



2nd Emirates International Thoracic Surgery Congress

24-25 April 2026
Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche, UAE

| Timings GST / UAE | Friday, 24th April 2026 | |
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| 07:30 - 08:30 | Registration | |
| 08:25 - 08:30 | Welcome and Introduction | Master of Ceremony |
| 08:30 - 09:00 | Keynote Lecture | Dr. Isabelle Schmitt-Opitz, Switzerland |
| SESSION 1: Lung cancer | | |
| SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Puja Khaitan, UAE & Dr. Mariam Almarashda, UAE | | |
| 09:00 - 09:25 | Neoadjuvant therapy and Consolidation therapy | Dr. Deepthi Silymon, UAE |
| 09:25 - 09:50 | Uniportal VATS/RATS segmentectomy and challenges | Dr. Akif Turna, Turkey |
| 09:50 - 10:15 | Role of surgery in Stage IV NSCLC/ oligometastatic disease | Dr. Antonio Ramos, Philippines |
| 10:15 - 10:40 | Management of neuroendocrine lung cancer: Updates and beyond | Dr. Aydah Alawadhi, UAE |
| 10:40 - 11:05 | Surgery vs. SBRT: Is it still a debate? | Dr. Sangeetha Ponnusamy, UAE |
| 11:05 - 11:25 | OFFICIAL INAUGURATION | |
| 11:25 - 11:35 | COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing | |
| SESSION 2: Early and novel diagnostics; Benign disease | | |
| SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Puja Khaitan, UAE & Dr. Mariam Almarashda, UAE | | |
| 11:35 - 12:00 | Screening/ ctDNA | Dr. Jethin Rafique, UAE |
| 12:00 - 12:25 | Management of Tb and MDT-Tb: Latest Updates | Dr. Rajiv Santosham, India |
| 12:25 - 12:50 | Aspergillosis and Mucormycosis | Dr. Arvind Kohli, India |
| 12:50 - 13:15 | Decortication and recurrent empyema after decortication | Dr. RS Reddy, India |
| 13:15 - 14:00 | LUNCH BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking | |
| ORAL PRESENTATION 1 | | |
| SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Puja Khaitan, UAE & Dr. Mariam Almarashda, UAE | | |
| 14:00 - 14:10 | Surgical Career Sustainability: A Kinematic Comparison of Surgeon Ergonomics and Postural Risk in Robotic (RATS) versus Video-Assisted (VATS) Lobectomy – Prof. Ahmed G Elkhoully, Egypt | |
| 14:10 - 14:20 | Simple versus complex segmentectomy via uniportal video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery: Short-term outcomes and survival - Dr. Mamdoh Al-Ameri, Sweden | |
| 14:20 - 14:30 | Preoperative DCF or CRT for resectable esophageal squamous cell carcinoma: single center results based on a European population - Dr. Parvin Akhmedov, Russia | |
| SESSION 3: Artificial Intelligence, Innovation and Simulation | | |
| SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Puja Khaitan, UAE & Dr. Mariam Almarashda, UAE | | |
| 14:30 - 14:55 | Redefining thoracic surgery with AI integration | Dr. Puja Khaitan, UAE |
| 14:55 - 15:20 | Beyond the Operative Field: Leveraging CTSNet and other digital platforms in the digital era | Dr. Joel Dunning, UK |
| 15:20 - 15:45 | Outcomes research and registries: Driving evidence-based care | Dr. Cecilia Pompili, UK |
| 15:45 - 16:10 | Innovation and Simulation strategy in thoracic surgery and education | Dr. Sanghoon Jheon, Korea |
| 16:10 - 16:35 | From table to the market! | Dr. Ali Zamir Khan, UK |
| 16:35 - 16:45 | COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing | |



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ORAL PRESENTATION 2

SESSION CHAIRS: **Dr. Puja Khaitan, UAE & Dr. Mariam Almarashda, UAE**

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| 16:45 - 16:55 | Beyond Biopsy: Feasibility of Rapidly Introducing Nodule Marking and Resection in an Early Robotic-Assisted Bronchoscopy Program - Mr. Huzaifa Ahmad, UK |
| 16:55 - 17:05 | Different Robotic Approaches for Thymectomy in Patients with Myasthenia Gravis: A Video-Based Analysis - Prof. Ramkaran Chaudhary, India |
| 17:05 - 17:15 | Intraoperative Hemodynamic Collapse During VATS Right Lower Lobectomy for Infected Pulmonary Sequestration: A Salvage Strategy for an Unexpected Vascular Sequence Pitfall – Prof. Khaldoon Abo Dakka, UAE |
| 17:15 | End of Day 1 |



