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1st Emirates International Thoracic Surgery Congress



18-19 April, 2025



Sofitel Hotel Abu Dhabi, UAE



This Conference is Accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education and granted **16.0 European CME** credits (ECMEC®s).

This Conference is Accredited by the Department of Health and designated for a maximum of **14:0 of DOH CME**

Conference Book

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Welcome Message



Dr. Mariam Al Marashda



Dr. Puja G. Khaitan

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that we extend a warm welcome to you all to the **1st Emirates International Thoracic Surgery Congress**, taking place on **April 18-19, 2025**, at **Sofitel Hotel** in the vibrant and extraordinary city of Abu Dhabi, UAE.

We are honored to host this inaugural event, which brings together some of the world's most distinguished thoracic surgeons, healthcare professionals, researchers, and industry leaders. This congress serves as an exceptional platform for knowledge sharing, idea exchange, and fostering collaborations that will shape the future of thoracic surgery.

Over the course of these two insightful days, you will have the unique opportunity to immerse yourself in cutting-edge scientific sessions, observe innovative surgical techniques, and explore the latest advancements in thoracic surgery. The diverse and comprehensive program has been meticulously designed to inspire learning, ignite discussions, and showcase groundbreaking developments in our field.

Beyond the academic and clinical excellence, this congress offers an invaluable opportunity to connect with peers and colleagues, exchange experiences, and build lasting professional relationships. We strongly believe that the collaborations and networks forged here will make a significant impact on the advancement of thoracic surgery and the enhancement of patient care.

We are confident that the 1st Emirates International Thoracic Surgery Congress 2025 will provide you with an engaging, dynamic, and enriching experience. From pivotal research findings to inspiring discussions, this event promises to be a cornerstone moment for knowledge and innovation in our field.

Once again, it is our sincere pleasure to welcome you to this remarkable congress. We wish you a truly productive and memorable experience, both personally and professionally.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mariam Al Marashda".

Dr. Mariam Almarashda

Congress Chair

Consultant, Thoracic Surgery

Sh. Tahnoon Bin Mohammed Medical City

Tawam Hospital, Al Ain UAE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Puja G. Khaitan".

Dr. Puja G. Khaitan

Congress Chair

Consultant, Thoracic Surgery

Shaikh Shakhbout Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Scientific Committee



Dr. Edward Black
Consultant Thoracic Surgeon,
Tawam Hospital, Al Ain, UAE



Dr. Muhammad Tufail
Consultant Pulmonary,
Sheikh Khalifa Medical City,
Abu Dhabi, UAE



Dr. Abdulrahman Bin Sumaida
Chief Radiotherapy, Tawam Hospital,
Abu Dhabi, UAE

Organizing Committee



Dr. Andres Obeso
Staff Physician, Thoracic Surgery,
Heart, Vascular & Thoracic Institute,
Cleveland Clinic, Abu Dhabi, UAE



Dr. James Doug Atchinson
Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon,
King's College Hospital London,
Dubai, UAE



**Dr. Taj Mohammed Fiyaz
Chowdhry**
Consultant Thoracic Surgeon,
Burjeel Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE



Prof. Khaldoon Abo Dakka
Cardiothoracic Surgeon,
Prime Hospital, Dubai, UAE



Dr. Mohamed Mustafa
Specialist Thoracic Surgeon,
Thoracic Surgery
Dr. Sulaiman Al Habib Hospital
Dubai, UAE

Advisory Board



Dr. Brandon Stiles
Chief, Divisions of Thoracic Surgery & Surgical Oncology, Associate Director, Surgical Oncology, Montefiore Einstein Comprehensive Cancer Center, USA



Dr. Rajan Santosham
Chairman and Senior Cardio-Thoracic Surgeon, Santhosam Chest Hospital, Tamil Nadu, India



Prof. Shyam Kolvekar
Consultant cardiothoracic surgeon, Barts Heart Centre (St. Bartholomew's Hospital), UK

Learning Objectives

- Gain comprehensive knowledge of the latest advancements in thoracic surgical techniques, including minimally invasive procedures, robotic-assisted surgery, and innovations in patient care.
- Recognize the complexities and challenges associated with thoracic surgical procedures and develop strategies to optimize patient outcomes and reduce complications.
- Explore the emerging trends and technologies in thoracic surgery, such as advanced imaging modalities, precision medicine, and personalized treatment approaches.
- Discuss and evaluate the latest research findings and clinical trials in thoracic surgery.
- Engage in discussions and debates on controversial topics and emerging challenges in thoracic surgery.

Program Highlights

- Benign and malignant lung and Esophageal disorders
- Airway disease
- Chest wall tumors and defects
- Pleural diseases
- Foregut and diaphragmatic pathology
- Mediastinal pathology

Speakers



Dr. Emad Anwar Dawoud

Consultant Medical Oncologist,
Oncology Department
Tawam Hospital, Al Ain UAE



Dr. Ali Zamir Khan

MS, FRCS, FRCS(CTH), FEBTS, MBA
Consultant Thoracic Surgeon
Blackpool Victoria Hospital, UK



Dr. Mohammed Sami Ibrahim

Director of Thoracic Surgery,
Director of Robotic,
minimal invasive Thoracic surgery
Sana Hospital Hof, Germany



Dr. Dalia Elshorbagy

MD, BC
Consultant Medical Oncology,
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City, UAE



Dr. Abdulrahman Bin Sumaida

Chief of Radiation Oncology
Tawam Hospital, UAE



Dr. James Douglas Aitchison

Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor of
Cardiothoracic Surgery,
Gulf Medical University
King's College Hospital, London,
in Dubai Hills, Dubai, UAE



Dr. Muhammad Tufail

FRCP (London)
Consultant Pulmonologist
Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE



Dr. Rajan Santosham

Senior Consultant Thoracic Surgeon
Santosham Chest Hospital,
Apollo Hospitals, India



Dr. Ravindra Kumar Dewan

Principal Consultant Thoracic Surgery
National Institute of Tuberculosis and
Respiratory Diseases, New Delhi, India



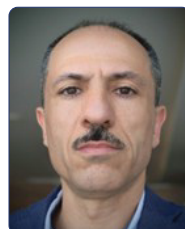
Dr. Mohamed Shaaban

Associate Professor and consultant of
Pulmonary medicine, Cairo University, Egypt
Pulmonology Consultant at NMC Speciality
Hospital Al Nahda, Dubai, UAE



Prof. Rene Horsleben Petersen

Professor
Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery,
Copenhgaen University Hospital, Denmark



Dr. Khaldoon Abo Dakka

Specialist Thoracic Surgeon
Prime Hospital, Dubai, UAE



Prof. Hany Elsayed

MD, MBBS, FRCS, CTh
Professor of Thoracic Surgery,
Faculty of Medicine
Ain Shams University, Egypt



Dr. Bassam Redwan

MD PhD FRCP FACS
Senior Consultant of Thoracic Surgery
Knappschaft Kliniken Lünen - Germany



Speakers



Dr. Abbas E. Abbas, MD, FACS
 Professor and Chief of Thoracic Surgery,
 Alpert Medical School of Brown University,
 Dept. of Surgery
 Chief of Thoracic Oncology,
 Lifespan Cancer Center and Health System



Dr. Mohamed Mustafa
 Specialist Thoracic Surgeon,
 Thoracic Surgery
 Dr. Sulaiman Al Habib Hospital
 Dubai, UAE



Prof. Dr. Aref Chehal
 MD, FACP, ECMO
 Consultant Medical Oncologist and Haematologist
 Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City, UAE



Dr. Seong Yong Park
 Associate Professor
 Department of Thoracic and
 Cardiovascular Surgery,
 Samsung Medical Center,
 Seoul, Korea



Dr. Puja G. Khaitan
 Congress Chair
 Consultant, Thoracic Surgery
 Shaikh Shakhbout Medical City,
 Abu Dhabi, UAE



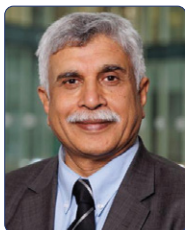
Dr. Eyad Alakrad, M.D
 Consultant Gastroenterologist.
 Director of GI Motility Services and Endoscopy
 Sheikh Khalifah Medical City, Abu Dhabi UAE



Dr. Hussam Trabulsi
 Head of Surgery Department;
 Adjunct Professor of Surgery,
 University of Dubai
 Medcare Hospital, UAE



Dr. W.N. (Pim) Welvaart
 MD, PhD
 Head of department General Thoracic Surgery
 Diaphragm Center the Netherlands /
 Meander Medical Center, Netherlands



Prof. Shyam Kolvekar
 MBBS, MS, MCh, FRCPs, FRCS, FRCSTh
 Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon
 National Pectus MDT Lead
 Barts Heart Centre St Bartholomew's Hospital
 Hon. Associate Professor,
 University College London, UK



Dr. Farooq Ahmad Dar
 Senior Specialist Registrar,
 Cardiothoracic Surgery
 Dubai Academic Health Corporation (DAHC)
 UAE



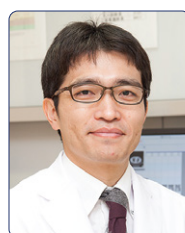
Prof. Dr. Samer Etman, MRCS
 Thoracic Surgeon
 Consultant of Thoracic Surgery
 Lung Centre Coswig, Coswig, Germany



