009
- Recipient of King Abdulaziz High Civilian Award – certificate May 2007; medal received on February 2008
- Distinguished Scientist Award – Almarai Company – May 2003

## BRIEF DETAIL:

Professor Zohair Y. Al Halees, is a Distinguished Senior Cardiac Surgeon at King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center – Riyadh, KSA.

Dr. Al Halees held many positions within the King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre (KFSHRC) and was instrumental in establishing the department of cardiovascular diseases in 1987. This evolved into the King Faisal Heart Institute in 2003, and now known as the Heart Centre.

He was also appointed as adjunct professor of Cardiac Surgery at the American University of Beirut Medical School, Lebanon since July 2013, where he frequently visits to perform complex cardiac surgeries. In addition, he holds the position of adjunct professor of surgery at AlFaisal University Medical School, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (2016).

Dr. Al Halees is a member of many national and international associations including the American Association for Thoracic Surgery (AATS), the Society of Thoracic Surgery (STS), the European Association for Cardiothoracic Surgery (EACTS), the European Heart Society, French Society for Cardiothoracic Surgeons, Gulf Heart Association, Pan Arab Congenital Heart Defects Association (PACHDA), Canadian Cardiovascular Society, Saudi Heart Association in addition to being honorary member of many other Arabic and International Associations/Societies.

Dr. AlHalees sits on the editorial board of many peer reviewed international cardiac journals like the Asian Cardiovascular and Thoracic Annals, Journal of Heart Valve Diseases and World Journal for Pediatric and Congenital Heart Surgery in addition to being on the advisory board of many others. He is often invited as a manuscript reviewer for various national and international cardiothoracic journals.

He is a recipient of many fellowships and is a member of many associations and societies in the world. He operated in many countries, helping and educating local teams in many cardiac surgical procedures some of which he either developed or refined.

He is frequently invited to lecture in many local and international meetings. He delivered close to 500 presentations and lectures. He was also able to publish 426 articles and book chapters and 145 abstracts. He is a reviewer and member of the editorial board of various peer reviewed international journals.

From the great works done by Dr. Halees, he received many recognitions and awards that included King Abdulaziz First Degree Medal of Honor, awarded to him directly from the hands of late King Abdulla Bin Abdulaziz.