

Dig unearths 4,000 year old tomb of doctor to pharaohs

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A picture taken on October 22, 2013 shows Egyptian hieroglyphics on a 4,000 year old tomb which was discovered by archaeologists in Abusir on the outskirts of the Egyptian capital, Cairo

Archaeologists have unearthed a 4,000 year old tomb outside the Egyptian capital containing what they believe are the remains of a prominent doctor to the pharaohs, officials said on Tuesday.

The tomb, part of a 21 metre (70 foot) by 14 metre (46 foot) plot, with four-metre (13 feet) high walls, was discovered at Abusir, southwest of Cairo, senior antiquities ministry official Ali al-Asfar said.

"This discovery is important because this is the tomb of one of the greatest doctors from the time of the pyramid builders, one of the doctors closely tied to the king," Antiquities Minister Ibrahim Ali said in a statement.

Asfar said the area in which the grave was found appeared to be a family plot and the Czech team of [archaeologists](#) was now looking for mummies of relatives.

Abusir, a vast necropolis dating back to Egypt's Old Kingdom, houses the pyramids of several [pharaohs](#) of the Fifth Dynasty, which began its rule shortly after 2,500 BC.

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