Dr. Mohamed Hussein
 Surgical Program Director of Lung Transplant
 National Guard Hospital, Riyadh Saudi Arabia
 Consultant, Thoracic Surgery
 Ain Shams University, Cairo Egypt



Dr. Yusuf Bayrak
 MD
 Staff Physician of Thoracic Surgery
 Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, UAE



Prof. Satona Tanaka
 Assistant Professor, Clinical Lecturer
 Kyoto University Hospital, Japan



Speakers



Dr. Sridhar Rathinam
Consultant Thoracic Surgeon,
Head of Service & Honorary Senior Lecturer
Department of Thoracic Surgery,
Glenfield Hospital,
University Hospitals of Leicester



Dr. Ahmed Mostafa
Consultant Thoracic Surgery
Ain Shams University, Egypt



Dr. Maninder Singh Kalkat
Consultant Thoracic Surgeon and
Deputy Medical Director
University Hospital Birmingham, UK



Dr. Nasser Yusuf
Head of Department, Thoracic Surgery
Sunrise Hospital, Kochi, India



Dr. Narasimman Sathiamurthy
Consultant Thoracic Surgeon
Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Oral Presenters



Dr. Hameed Raina
Gastroenterologist, Hepatologist,
Advanced Therapeutic and
Third Space Endoscopist,
and Endosonographer
Burjeel Hospital, UAE



Miss Anchal Jain
Cardiothoracic Surgery Registrar
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, UK



Dr. Shirang Nagorao Bamne
Head of Intensive Care Unit,
Specialist in Critical Care Medicine
NMC Specialty Hospital,
Abu Dhabi UAE



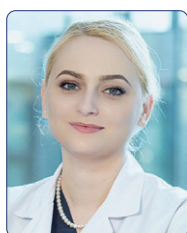
Ms. Maysoon Azzam
Final Year Medical Student
RAK Medical and Health Sciences University,
UAE



Dr. Mostafa Eldewer
MBBS, MSc, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgery Specialist,
Division of Thoracic Surgery
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC), UAE



Dr. Sonia Stephania Chavarria Murillo
Medical Doctor
Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Peru



Dr. Veronica Manolache
Thoracic Surgeon
Memorial Oncology Hospital,
Romania



Session Chairs



Dr. James Douglas Aitchison
Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor of
Cardiothoracic Surgery,
Gulf Medical University
King's College Hospital, London, in
Dubai Hills, Dubai, UAE



Dr. Elkin Yasmany Cabrera Riascos
Thoracic Surgeon
Fakeeh University Hospital, Dubai



Dr Amel Alameeri
Consultant Pulmonologist
Sheikh Tahnoun Medical City &
Tawam Al Ain UAE



Dr. Sekar Sanathkumar
Specialist Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Dubai Hospital
Dubai, UAE



Dr. Anmar Atasi
Specialist Thoracic Surgeon
Sheikh Khalifa Hospital Fujairah UAE



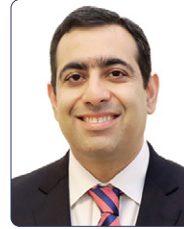
Dr. Hussam Ismael
Consultant Thoracic and General Surgeon
American Hospital, Dubai UAE



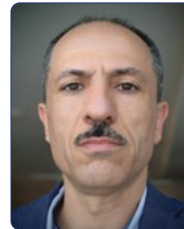
Dr. Mohannad Al-Asaad
MBChB, FIBMS, CABHS, FRCS(Eng.)
Senior Specialist Cardiothoracic surgery
Dubai Academic Health Corporation /
Dubai Hospital, UAE



Dr. Taj Mohammed Fiyaz Chowdhry
Thoracic Surgeon
Burjeel Medical City, UAE



Dr. Hassan Shahryar
Consultant Medical Oncologist
Sheikh Shakbout Medical City,
Abu Dhabi UAE



Dr. Khaldoon Abo Dakka
Specialist Thoracic Surgeon
Prime Hospital, Dubai, UAE



Dr. Bassil Khalil Al Zamkan
Senior Consultant, Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Fakeeh University Hospital
Dubai, UAE



Dr. Aydah Al-Awadhi
Consultant Medical Oncologist
Division Chair of Hematology
and Medical Oncology
Sheikh Shakbout Medical City,
Abu Dhabi UAE



Dr. Mariam Almarashda
Congress Chair
Consultant, Thoracic Surgery
Sh. Tahnoun Bin Mohammed Medical City
Tawam Hospital, Al Ain UAE




Dr. Abdulmajid Ali
MBChB, FRCS, MSc.
Consultant Upper GI/Bariatric Surgeon
Sheik Tahnoun Medical City, UAE




Session Chairs




Dr. Iyad George Jarouj
Thoracic surgeon
Al Qassimi hospital- Sharjah, UAE





Dr. Andres Obeso
Consultant Thoracic Surgeon
Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, UAE




Dr. Mahmoud Yehya
Thoracic consultant and
head unit of Thoracic Surgery
SAQR Hospital, Dubai




Dr. Mostafa Eldewer
MBBS, MSc, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgery Specialist,
Division of Thoracic Surgery
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC), UAE




Dr. Mohamed Hasan Al Ali
Head & Neck and Laryngology Surgeon
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City
Abu Dhabi, UAE




Dr. Omar Al Afeefi
Thoracic Surgery Specialist,
General Surgery Department
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC)
Abu Dhabi, UAE


Scientific Program

Friday, 18th April 2025

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
08:00-09:00	Registration	
09:00-09:05	Welcome Speech	Master of Ceremony
SESSION 1: Non-small cell lung cancer		
Session Chairs: Dr. James Douglas Aitchinson, Dr. Taj Chowdhry, Dr. Elkin Cabrera & Dr. Hassan Shahryar		
09:05-09:20	Neoadjuvant therapy, role of immunotherapy	Dr. Emad Dawoud, UAE
09:20-09:35	Minimally invasive sublobar resections - when, how, and why?	Dr. Ali Zamir Khan, UK
09:35-09:50	Feasibility and Advantages of Subxiphoidal VATS procedure compared with traditional VATS procedures in Intercostal Access	Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim, Germany
09:50-10:05	Advanced unresectable CA, biologic and definitive therapy	Dr. Dalia Elshorbagy, UAE
10:05-10:20	Alternative options: SBRT vs. Surgery - Pros and Cons	Dr. Abdulrahman Bin Sumaida, UAE
10:20-10:30	Panel Discussion	
10:30-10:55	Official Inauguration	
10:55-11:05	Coffee Break Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing	
11:05-11:35	Immunotherapy updates in management of Resectable NSCLC - A Paradigm Shift	Dr. Emad Dawoud, UAE
SESSION 2: Early and novel diagnostics; Benign disease		
Session Chairs: Dr. Khaldoon Dakka, Dr. Amel Al Amiri & Dr. Sanath Kumar		
11:35-11:50	Lung cancer screening	Dr. James Douglas Aitchison, UAE
11:50-12:05	Diagnostic and therapeutic advances in interventional bronchoscopy - What's new in 2025 ?	Dr. Muhammad Tufail, UAE
12:05-12:20	Evolution in tuberculous surgery: when to operate and when not to?	Dr. Rajan Santosham, India
12:20-12:35	Role of surgery in Aspergillosis and Mucormycosis	Dr. Ravindra Dewan, India
12:35-12:50	Empyema: is fibrinolytic therapy as good as decortication?	Dr. Mohamed Shaaban Mousa, UAE
12:50-13:00	Panel Discussion	
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break Exhibition Visit & Networking	
14:00-15:00	Oral Presentation 1	
14:00-14:10	Peroral Endoscopic Myotomy as a Safe and Effective Minimally Invasive Treatment for Achalasia and Spastic Esophageal Motility Disorders	Dr. Hameed Raina, UAE
14:10-14:20	Dynamic Bracing for Pectus Carinatum: A Revolution in Non-Invasive Correction	Ms. Anchal Jain, UK
14:20-14:30	Impact Of Raised Troponin In Cardiac And Non Cardiac Cases Admitted In Icu On Length Of Stay : Retrospective Study	Dr. Shirang Nagorao Bamne, UAE
14:30-14:40	Robotic vs. Laparoscopic Hiatal Hernia Repair: A Comparative Analysis of Surgical Outcomes	Ms. Maysoon Ahmad Azzam, UAE
14:40-14:50	Robotic resection of pulmonary hydatid cyst	Dr. Mostafa Eldewer, UAE
14:50-15:00	Q & A	

Scientific Program

Friday, 18th April 2025

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
SESSION 3: Mediastinal tumors, mesothelioma, TOS Session Chairs: Dr. Bassil Alzamkan & Dr. Anmar Atasi		
15:00-15:15	Myasthenia gravis & role of thymectomy	Dr. Rene Petersen, Denmark
15:15-15:30	Posterior mediastinal tumors	Dr. Khaldoon Dakka, UAE
15:30-15:45	Mesothelioma and Stage IV Thymoma: Role of surgery and HITHOC	Dr. Hany Elsayed, Egypt
15:45-16:00	Thoracic outlet syndrome: Cervical rib and first rib resection	Dr. Bassam Redwan, Germany
16:00-16:10	Panel Discussion	
16:10-16:20	COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing	
16:20-17:00 Oral Presentation 2		
16:20-16:30	Tackling Hidden Giant: A Case Series of Rare Chest Wall Tumours with Complex Surgical Reconstruction	Dr. Anchal Jain, UK
16:30-16:40	Chest wall reconstruction surgery with 3D-Printed prosthetics: First results from a reference hospital in Spain	Dr. Sonia Stephania Murillo, Peru
16:40-16:50	Precision Lung Resection Utilizing Human-Directed Artificial Intelligence	Dr. Veronica Manolache, Romania
16:50-17:00	Q & A	
17:00	End of DAY 1	

