

## **KKESH Sets a New Record 1122 Corneal Transplants in One Year**



King Khaled Eye Specialist Hospital has accomplished an impressive record of 1,122 corneal transplants in 2008 , as opposed to 587 transplants performed in 2007, with an increase of 108%.

Making that announcement, Dr. Abdul Elah Al-Towerki, General Executive Director, attributed this achievement to the synergy among the medical, allied and support staff. He added that the Hospital's Eye Bank is considered to be the first of its kind in both Saudi Arabia and the Middle East and it is a member of the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) and the International Federation of Eye and Tissue Banks (IFETB). KKESH Eye Bank continues to render its optimal services to provide corneas and scleras to patients undergoing corneal / scleral transplants by providing corneas that are either imported from partner eye banks in America and Europe or donated to the organ donation program in the Kingdom.

Dr. Al-Towerki indicated the importance of organ donation as a form of cooperation among community members to serve public interest. The locally- donated organs, which are obtained with the permission of the deceased's relatives, are far more readily accessible and available for patients who extremely need them.

Dr. Al-Towerki stated that this remarkable achievement has been accomplished with the funding and support of the Government of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and His Crown Prince, and the guidance and care of HRH Governor of Riyadh. Also, Dr. Al-Towerki expressed his thanks and gratitude to His Excellency the Minister of Health for his continuous supervision.

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