

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM



1ST CLEVELAND CLINIC ABU DHABI CONGRESS ON MULTIORGAN TRANSPLANTATION: INNOVATIONS AND XENOTRANSPLANTATION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2026

BALLROOM

07:30-08:00	Registration	
08:00-08:30	Opening and Introduction by Committee George Pascal-Haber (UAE), Bashir Sankari (UAE), Nadya Almatrooshi (UAE) & Fadi Hamed (UAE)	
08:30-09:15	Keynote Lecture I Xenotransplantation: From Scientific Breakthrough to Clinical Reality	Jayme Locke (USA)
09:15-10:30	Session I One Heart, Critical Decisions: The Heart Transplant Journey	Hussam Ghalib (UAE) & Jehad Ramahi (UAE)
09:15-09:30	The Candidacy Conundrum: Who Makes It to Heart Transplant?	Nadya Almatrooshi (UAE)
09:30-09:45	The Donor Heart Dilemma: Accept, Decline or Optimize?	Amanda Vest (USA)
09:45-10:00	The Right Ventricle After Transplant: Anticipating Trouble Before It Starts	Feras Bader (UAE)
10:00-10:15	DCD Heart Transplantation: What is it, and is it for us?	Mitesh Bidiwala (UAE)
10:15-10:30	Panel Discussion with Q&A	All Session Faculty
10:30-10:50	Keynote Lecture II Beyond Angiography: Redefining CAV Surveillance in the Era of IVUS, OCT & Molecular Biomarkers	Ashraf Azzoni (UAE) & Hussam Ghalib (UAE)
10:50-11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00-12:00	Session II Pushing the Boundaries of Transplantation: New Frontiers & New Challenges	Mahwish Ahmad (UAE) & Arshad Ghorri (UAE)
11:00-11:15	Expanding the Boundaries of Reproductive Medicine with Uterus Transplantation	Mariam AlHilli (UAE)
11:15-11:30	Living on the Edge: How Far Can We Push Extended Criteria Donors in Heart & Lung Transplantation?	Ihab Ahmed (UAE)
11:30-11:45	Anaesthesia in Solid Organ Transplant: Advances and Innovation	Arun Kumar (UAE)

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11:45-12:00	Panel Discussion with Q&A	All Session Faculty
12:15-13:15	Industry Sponsored Symposium (Non-CME) with Lunch	Ballroom (P2)
13:30-14:30	Session III Kidney Transplantation: Progress, Innovation & Precision Care	Omar Aletar (UAE) & Faris Ahmed (UAE)
13:30-13:45	Kidney Transplantation in the UAE: Progress, Experience & Future Directions	Mohamed Alsaieiri (UAE)
13:45-14:00	Robotic Kidney Transplantation: Redefining the Surgical Approach	Mohammed Eltemamy (USA)
14:00-14:15	Beyond the Biopsy: Early Detection of Kidney Allograft Rejection Using Gene Expression Profiling	Samer Bani Hani (UAE)
14:15-14:30	Panel Discussion with Q&A	All Session Faculty
14:30-14:45	Coffee Break	
14:45-15:45	Session IV Disrupting Transplantation: Innovation, Technology & Debate	Nadya Almatrooshi (UAE) & Fadi Hamed (UAE)
14:45-15:15	Engineering the Future of Transplantation: Organ Bioengineering & CAR-T Cell Therapy	Tambi Jarmi (USA)
15:15-15:45	Time to Retrieval: Does Every Minute Matter? Pros vs. Cons	Maria Gomez (UAE) & Fadi Hamed (UAE)
16:00-17:00	Industry Sponsored Symposium (Non-CME)	Ballroom (P2)

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026
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07:30-08:00	Registration	
08:00-08:30	Keynote Lecture III From Innovation to Impact: The Evolution of Transplantation at Cleveland Clinic	Kenneth McCurry (USA)
08:30-09:00	Keynote Lecture IV Beyond Human Donors: Xenotransplantation and the Future of Liver Transplantation	Luis Campos Shiva Kumar (UAE)
09:00-10:30	Session V Pushing the Boundaries in Lung Transplantation: Selection, Bridging & Innovation	Shair Ahmed (UAE) & Usman Ahmad (UAE)
09:00-09:15	Who Should Be Referred for Lung Transplant? Practical Decision-Making for Physicians	Miriam Michalichkova (UAE)
09:15-09:30	Expanding the Lung Donor Pool: From Extended Criteria to Normothermic Ex Vivo Lung Perfusion (EVLVP)	Kenneth McCurry (USA)
09:30-09:45	ECMO as a Bridge to Transplantation: Emerging Evidence	Hassan Alnuaimat (UAE)
09:45-10:00	Artificial Intelligence and Digital Health in Lung Transplantation: From Tacrolimus Dosing to Remote Monitoring	Said Isse (UAE)
10:00-10:30	Panel Discussion with Q&A	All Session Faculty
10:30-10:45	Coffee Break	
10:45-12:00	Session VI Safeguarding the Transplant Journey: Infection Prevention, Immunization & Pharmacy	Sandra El Hajj (UAE) & Ady Assaf (UAE)
10:45-11:00	The Donor Infection Dilemma: Assessing Risk Without Losing Opportunities	Ahmed AlHammadi (UAE)
11:00-11:15	Donor Management: Satisfying Many Bosses	Haamid Siddique (UAE)
11:15-11:30	Transplant Pharmacy: Helping Teams increase the Graft Longevity	Salma Al Shaqfa (UAE)

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11:30-11:45	Vaccination in Transplantation: Timing, Strategy & Real-World Challenges	Mohamed Mooty (UAE)
11:45-12:00	Panel Discussion with Q&A	All Session Faculty
12:00-12:15	Coffee Break	
12:15-13:15	Industry Sponsored Symposium (Non-CME)	Ballroom (P2)
13:30-14:45	Session VII Liver Transplantation in 2026: Expanding Boundaries & Redefining Practice	Luis Campos Shiva Kumar (UAE)
13:30-13:45	Transplant Oncology: Expanding Boundaries in Liver Malignancy	Dieter Broering (KSA)
13:45-14:00	Recurrent and De Novo Disease After Liver Transplantation: Current Challenges and Emerging Strategies	Fabrizio Di Benedetto (Italy)
14:00-14:15	Liver Transplant Prioritization and Listing in 2026: MELD 3.0, Exceptions and Beyond	Shiva Kumar (UAE)
14:15-14:30	Advances in Liver Transplantation: Living Donation, Robotics, and Beyond	Giuseppe Luppia (UAE)
14:30-14:45	Panel Discussion with Q&A	All Session Faculty
14:45-15:00	Coffee Break	
15:00-15:30	Keynote Lecture V New Diagnostics for Rejection and Highly Sensitized Recipients	Emilio Poggio (USA)
15:30-16:00	Keynote Lecture IV Multi-organ Transplantation: The Science and the Art	Usman Ahmad (UAE)
16:00-16:15	Best of Abstracts Awards and Recognition Nadya Almatrooshi (UAE), Fadi Hamed (UAE) & Jihad Mallat (UAE)	
16:15-16:20	Closing Remarks Nadya Almatrooshi (UAE) & Fadi Hamed (UAE)	