Scientific Program

Saturday, 19th April 2025

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER
08:30-09:30	Registration	
09:30-09:35	Welcome Speech	Master of Ceremony
SESSION 4: Benign and malignant esophagus Session Chairs: Dr. Aydah Al Awadhi, Dr. Hussam Ismael & Dr. Mariam Marashda		
09:35-09:50	Achalasia (Heller vs. POEM) and pulsion diverticulum	Dr. Abbas Abbas, USA
09:50-10:05	Caustic injury of the esophagus: management and surgical options	Dr. Mohamed Mustafa, UAE
10:05-10:20	Changes in perioperative regimens: New horizon	Dr. Aref Chehal, UAE
10:20-10:35	Role of extensive lymphadenectomy for esophageal cancer	Dr. Seong-Yong Park, Korea
10:35-10:50	Salvage esophagectomy	Dr. Puja Gaur Khaitan, UAE
10:50-11:00	Panel Discussion	
11:00-11:10	Best Poster & Case Presentation Award	
11:10-11:20	COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing	
SESSION 5: Foregut, Diaphragmatic, Chest wall pathology Session Chairs: Dr. Mohannad AlAsaad, Dr. Abdulmajid Ali & Dr. Iyad George Jarouj		
11:20-11:35	Role of High resolution manometry & Endoflip for AnE-Reflux Surgeries	Dr. Eyad Alakrad, UAE
11:35-11:50	Minimally invasive option to treat GERD: Linx Device and TIF	Dr. Hussam Trabulsi, UAE
11:50-12:05	Diaphragm paralysis; a multidisciplinary approach	Dr. Pim Welvaart, Netherlands
12:05-12:20	Pectus excavatum/carinatum - What's new?	Dr. Shyam Kolvekar, UK
12:20-12:35	Chest wall trauma: surgical management of sternal and rib fractures	Dr. Farooq Ahmad Dar, UAE
12:35-13:50	Surgical management of chest wall tumors	Dr. Samer Etman, Germany
12:50-13:00	Panel Discussion	
13:00-14:00	LUNCH BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking	
SESSION 6: Lung transplant & LVRS Session Chairs: Dr. Andres Obeso & Dr. Mahmoud Yehya		
14:00-14:15	Launching a new lung transplant program: Success and Challenges	Dr. Mohamed Hussein, KSA
14:15-14:30	ECMO and Challenges in Bridging to Transplantation	Dr. Yusuf Bayrak, UAE
14:30-14:45	Living vs. deceased donor lung transplantation	Dr. Satona Tanaka, Japan
14:45-15:00	Lung volume reduction surgery: Role of NiVATS in LVRS	Dr. Sridhar Rathinam, UK
15:00-15:10	Panel Discussion	
15:10-15:20	COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing	
SESSION 7: Tracheal and airway disease Session Chairs: Dr. Mostafa Eldewer, Dr. Omar Al Afeef & Dr. Mohamed Al Ali		
15:20-16:35	Complex airway surgery and reconstruction	Dr. Ahmed M. Mostafa, Egypt
16:35-16:50	Management of trachea-esophageal fistula	Dr. Maninder Singh Kalkat, UK
16:50-17:05	Tracheobronchomalacia: Stent vs. Mesh plication	Dr. Nasser Yusuf, India
17:05-17:20	Airway tumors and use of NiVATS/NiRATS	Dr. Narasimman Sathiamurthy, Malaysia
17:20	Adjourn	

General Information

Venue

An iconic luxury 5-star hotel on the Abu Dhabi located in the prime district of Abu Dhabi centre. A glittering seafront landmark, Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche seamlessly fuses French style with lavish Arabian hospitality. In a prime location with captivating views of the Gulf, there's no better place from which to experience the city.

Name Badges

Participants are required to wear their name badges throughout the meeting in order to be admitted to the lecture halls and other scheduled activities. Kindly ensure to scan in and scan out in the session halls attended.

Refreshment and Lunch

Refreshment and lunch will be offered in accordance with the breaks indicated on the Agenda.

Mobile Phones and Photography

Participants are kindly requested to keep their mobile phones silent mode in the conference hall and refrain from taking photographs with flash during sessions.

Speakers' Room

Myrtle Boardroom (P2 Level)

Friday Prayer

Transportation will be available at the Sofitel Hotel lobby at 12:30 Hrs, and the bus will depart promptly at 12:50 Hrs. It will take the delegates to the nearest mosque and bring back to the hotel afterward.

Abstract

Abstract Posters will be on display the entire day of the conference from 18th & 19th April, 2025.

CME Accreditation

This Conference is Accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education and granted **16.0 European CME** credits (ECMEC@s).

Day 1, 18/4/25 is Accredited for **8 CME** Hours

Day 2, 19/4/25 is Accredited for **8 CME** Hours

This Conference is Accredited by the Department of Health and designated for a maximum of **14:0 of DOH CME**

Day 1, 18/4/25 is Accredited for **7 CME** Hours

Day 2, 19/4/25 is Accredited for **7 CME** Hours

- Please ensure to scan in your name badge before every session in the session halls attended.
- CME points are accumulated based on attended hours.
- A notification containing the link and instructions on how to download the certificates will be sent to your registered email address.
- Please note that you are required to complete the online evaluation of the conference before you can access the link to download your CME certificates. It is your responsibility to download and retain a copy of the certificate for your records.
- Each medical specialist should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

A faint, dark blue world map is centered in the background of the slide, showing the outlines of continents and countries.

Speakers` Biography

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Emad Anwar Dawoud

Consultant Medical Oncologist,
Oncology Department
Tawam Hospital, Al Ain UAE



Dr. Emad Anwar Dawoud is a Consultant Medical Oncologist in the Oncology department at Tawam Hospital since 2014. He completed his MD, Ph.D. in clinical oncology at the Federation of Royal Colleagues of Physicians of the United Kingdom in 2012. Dr. Dawoud graduated from Al Azhar University in Cairo in 1997 and was assigned as a lecturer of clinical oncology at the same university in 2010. He has been the principal investigator and co-investigator for more than 50 clinical trials and he published the abstracts in peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Dawoud is a member of various associations such as ASCO, ESMO & ESTRO.



Dr. Ali Zamir Khan

MS, FRCS, FRCS(CTH), FEBTS, MBA
Consultant Thoracic Surgeon
Blackpool Victoria Hospital, UK



Prof Ali Zamir Khan is a leader in the field of minimally invasive and robotic thoracic surgery. He trained and worked in United Kingdom as a cardiothoracic surgeon for about 20 years before returning to India to start the Department of Minimally Invasive and Robotic Thoracic Surgery at Medanta-The Medicity in 2010. This is one of the premier multispecialty hospitals in India providing cutting edge tertiary care to patients. The minimally invasive program is one of the most successful programs in India. He has returned to UK to work as a Consultant Thoracic Surgeon in Blackpool Victoria Hospital.

His speciality interest is in robotic and video-assisted surgical management in the field of lung surgery (including cancer, tuberculosis, bronchiectasis and aspergilloma), mediastinal surgery (Thymectomy for myasthenia & thymoma and resection of mediastinal cyst and tumors), cosmetic chest wall surgery (pectus carinatum, pectus excavatum, sinus surgery), endobronchial surgery (lasering & stenting), diaphragm surgery (eventration, hernias and trauma), esophageal surgery (cancer, perforation, benign diseases) and sympathetic nerve surgery (hyperhydrosis, intractable Ventricular fibrillation), lung volume reduction surgery (emphysema).

Education is of high priority to Dr. Khan. To achieve this end, he has started a centre (SCALPEL) dedicated to training young surgeons from across the world in the field of minimally invasive and laparoscopic surgery. He also lectures at Rohilkhand Medical College and University to undergraduate and postgraduate medical students.

Having a strong interest in academics and research, Dr Khan has published more than 100 original research papers and chapters, and delivered more than 150 invited lectures all over the world. He is an integral member of the ethics committee to approve research proposals.

He is a founder board member of Asian Thoracoscopic Education Program (ATEP) and the Indian Regent for European Society of Thoracic Surgeons.

He is also keen innovator having patented multiple surgical instruments which have been named after him. He has also designed various teaching modules for training.

He has received numerous awards and honours for his contribution in clinical and academic excellence.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Mohammed Sami Ibrahim

Director of Thoracic Surgery,
Director of Robotic,
minimal invasive Thoracic surgery
Sana Hospital Hof, Germany



Bachelor of Human medicine – University of Bologna- Bologna – Italy .