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| Timings GST / UAE | Saturday, 25th April 2026 | |
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| 08:30 - 08:55 | Registration | |
| 08:55 - 09:00 | Welcome and Introduction | Master of Ceremony |
| SESSION 5: Tracheal and airway disease SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Puja Khaitan, UAE & Dr. Mariam Almarashda, UAE | | |
| 09:00 - 09:20 | Complex airway surgery and reconstruction | Dr. Balasubramoniam, India |
| 09:20 - 09:40 | Management of trachea-esophageal fistula | Dr. Hasan Batirel, Turkey |
| 09:40 - 10:00 | Management of tracheobronchomalacia: Stent vs. Mesh plication | Dr. Sidhu Gangadharan, USA |
| 10:00 - 10:20 | Advances in sleeve resection | Dr. Aneez Ahmed, Singapore |
| 10:20 - 10:40 | Tubeless awake surgeries: Pearls and Pitfalls | Dr. Eugenio Pompeo, Italy |
| 10:40 - 11:00 | Airway management strategies in non-intubated thoracic surgery | Dr. Yara Jalbout, UAE |
| 11:00 - 11:10 | BEST POSTER & CASE PRESENTATION AWARD | |
| 11:10 - 11:20 | COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing | |
| SESSION 6: Benign and malignant esophagus SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Puja Khaitan, UAE & Dr. Mariam Almarashda, UAE | | |
| 11:20 - 11:40 | Surgery for esophageal dysmotility disorders | Dr. Rajendra Parshad, India |
| 11:40 - 12:00 | Changes in perioperative regimens: New horizon | Dr. Almutadha Mula Kh, UAE |
| 12:00 - 12:20 | Role of extensive lymphadenectomy for esophageal cancer | Dr. Abhishek Jain, India |
| 12:20 - 12:40 | RAMIE: Challenges and Pitfalls | Dr. Richard van Hillegersberg, Netherlands |
| 12:40 - 13:00 | Anastomotic leaks: how to avoid and manage? | Dr. Priya Eshpuniyani, India |
| 13:00 - 14:00 | LUNCH BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking | |
| SESSION 7: Foregut, Diaphragmatic, Chest wall pathology SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Puja Khaitan, UAE & Dr. Mariam Almarashda, UAE | | |
| 14:00 - 14:20 | Recurrent hiatal hernia and para-esophageal hernia | Dr. Abdulmajid Ali, UAE |
| 14:20 - 14:40 | Endosurgery/ Minimally invasive options to treat GERD: Linx Device and TIF – are they really better than anti-reflux operations? | Dr. Abdulla Al Hassani, UAE |
| 14:40 - 15:00 | Diaphragmatic eventration vs. paralysis; pacing | Dr. Sridhar Rathinam, UK |
| 15:00- 15:20 | Novel Wang, Wung and Wenlin techniques for the management of pectus defects | Dr. Wenlin Wang, China |
| 15:20- 15:40 | Chest wall trauma: surgical management of sternal and rib fractures | Dr. John Edwards, UK |
| 15:40 - 16:00 | Surgical management of chest wall tumors | Dr. Hentati Abdessalam, Tunisia |
| 16:00 - 16:10 | COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing | |



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SESSION 8: Mediastinal tumors, mesothelioma, TOS

SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Puja Khaitan, UAE & Dr. Mariam Almarashda, UAE

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| 16:10 - 16:30 | Debate: Myasthenia gravis & role of thymectomy | Dr. Shyam Kolvekar, UK |
| 16:30 - 16:50 | Frontline challenges: Anterior and posterior mediastinal tumors | Dr. Saleh Abu Daff, Saudi |
| 16:50 - 17:10 | Mesothelioma and Stage IV Thymoma: Role of surgery and HITHOC | Dr. Benedict Dharmaraj, Singapore |
| 17:10 - 17:30 | Thoracic outlet syndrome: Cervical rib and first rib resection | Dr. Jean Marc Baste, France |
| 17:30 | Adjourn | |