German Board of Thoracic Surgery- Koblenz- Germany

Specialized Fields :

1. Oncological Thoracic Surgery: uVATS , Subxiphoidal VATS, RATS DaVinci Lobectomies, Segmentectomies and mediastinal Masses resection.
2. Chest wall Deformations(Pectus Excavatum, Traumatological ribs fractures): Nuss Operations, Osteosynthesis of the chest wall as Reconstruction.
3. Lung Emphysema: surgical and conventional procedures as Lung Volume reduction.
4. Septic Thoracic Surgery: with minimal Invasive Surgical Procedures therapy
5. Surgical therapy of the hyperhydrosis .
6. Flexibel and rigid Bronchoscopy procedures: stent and Ventile/ Valve included spigots implantation



Dr. Dalia Elshorbagy

MD, BC
Consultant Medical Oncology,
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City, UAE



Dr. Dalia Elshorbagy is a highly experienced Consultant Medical Oncologist who has been serving at Dubai Health Authority since 2009. Recently, she has relocated to Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC). In addition to her clinical role, Dr. Elshorbagy holds the position of Assistant Professor at the Clinical Oncology University Hospital in Egypt. Her expertise and dedication in the field of oncology have made her a valuable asset to the healthcare community.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Abdulrahman Bin Sumaida

Chief of Radiation Oncology
Tawam Hospital, UAE



Dr. Abdulrahman Bin Sumaida is a distinguished Radiation Oncologist with vast clinical experience and serves as the Chief of Radiation Oncology at Tawam Hospital, Al Ain, UAE. With an illustrious career spanning several years, Dr. Bin Sumaida began his medical journey at the prestigious Milan University in Italy, where he completed his medical education. He further honed his expertise by undertaking a rigorous Radiation Oncology residency at Cape Town University, South Africa, followed by a clinical research fellowship. His relentless pursuit of excellence led him to Halifax, Canada, where he completed an advanced fellowship in Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS) and Stereotactic Body Radiotherapy (SBRT). In his current role at Tawam Hospital, Dr. Bin Sumaida is not only dedicated to providing top-tier patient care but also actively engages in multiple ongoing research projects aimed at advancing the field of oncology.

Dr. Abdulrahman Bin Sumaida serves as the President of the Emirates Society for Radiation Oncology (ESRO), leading efforts to advance radiation oncology in the UAE. With a commitment to education, innovation, and multidisciplinary collaboration, he plays a key role in shaping policies, fostering research, and enhancing patient care standards in the region. His leadership continues to drive ESRO's mission of promoting excellence in radiation oncology through cutting-edge technology and professional development.

Dr. Bin Sumaida's contributions to oncology have been widely recognized, with numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals and presentations at international conferences



Dr. James Douglas Aitchison

Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery,
Gulf Medical University
King's College Hospital, London, in Dubai Hills, Dubai, UAE



Dr. Aitchison is a UK-certified Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon with 18 years of consultant experience, including 6 years in the UAE. He trained in the UK at Freeman Hospital, Newcastle; James Cook Hospital, Middlesbrough; and Papworth Hospital, Cambridge, with a clinical fellowship at Washington University in St. Louis, Christian Hospital North-East, and Barnes-Jewish Hospitals.

He previously served as Head of Thoracic Surgery at SSMC Hospital and as Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon and Lead for Thoracic Surgery at The Essex Cardiothoracic Centre, England, for twelve years, where he established a successful minimal access lung cancer surgery service.

His MD was awarded in 2003 for research on NHBD lung transplantation. He has published papers on cardiac electrophysiology, aortic valve replacement, infections in heart surgery, heart and lung transplantation, fitness for lung resection, and lung cancer surgery.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Muhammad Tufail
FRCP (London)
Consultant Pulmonologist
Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE



Dr. Muhammad Tufail, FRCP (London) Consultant Pulmonologist Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi. Dr. Tufail completed his CCT in respiratory and general medicine in London and then worked as a consultant pulmonologist at Glenfield Hospital, Leicester for six years before moving to Abu Dhabi in 2022.

He had been awarded with five clinical excellence awards (CEA) by University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust in 2020. He was the Lead for Lung Cancer Services at Glenfield Hospital and supervised successful implementation of national optimal lung cancer pathway. Dr. Tufail, was a member of the British Thoracic Society (BTS) central council and its Education and Training Committee.



Dr. Rajan Santosham
Senior Consultant Thoracic Surgeon
Santosham Chest Hospital,
Apollo Hospitals, India



Dr. Rajan Santosham, is a distinguished thoracic surgeon based in Chennai, India. He began his medical journey at Madras Medical College, earning his MBBS in 1969, followed by an MS in General Surgery in 1974, and an M.Ch. in Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery in 1977. Dr. Santosham dedicated his career to the same institution, culminating in his role as Professor and Head of the Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery at Madras Medical College and Government General Hospital until his retirement in 2005.

Dr. Santosham continues to influence the field of thoracic surgery. He is associated with Santosham Chest Hospital, Apollo Hospitals and Cancer Institute (WIA), and has mentored of numerous surgeons and pulmonologists. Dr. Santosham's professional affiliations span 17 international organizations, including fellowships with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the European Society of Thoracic Surgeons. His contributions have been recognized with multiple accolades, such as lifetime achievement awards from the IACTS, IAB, The Tamil Nadu MGR University.

His main areas of interest are Airway surgery and Surgery in Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Dr. Santosham's enduring dedication to thoracic surgery has solidified his reputation as a pioneer in the field, inspiring future generations of surgeons



Dr. Ravindra Kumar Dewan
Principal Consultant Thoracic Surgery
National Institute of Tuberculosis and
Respiratory Diseases, New Delhi, India



Dr. Ravindra Kumar Dewan is a Principal Consultant Thoracic Surgery at the National Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, New Delhi, India, a is a 500-bed tertiary care facility for patients suffering from Chest Diseases.

He served as the Director, National Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases, New Delhi till 31 January 2024. His work includes surgery for tuberculosis complications and other thoracic surgical conditions. He has been also involved in National TB Elimination Program.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Mohamed Shaaban

Associate Professor and consultant of
Pulmonary medicine, Cairo University, Egypt
Pulmonology Consultant at NMC Speciality
Hospital Al Nahda, Dubai, UAE



Dr Mohamed Shaaban has been currently working in his original affiliation as Associate Professor and consultant of Pulmonary Medicine at Faculty of medicine (Kasr Al Ainy University Hospital), Cairo University, Egypt (one of the most famous and well-known University hospital in Egypt, Middle East and North Africa) and currently working as Pulmonology Consultant at NMC Specialty Hospital Dubai.

He has an outstanding gulf experience in well recognized hospitals in UAE (Saudi German Health UAE and NMC Specialty Hospital Dubai).

He was awarded his Master and Medical Doctorate (MD) degrees in Pulmonary Medicine at Cairo University, Egypt. He was awarded also the European Diploma in adult respiratory medicine.

He has wide experience of clinical practice and researches at the field of pulmonology with 11 publications in international journals. His special interests are interventional pulmonology (Flexible bronchoscopy, medical thoracoscopy), pleural diseases and ultrasound guided pleural aspiration and insertion of pig tail, pulmonary hypertension with performance of Swan Ganz catheterization, interstitial lung diseases, respiratory critical care, airway diseases and pulmonary infections.

Dr Shaaban is an active member in different regional and international societies as European Respiratory Society, The Egyptian Society of Chest Diseases and Tuberculosis and Emirates Thoracic Society.



Prof. Rene Horsleben Petersen

Professor
Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery,
Copenhgaen University Hospital, Denmark

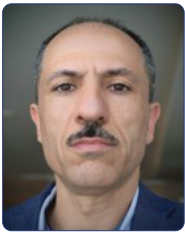


Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Copenhagen University Hospital, Rigshospitalet. He holds a PhD in the field of Video-Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery (VATS) as well as a bachelor's degree in Health Care Administration. His primary research focus is minimally invasive lung surgery, segmentectomy, education and simulation in VATS and ERAS (Enhanced Recovery After Surgery). He is also conducting research in the fields of lung cancer screening and video-assisted thymectomy. Professor Petersen teaches regularly at the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Copenhagen, and is supervising PhD- and Master Thesis students. For more than a decade Petersen has led clinical immersions in VATS at his centre with participation from clinics around the world and has proctored many thoracic surgeons around the world in VATS Lobectomy by a Standardized Anterior Approach.

He has given numerous lectures and educational seminars on VATS Lobectomy/ Segmentectomy, performed live surgery and presented at numerous international conferences.

He has more than 175 publications in international peer-reviewed journals within the topics: VATS Lobectomy, VATS Segmentectomy, VATS Thymectomy, VATS Education and Simulation, Enhanced Recovery and Lung Cancer Screening. He is the ESTS chair of guidelines for Surgical Management of GGO tumors. He acts as the Director of Annual Meeting for the European Society of Thoracic Surgery (ESTS). Additionally, he is on the editorial board and reviewer for several scientific journals.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Khaldoon Abo Dakka
Specialist Thoracic Surgeon
Prime Hospital, Dubai, UAE



Dr. Khaldoon Abo Dakka is a qualified General Thoracic Surgeon with a Doctorate Degree in Thoracic Surgery from Damascus University, works at Prime Hospital Dubai, with 20 years of experience in thoracic surgery field. Based in the United Arab Emirates since 2015, he specializes in various minimally invasive thoracic surgical procedures in adults and pediatrics, particularly Uniportal Video Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery (VATS) for Intrathoracic tumors and other thoracic conditions including Surgery of lung cancer, Thymus, pleural diseases, airways, diaphragm, and chest wall. His experience includes roles at renowned medical institutions.



Prof. Hany Elsayed
MD, MBBS, FRCS, CTh
Professor of Thoracic Surgery,
Faculty of Medicine
Ain Shams University, Egypt



Graduated in Ain Shams University in 1999, started specialized training in minimally invasive thoracic surgery in Liverpool in 2006 and progressed to a consultant thoracic surgeon in Liverpool heart and chest hospital in 2009. Returned to Egypt in 2012 to progress as a professor then head of department of the largest thoracic surgery center in Egypt performing around 400 cases per year. Has special interest in airway surgery, mesothelioma surgery and training facilities in thoracic surgery.



Dr. Bassam Redwan
MD PhD FRCP FACS
Senior Consultant of Thoracic Surgery
Knappschaft Kliniken Lünen - Germany



Dr. Bassam Redwan, MD, PhD, FRCP, FACS, is a highly accomplished thoracic surgeon with expertise in minimally-invasive lung cancer surgery, functional thoracic surgery and extracorporeal lung support. Born on February 4, 1983, he pursued medical education at the Medical University of Vienna, followed by postgraduate research in vascular biology. He completed his residency in thoracic surgery at the University Hospital of Münster, and Ibbenbüren General Hospital, Germany.

Dr. Redwan has held multiple prestigious positions, including Senior Consultant and Vice Chief of Thoracic Surgery at Klinikum Westfalen – Lünen. His contributions to the field have earned him numerous awards, such as the Jane Morse Award for the highest rates abstract in pulmonary circulation of the American Thoracic Society (ATS Toronto 2008).

As a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (FRCP) and the American College of Surgeons (FACS), Dr. Redwan is actively involved in international medical communities. He has an extensive publication record, including books, book chapters, and over 50 peer-reviewed articles.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Abbas E. Abbas, MD, FACS
Professor and Chief of Thoracic Surgery,
Alpert Medical School of Brown University,
Dept. of Surgery
Chief of Thoracic Oncology,
Lifespan Cancer Center and Health System



Dr. Abbas E. Abbas is Professor and Chief of Thoracic Surgery at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and Chief of Thoracic Oncology at Lifespan Health System. In his position, he directs the clinical, educational, and research aspects of the Pulmonary and Esophageal Surgery Programs of the Health System. Dr. Abbas earned his medical degree from Ain-Shams University School of Medicine in Cairo, Egypt. He completed a General Surgery residency at the University of Pennsylvania Hospitals in Philadelphia and a fellowship in Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Professionally, Dr. Abbas has held Academic positions at several institutions in the United States, including Ohio State University, Tulane University, Temple University, and Brown University. He has served as President of the Eastern Cardiothoracic Surgical Society representing Thoracic Surgeons in the Eastern United States. He also serves on the Boards of the American Association for Thoracic Surgery, the International Society of Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery, the Society for Robotic Surgery, and the American Lung Association. He is on the editorial board of several publications including Associate Editor of Innovations and editorial board member of JTCVS.

His research interests include outcomes research in thoracic oncology and basic science research in tumor organoids. Clinically, he is one of the earliest adopters of robotic thoracic surgery and has trained hundreds of residents, fellows, and surgeons in robotic surgery for mediastinal, esophageal, and lung diseases. He has also authored and edited numerous publications on numerous topics and is frequently invited to speak at major National and International meetings.



Dr. Mohamed Mustafa
Specialist Thoracic Surgeon,
Thoracic Surgery
Dr. Sulaiman Al Habib Hospital
Dubai, UAE



Dr. Mustafa graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at Aleppo University, Syria. He then completed his residency program in General Surgery, followed by a sub-specialty in Thoracic Surgery at Aleppo University Hospital and various hospitals under the Ministry of Health (MOH) in Syria. Afterward, he worked as a specialist and later as a consultant at Aleppo University Hospital and MOH hospitals in Syria.

Ten years ago, Dr. Mustafa relocated to Turkey, where he worked in several private hospitals in Istanbul and Mersin, as well as volunteering at an NGO hospital in Syria. For the past two years, he has been working at Kuwait Hospital in Sharjah, UAE.

Throughout his extensive career, Dr. Mustafa has performed thousands of urgent and elective surgeries, including thoracic, thoracoscopic, general, laparoscopic, and bariatric procedures.

Dr. Mustafa has also attended the following specialized training and courses:

A course in Thoracoscopic Surgery at De Antoni Hospital in Paris, France, with Prof. Haytham Backdash.

Training in Thoracic Surgery at Mersin State Hospital, Turkey.

Numerous workshops in Thoracoscopic Surgery at Yedikule Thoracic Surgery Hospital in Istanbul, Turkey.

A Bariatric Surgery course at Medikal Park Hospital in Istanbul, Turkey.

Speakers` Biography



Prof. Dr. Aref Chehal

MD, FACP, ECMO
Consultant Medical Oncologist and Haematologist
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City, UAE



- Dr. Chehal is an Adjunct Clinical Professor of Oncology and Medicine, Gulf Medical University (GMU), Ajman, UAE
- Dr. Chehal is an Adjunct Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine, Khalifa University (KU), Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Dr. Chehal graduated from the college of Medicine at Baghdad University/Iraq (MBChB) in 1996.
- Dr. Chehal did his Internal Medicine residency at American University of Beirut, Lebanon, between 1997 and 2000 (Lebanese Board).
- Dr. Chehal did his Hematology/Oncology fellowship at the American University of Beirut (AUBMC), Lebanon, between 2000 and 2003 (Lebanese Board).
- Dr. Chehal obtained Fellowship of the American College of Physician (FACP) in 2013.
- Dr. Chehal obtained the European Certification of Medical Oncology (ECMO) in 2009 and Re-certification in 2014, and 2021
- Dr. Chehal is a member of many national and international societies including ASCO, ESMO, EHA,..... He had an important role in Tumor registry in Lebanon in 2002.
- Dr. Chehal acted as chairperson, moderator, advisor, and member of scientific committee in many local and international congresses.
- Dr. Chehal has 44 published articles in peer reviewed international journals; he is the first author on 18 of them and last author on 2 of them, in addition to 32 abstracts.
- Dr. Chehal joined Mafraq hospital From May 2006 until December 2019.
- Dr. Chehal served as head of Hematology Oncology division at Mafraq Hospital from December 2018 until December 2019
- Dr. Chehal served as head of Hematology Oncology division at Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City from December 2019 until August 2020
- Dr. Chehal main interests are Lung, Breast, Gyne, GI and GU malignancies.



Dr. Seong Yong Park

Associate Professor
Department of Thoracic and
Cardiovascular Surgery,
Samsung Medical Center,
Seoul, Korea



Dr. Seong Yong Park is an associate professor of Samsung Medical Center, Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine, in the department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery. He graduated Yonsei University College of Medicine (2004) and was trained in Severance Hospital (2005-2009, 2012-2013) and National Cancer Center Korea (2009-2012). He worked as an assistant professor in Ajou University (2014-2016) and Yonsei University (2017-2021).

The major interests of Dr. Park include esophageal cancer, lung cancer and minimally invasive surgery, especially robotic surgery. Among these issues, the major interest is an esophageal cancer surgery, and he has been studied genomic studies of esophageal cancer and bio-imaging which can be applied in esophageal cancer surgery. Also he is a pioneer of robotic single port surgery. Dr. Park has authored or co-authored more than 80 peer-reviewed medical papers until now

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Puja G. Khaitan

Congress Chair
Consultant, Thoracic Surgery
Shaikh Shakhbout Medical City,
Abu Dhabi, UAE



Dr. Khaitan is an American board-certified general and thoracic surgeon. She specialises in non-cardiac chest surgeries, focusing on lung cancer, mesothelioma, oesophageal cancer, chest wall tumours, and mediastinal masses, as well as treating patients with benign pathologies. Dr. Khaitan earned her medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern, Dallas, US. She then pursued a General Surgery Residency at Emory University Hospital, US, with a simultaneous two-year NIH-T32 research fellowship at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Centre in the Department of Cancer Biology. Subsequently, she completed her cardiothoracic training at Harvard Brigham & Women's Hospital, Boston, US. She previously served as an Assistant Professor at Houston Methodist Hospital, Weill Cornell Medical College, and as an Associate Professor and later a full Professor at Georgetown University, MedStar Washington Hospital Centre. As a highly trained and experienced minimally invasive thoracic surgeon,

Dr. Khaitan performs thoracoscopic, laparoscopic, and robotic surgeries, as well as open complex surgical procedures. Additionally, Dr. Khaitan is passionate about educating and training surgical residents and fellows. She has published widely in peer-reviewed journals, given lectures nationally and internationally, and is a reviewer for selected thoracic journals such as the Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, The Annals of Thoracic Surgery, Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery, and Journal of Thoracic Disease. Numerous honours and awards have been bestowed upon Dr. Khaitan, and she serves on several committees in national and international professional societies.



Dr. Eyad Alakrad, M.D

Consultant Gastroenterologist.
Director of GI Motility Services and Endoscopy
Sheikh Khalifah Medical City, A bu Dhabi UAE



Dr. Eyad Alakrad is currently serving as a Consultant Gastroenterologist and the director of the GI motility disorders and endoscopy at Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City. With over 20 years of experience, Dr. Alakrad has extensive expertise in the fields of Gastroenterology and Hepatology with a significant training background in renowned hospitals and universities in the UK and the USA. Prior to joining SSMC, he worked as a clinical assistant professor at the University of Florida, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition. He was a key member of a robust gastroenterology motility disorder group. During his work over there, he introduced a cutting-edge gastroparesis program which was unique to the state of Florida and neighboring states. He instituted a program for endoscopic placement of temporary gastric electric stimulators in the treatment of refractory gastroparesis.

Dr. Alakrad has successfully established a comprehensive state-of-the-art GI Motility Lab at SSMC which has made an impact to the management of the GI Motility Services in UAE and competing with other international centers of excellent in that field. In addition to the knowledge he brought to the region, Dr. Alakrad prides himself on introducing the latest technology like Enoflip, which its applications have revolutionized the management of certain motility disorders. His research work has been focusing on foregut motility disorders and Eosinophilic Esophagitis, for which has been a key speaker on multiple platforms.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Hussam Trabulsi
Head of Surgery Department;
Adjunct Professor of Surgery,
University of Dubai
Medcare Hospital, UAE



Upper GI surgeon with 25+ years of experience in the surgical field.

Passionate about learning & implementing innovative new techniques.

Aiming to use to my experience to add to the ongoing education & professional growth of aspiring doctors & surgeons.



Dr. W.N. (Pim) Welvaart
MD, PhD
Head of department General Thoracic Surgery
Diaphragm Center the Netherlands /
Meander Medical Center, Netherlands



Dr. Welvaart completed his medical exam (with honor) at the University of Leiden and his surgical training at Erasmus University Rotterdam and the University of Amsterdam.

He is a certified general thoracic surgeon and surgical oncologist.

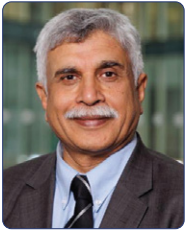
At the University Medical Center Amsterdam, he developed a special interest in muscle atrophy and functional disorders of the diaphragm and conducted research into functional disorders of the diaphragm, after which he completed his PhD thesis in 2013; 'Functional Disorders of the Human Diaphragm'.

Dr. Welvaart developed a minimal invasive laparoscopic approach for diaphragm plication. This laparoscopic approach has changed the standard (thoracic) treatment of a paralyzed diaphragm in the Netherlands. He founded the Diaphragm Center, a center of excellence for diaphragm paralysis. At the Diaphragm Center yearly over 100 patients are treated with an elevated diaphragm. The Diaphragm Center had already gained international recognition, receiving referrals nationally and internationally.

Dr. Welvaart works not only at the Diaphragm Center but also at the Meander Medical Center Amersfoort as head of the department general thoracic surgery.

- Member of the Dutch Society of Surgery
- Member Dutch Society of General Thoracic Surgery
- Member European Society of Thoracic Surgeons
- Member Core Staff Tumor Workgroup Lung Cancer Integral Cancer Center the Netherlands

Speakers` Biography



Prof. Shyam Kolvekar
MBBS, MS, MCh, FRCPS, FRCS, FRCSCTh
Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon
National Pectus MDT Lead
Barts Heart Centre St Bartholomew's Hospital
Hon. Associate Professor,
University College London, UK



Professor Shyamsunder Kolvekar is a globally-renowned consultant cardiothoracic surgeon based in central London. He specialises in coronary arterial bypass grafting, valve repair and aortic valve replacement alongside chest wall deformities and lung cancer. He privately practices at The Harley Street Clinic, Barts Heart Centre at St Bartholomew's Hospital and The Royal Free London Hospital Private Patients. He also works at The Wellington Hospital.

He is an internationally-recognised surgeon for the adult NUSS procedure that treats pectus excavatum (a condition where the breastbone is sunken into the chest). Mr Kolvekar prides himself in innovative new techniques for this treatment, allowing for better pain control and reduced risk from surgery.

Other specialist interests of Mr Kolvekar include open beating-heart surgery, cardiac arrhythmias and minimally-invasive cardiac surgery. He is also interested in ischaemic pre-conditioning of the heart and has thoracic practice in pneumothorax and pleural effusion.

Mr Kolvekar is highly qualified and is a honorary Associate Professor at University College London. He lectures and teaches the NUSS procedure and connate minimally invasive surgery to surgeons from across the world. He also has research published in various international peer-reviewed journals and books. Furthermore, he also the medical advisor for the BBC hit series



Dr. Farooq Ahmad Dar
Senior Specialist Registrar,
Cardiothoracic Surgery
Dubai Academic Health Corporation (DAHC)
UAE



Dr. Farooq Ahmad Dar is a highly skilled cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon with over 21 years of experience in the field of cardiothoracic surgery, general surgery, and trauma surgery. Currently serving as a Senior Specialist Registrar in Cardiothoracic Surgery at Dubai Academic Health Corporation (DAHC) since 2012, he has extensive expertise in minimally invasive procedures, cardiac surgeries, and trauma surgeries.

Dr. Farooq earned his M.B.B.S. from Jhelum Valley Medical College, Srinagar, followed by an M.S. in General Surgery and an M.Ch in Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery from Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), India. He has undergone advanced training, including a specialized program at AIIMS, New Delhi.

His clinical expertise includes VATS procedures, valve replacements, coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG), lobectomies, esophagogastrectomies, and traumatic vascular repairs. He has contributed to numerous research projects and publications in esteemed medical journals, with a keen interest in minimally invasive surgeries. Dr. Dar has actively participated in international conferences and workshops, enhancing his skills and staying at the forefront of cardiothoracic advancements.

Speakers` Biography



Prof. Dr. Samer Etman, MRCs
Thoracic Surgeon
Consultant of Thoracic Surgery
Lung Centre Coswig, Coswig, Germany



Education and Certifications

- 2022 Board Certification in Thoracic Surgery - Thoracic Surgery Specialist
The Medical Association of Hesse, Germany
- 2018 Membership of the Royal College of Surgeons of England
- 2014 The German License for Medical Practice
The Medical Association of Baden- Württemberg, Germany
- 2004 - 2010 Bachelor of Medicine & Surgery (MBBCh), Distinction with honors, Ain Shams University, School of Medicine, Cairo-Egypt

Clinical Training & Work Experience

- 2024 Consultant of Thoracic Surgery
Department of Thoracic Surgery
(Prof. Dr. T. Plönes)
Lung Centre Coswig, Coswig, Germany
- 2023 Consultant of Thoracic Surgery
Department of Thoracic Surgery
(Dr. Daniel Valdivia)
Klinikum Bielefeld Mitte, Ostwestfalen Lippe University Hospitals, Germany



Dr. Mohamed Hussein
Surgical Program Director of Lung Transplant
National Guard Hospital, Riyadh Saudi Arabia
Consultant, Thoracic Surgery
Ain Shams University, Cairo Egypt



Dr. Mohamed Hussein is a highly skilled Consultant Thoracic Surgeon and the Surgical Program Director of Lung Transplant at National Guard Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He also serves as a Consultant in Thoracic Surgery at Ain Shams University in Cairo, Egypt. With extensive training and experience, Dr. Hussein is an expert in thoracic surgery, with a particular focus on lung transplantation and complex pulmonary procedures.

Training:

Residency in Thoracic Surgery, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt (1999–2004)
Specialty in Thoracic Surgery, Lyon University, France (2004–2009)

Certificates:

MD, PhD in Cardiothoracic Surgery, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt (2010)
Fellowship in Thoracic Surgery, France (2009)
Fellowship in Lung Transplantation, Montreal, Canada (2020)

Speakers` Biography

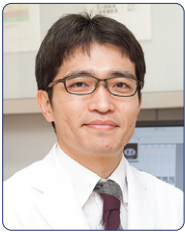


Dr. Yusuf Bayrak
MD
Staff Physician of Thoracic Surgery
Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, UAE



Dr. Yusuf Bayrak is a consultant Thoracic surgeon who joined CCAD in 2020. Before joining CCAD, he was Department Chair of Thoracic Surgery in International School of Medicine in Medipol University, Istanbul, Turkiye. He was appointed as Associate Professor in 2015.

He is practicing all aspects of general thoracic surgery and focuses on minimal invasive surgical techniques including robotic surgery. He is also a member lung transplant team in UAE.



Prof. Satona Tanaka
Assistant Professor, Clinical Lecturer
Kyoto University Hospital, Japan



Dr. Satona Tanaka is an Assistant Professor and Clinical Lecturer at Department of Thoracic Surgery, Kyoto University Hospital. He graduated from Kyoto University School of Medicine in 2005 and earned M.D. degree. After the surgical residency at Mitsui Memorial Hospital in Tokyo, he completed a clinical fellowship of thoracic surgery at Nishi-Kobe Medical Center in Kobe. He spent about two and a half years at Kyoto University for basic and clinical research on lung transplantation and two and a half years in the thoracic immunobiology lab, Washington University in St. Louis. He earned Ph.D. degree in 2019. Since 2019, he has been dedicated to both clinical services and research in thoracic surgery at Kyoto University Hospital as an Assistant Professor. His clinical experiences include lung resections in minimally invasive approaches, extended resections for thoracic tumor, living-donor and deceased-donor lung transplantations both in adult and pediatric patients. His interests and publications include the difference between living-donor and deceased-donor lung transplantation from an immunological perspective, indications and outcomes of living-donor and deceased-donor lung transplantation in pediatric patients, and immunological regulations in mouse lung transplant models.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Sridhar Rathinam
Consultant Thoracic Surgeon,
Head of Service & Honorary Senior Lecturer
Department of Thoracic Surgery,
Glenfield Hospital,
University Hospitals of Leicester



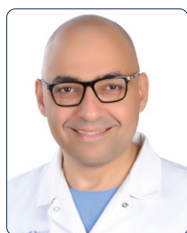
Sridhar Rathinam is a Consultant Thoracic Surgeon and Head of service in the University Hospitals of Leicester with a special interest in parenchyma preserving oncological lung resections, chest wall surgery, minimally invasive lung resections and surgery for emphysema.

He is the Communication secretary for Society for Cardiothoracic Surgery for Great Britain and Ireland (SCTS), The Chair of the Intercollegiate Specialty Board Examinations (CTh) and Ex-Chair of Cardiothoracic Surgical specialty Board, for the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. He was the Simulation Lead and past Quality Assurance Lead for the Specialist Advisory Committee (SAC).

He is a faculty member in national and international cardiothoracic courses. He was the Training Programme Director and Chair of the East Midlands Cardiothoracic Training Programme. He was elected to the Fellowship of Faculty of Surgical Trainers.

As SCTS Thoracic Surgery Tutor (2013-16), he has co-developed an innovative portfolio of 12 structured simulation-based courses, which mirror the ISCP curriculum and are provided free of charge which is the first of its kind in the world.

His research interests include Lung cancer proteomics(SELDI) and biomarker (TRACER-X), LVRS , Thoracotomy pain, Perioperative care and is Local Principal investigator for NIHR trials.



Dr. Ahmed Mostafa
Consultant Thoracic Surgery
Ain Shams University, Egypt



Dr. Ahmed Mostafa is a senior Consultant of Thoracic Surgery at Ain Shams University Hospitals, Cairo, He is a consultant thoracic surgeon at multiple institutions, including SGH Cairo, SGH Alexandria, and the Magdy Yacoub Heart Center in Aswan. He holds an MD in Cardiothoracic Surgery, an MRCS from the Royal College of Surgeons (London), and a specialized diploma in Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery from Université Paris VI, France. He has trained in lung transplantation and thoracic oncology at Kyoto University, Japan, and established Egypt's living donor Lung transplantation program at ASSH that lead to Egypt's first living donor lung transplant.

Dr. Mostafa established thoracic surgery departments at SGH Cairo and SGH Alexandria, managing preoperative planning, surgical protocols, postoperative ICU care, and thoracic trauma management. He supervises thoracic surgery programs, including VATS procedures, lung resections, airway surgeries, and ECMO-supported interventions.

He collaborates with multiple medical disciplines, including the Mayo Clinic Care Network. He is a member of international societies such as ESTS and has contributed to research, surgical education, and program development in thoracic surgery.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Maninder Singh Kalkat

Consultant Thoracic Surgeon and
Deputy Medical Director
University Hospital Birmingham, UK



Maninder Singh Kalkat MS, MCh, FRCS(CTh) has been working as a Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon in the Regional Department of Thoracic Surgery at University Hospitals Birmingham since 2005. His special interests include airway surgery and chest wall resection and reconstruction for sarcomas.

He organizes and participates in various courses for teaching and training, notably EACTS academy, SCTS courses and Birmingham Review Course in Cardiothoracic Surgery. He is examiner for Intercollegiate Examination in Cardiothoracic Surgery in UK and European Board of Cardiothoracic Surgery.

He is Deputy Medical Director for the division in the largest hospital trust in the United Kingdom.



Dr. Nasser Yusuf

Head of Department, Thoracic Surgery
Sunrise Hospital, Kochi, India



Professional Recognition & Fellowships:

- Fellow of the National College of Chest Physicians of India
- Fellow of the Indian Association for Bronchology
- Fellow of the Union of Pulmonary Academy
- Fellow of the Academy of General Education
- Fellow of the International Medical Sciences Academy
- Fellow of the Indian College of Cardiology

Key Roles & Responsibilities:

- Convenor, Workshop Committee, NAPCON 2019 & 2020
- Organizing Chairman, BroncoCon 2023
- Keynote Speaker, TESCON 2021
- Expert, Committee on Indian Guidelines on Thoracoscopy, 2022
- Expert, Committee on Indian Guidelines on Surgery in TB, 2022

Notable Orations & Awards:

- AC Paintal & RC Jain Memorial Chest Oration, NAPCON 2022
- Indian Association for Bronchology – Oration, BroncoCon 2022
- Tuberculosis Association of India – Oration, 2024
- TAI Award, Tuberculosis Association of India
- IIM Award, Patients Without Borders
- CIESCO Award for Innovative Life-Saving Thoracic Surgeries
- Pioneered COVID Surgery in India

Research Contributions & Publications:

- Published the First International Multi-Center Study on the Role of Surgery in Post-Lung Complications
- Authored 40 papers

Areas of Interest:

- Surgery in DRTB and XDRTB
- Bilateral Bronchiectasis
- Advanced Lung Cancer
- LVRS (Lung Volume Reduction Surgery)

Surgical Experience:

- Successfully operated on patients ranging from a 6-day-old baby to a 105-year-old individual

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Narasimman Sathiamurthy

Consultant Thoracic Surgeon
Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



Dr Narasimman Sathiamurthy MD, MMed (Surgery) received his Medical Degree from Universiti Putra Malaysia in 2003 and completed postgraduate training in General Surgery from Universiti Sains Malaysia in 2011. He further pursued fellowship training in the field of Thoracic Surgery with the Ministry of Health, Malaysia and Institute of Robotic and Thoracic Surgery, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in New Delhi, India in the year 2016. He serves as the Consultant Thoracic & General Surgeon in Hospital Kuala Lumpur and also the Head of Thoracic Surgery Subspecialty Services in Malaysia.

His forte in Thoracic Surgery is in Nonintubated Video Assisted Thoracic Surgery, Uniportal Video Assisted Thoracic Surgery, Chest Wall Resection & Reconstruction, Nonintubated tracheal resection, and he is also one of the very few thoracic surgeons in Malaysia performing Tracheo-bronchial Surgeries for various indications. He is an extensively published Thoracic Surgeon, mainly of his experiences in both local and international journals and has keen interest in training young surgeons.

He is a member of the National Surgical Conjoint Board of Examiners, Subspecialist Committee Member of the National Specialist Register and member of National General Surgical Policy Drafting Committee. He also serves as a life member of South East Asian Thoracic Society (SEATS), Malaysian Thoracic Society (MTS), Society of Endolaparoscopic Surgeons of Malaysia (SELSMA) and Malaysian Medical Association (MMA). Besides work, he is a keen hiker and diver.

Oral Presenters` Biography



Dr. Hameed Raina
Gastroenterologist, Hepatologist,
Advanced Therapeutic and
Third Space Endoscopist,
and Endosonographer
Burjeel Hospital, UAE



Dr Hameed Raina is a Gastroenterologist, Hepatologist, Advanced Therapeutic and Third Space Endoscopist and Endosonographer. He started his journey in the medical realm with MBBS in 2011, followed by an MD in Internal Medicine (2012-2015) from reputed Institutes in Kashmir and a DM in Gastroenterology and Hepatology (2015-2019) from Tata Hospital Mumbai. In 2020, he further bolstered his credentials by qualifying for the MRCP-UK(SCE).

Dr. Raina has done several fellowships such as motility disorders, pH metry and manometry (FMPB), Diagnostic and Therapeutic Endosonography (FEUS), Advanced Therapeutic Endoscopy (FATE) and Third Space Endoscopy (FTSE) at renowned centres of the world.

He is an expert in all adult and pediatric gastrointestinal, liver, and pancreaticobiliary diseases; Early Gastrointestinal cancers, ERCP and Cholangioscopy; All diagnostic and therapeutic gastrointestinal and mediastinal Endosonography(EUS), Third Space Endoscopy (ESD for flat tumors, POEM for Achalasia cardia and Gastroparesis, STER for submucosal tumors, EFTR for deep tumors); Oesophageal and Anorectal Motility disorders including High-Resolution Manometry and biofeedback; Capsule Endoscopy and Enteroscopy for small Intestinal diseases; Endoscopic therapy(Like ARMA, ARMS, GERDx, etc) for medicine dependent and refractory Reflux (GERD).

Moreover, Dr. Raina has introduced many cutting-edge advanced endoscopic procedures in the private sector in Abu Dhabi such as POEM, POES, STER and EFTR, EUS-guided liver biopsy and Biliary Drainage, Coiling of Gastric and Rectal Varices and Perirectal fluid drainage; Endoscopic therapy for reflux diseases like ARMS, ARM-P .



Miss Anchal Jain
Cardiothoracic Surgery Registrar
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, UK



Dr. Anchal Jain is a cardiothoracic surgery registrar at Oxford. Born in Hyderabad(India), she pursued undergraduate medicine at Trinity College Dublin (Ireland), where she earned her Bachelors in Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics and Art.

With a keen interest in cardiothoracic surgery, she moved to the UK to complete her core training at the prestigious Royal Papworth Hospital. Dedicated to academic and clinical excellence, Dr. Jain has obtained MRCS (Eng) and is currently undertaking a Postgraduate Certificate in Medical Education. She is a faculty member for Royal College of Surgeons courses, and is deeply invested in mentorship and training of future surgeons, aspiring to make significant contributions to the field of thoracic surgery.

Beyond surgery, she has a passion for painting and public relations, with a feature article about her journey in Ireland published in The Irish Times. She also owns a small homemade chocolates business, serving a loyal clientele in India.

Oral Presenters` Biography



Dr. Shirang Nagorao Bamne
Head of Intensive Care Unit,
Specialist in Critical Care Medicine
NMC Specialty Hospital,
Abu Dhabi UAE



Dynamic intensivist, anesthesiologist .After completion of degree in anesthesiology , completed fellowship of national board in critical care medicine, following which completed DM in critical care medicine, a degree educational course. Also completed European diploma in intensive care medicine (EDIC).More than 11 years in intensive care medicine



Ms. Maysoon Azzam
Final Year Medical Student
RAK Medical and Health Sciences University,
UAE



Maysoon Azzam is a final-year medical student at RAK Medical and Health Sciences University with a strong passion for medicine and research. She has actively participated in multiple research projects and has presented at various medical conferences. Through his work, she strives to integrate clinical practice with scientific inquiry to improve patient outcomes and medical knowledge.



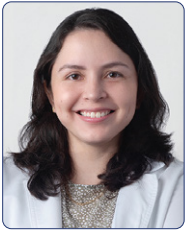
Dr. Mostafa Eldewer
MBBS, MSc, MD
Cardiothoracic Surgery Specialist,
Division of Thoracic Surgery
Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC), UAE



Dr. Mostafa Eldewer, M.B.B.S., M.Sc., M.D., is a specialist in thoracic surgery and trauma surgery in the division of thoracic surgery at Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC), in Abu Dhabi

Dr. Eldewer specialises in a wide range of thoracic surgical procedures, including lung cancer surgery, minimally invasive thoracic surgery, tracheal and diaphragmatic surgeries, as well as the management of pleural diseases, pneumothorax and hyperhidrosis. He is also skilled in the surgical treatment of thymic tumours, chest wall tumours, and mediastinal masses. Committed to advancing thoracic surgical care, Dr. Eldewer has held academic and clinical roles, including lecturer and consultant in cardiothoracic surgery at Ain Shams University Hospitals, Egypt

Oral Presenters` Biography

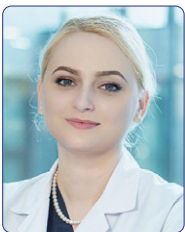


Dr. Sonia Stephania Chavarria Murillo
Medical Doctor
Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Peru



Dr. Stephania Chavarria medical doctor from Peru. She's in her second year of Thoracic Surgery residency program in Hospital de la Santa Creu I Sant Pau in Barcelona-Spain.

She has a particular interest in chest wall surgery and the hospital that she work for is a reference hospital in chest wall sarcomas so its an incredible opportunity to be able to work and learn from one of the top hospitals in this topic in Spain.



Dr. Veronica Manolache
Thoracic Surgeon
Memorial Oncology Hospital,
Romania



Board-certified thoracic surgeon with specialized expertise in minimally invasive thoracic surgery, including video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (VATS) and robotic-assisted thoracic surgery (RATS), as well as interventional pulmonology techniques. I obtained my medical degree from Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest, Romania, in 2015, followed by a residency in General Thoracic Surgery at the Institute of Oncology Bucharest. My advanced training includes a one-year Robotic Fellowship in France, among other international experiences at leading institutions for minimally invasive surgery. My clinical practice encompasses the diagnosis and management of both benign and malignant thoracic pathologies. I serve as Secretary of the Thoracic Surgery Group at the European Respiratory Society and maintain active involvement in research and educational initiatives.

Poster Presenters

1. Anesthesia Considerations in Thoracic Surgery for Pulmonary Hydatid Cyst with Right Lung Involvement Case Report
Dr. Adhba Salman
3. A Rare Presentation of Tracheal Schwannoma: Diagnostic and Surgical Challenges
Mr. Syed Ali Hussein Abdi
4. Non-Intubated Thoracic Surgery: Standpoints and Perspectives
Dr. Mohammed Adel Hegazy
5. Advancing the Management of Mediastinal Pathology: A Systematic Review of Contemporary Strategies and Innovations
Dr. Syed Ali Hussein Abdi
8. Current Evidence for Surgical Rib Fixation
Dr. Islam Moheb Ibrahim
9. The Role of Immunotherapy in the Management of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: A Systematic Review of Preoperative and Postoperative Outcomes
Mr. Tabish Wajih Siddiqui
10. Innovative Management of porous diaphragm syndrome secondary to intra- abdominal pathology: a multidisciplinary approach
Dr. Klein Dantis
11. Enhancing Lung Cancer Staging: Superior Nodal Yield and Outcomes with Minimally Invasive Mediastinal Lymphadenectomy
Mr. Mohammed Abdul Muqsit Khan
13. Induction Immunotherapy Outcomes In Lung Cancer Surgery
Dr. Sonia Stephania Chavarria Murillo
15. Co-axial Endotracheal Tube Technique for Achieving One Lung Ventilation In A Toddler With An Occupying Malignant Tumor Of Right Lung.
Dr. Haifa Mohammed Ali Alzaabi
16. A Review of Biomarkers in Lung Cancer: Current Trends and Future perspectives
Ms. Fathima Samreen
19. Metachronous Bilateral Primary Lung Cancers with Different Histological Subtypes: A Rare Case of Successful Sequential Thoracic Surgeries
Dr. Mark William Noble
20. Recurrent Spontaneous Pneumothorax in 9 year old patient
Dr. Alyaa Alramah
21. Locally Invasive Desmoid Tumor: Surgical Excision and Reconstruction in a Young Female, a Case Report
Dr. Ahmed Sameh Salem Sayed Ahmed

Poster Presenters

22. Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy and Complex Surgical Management of Locally Advanced Giant Thymoma with Left Brachiocephalic Vein Invasion: A Case Report
Dr. Khaldoon Abo Dakka
23. Thymic Lipofibroadenoma
Dr. Mohamad kenan ATASI
24. Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma Masquerading as Primary Achalasia: A Diagnostic Challenge
Dr. Syed Imran Ali Abdi
25. Suprisingly Traumatic Etiology Turned Out to be a Congenital Etiology
Dr. Dangeti Santhosh Kumar
26. Hiatal Hernia Repair: Laparoscopic vs. Open Surgery—Evaluating Outcomes and Complications
Mr. Abdulla Khan
28. Parapneumonic pleural effusion Complicated by Empyema Following Multiple Hiatal Hernia Surgeries and Esophageal Reconstruction: A Case Report
Dr. Angham Thabet Daraghmi
31. Impact of Pleural Fluid Drainage Volume on Cardiopulmonary Function: A Comparison of Rapid vs. Gradual Drainage Strategies
Mr. Aliasgar Taha Burhanpurwala
33. Case Report: Esophageal perforation as a complication of dengue fever
Dr. Rigashy Raghavan

About Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi is the largest emirate in the United Arab Emirates, occupying 84 per cent of the national landmass territory. It has 200 islands and a long coastline stretching 700km. Its total area is 67,340 sq. km. Abu Dhabi city in the emirate is the federal capital of the UAE.

Population

According to Abu Dhabi Statistics Centre The estimated population of the emirate around mid-2016 was 2,908,173 (comprising 1,857,618 males and 1,050,555 females). 551,535 were UAE nationals and 2,356,638 were expatriates. The average annual population growth rate for the years from 2010 to 2016 was 5.6 per cent.

Location and Geography

The emirate of Abu Dhabi lies on the coast of the Arabian Gulf and is bordered by Sultanate of Oman to the east, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the south and the west and the emirate of Dubai to the northeast. The three main regions of the emirate are:

- the city of Abu Dhabi
- Al Ain in the east
- Al Dhafrah (earlier known as Al Gharbia) in the west.

In the eastern region, to the south of Al Ain city is Jebel Hafeet - the emirate's highest peak (1,240 metres).

Al Dhafrah has seven main cities: Liwa, Madinat Zayed, Ghayathi, Ruwais, Mirfa, Sila and Delma Island.

The city of Abu Dhabi is connected to the mainland by four bridges: Maqta bridge, Mussafah bridge, Sheikh Zayed bridge and Sheikh Khalifa bridge.

Economy

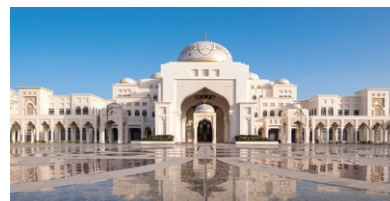
Over the recent decades, the emirate of Abu Dhabi has undergone a significant transformation in economic growth. Due to the vision of Abu Dhabi's leaders and the abundance of oil and natural gas reserves, the emirate has grown to become a dynamic hub and major competitor on the global stage. While recognising the success of the oil sector, Abu Dhabi is working hard to reduce its hydrocarbons reliance and broaden the emirate's economy. Investment in infrastructure, tourism, transport, health and education is continuing, in line with the government's 2030 economic plan. Tourism is playing an integral role in Abu Dhabi's economic development. Major investment in new luxury resorts and business hotels is underway. Abu Dhabi has many things to offer to its visitors and residents: a versatile landscape, thriving investment hub, and a friendly environment boasting one of the highest per capita incomes and one of the lowest crime rates in the world.

Touristic Importance

Abu Dhabi has become a centre for world-class sporting events such as: the Abu Dhabi Golf Championship, the prestigious Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge cross-country rally and the Formula One Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.

In addition, the city will soon house the world's largest concentration of premier cultural institutions which will include the Sheikh Zayed National Museum, the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi and Louvre Abu Dhabi.

Abu Dhabi is rich in natural wonders too. While the emirate's famous Liwa oasis in the south of the emirate is home to some of the largest and most beautiful sand dunes in the world, the garden city of Al Ain in the foothills of Jebel Hafeet is home to several heritage sites.



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