

Medlab Middle East 2021 Congress

Leading the way with the lab community

In person and Live stream:
21-24 June 2021
Dubai World Trade Centre, Dubai, UAE

CME/CPD provided by:



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Attendee information

Dear Attendee,

Welcome to the 20th edition of **Medlab Middle East Congress**. We have a full agenda, so please take a few minutes to read through the information in this booklet. It includes the programme and important information on how to claim your CME credit.

Access to Virtual Event

The organizers sent the log-in details for the virtual event via noreply@swapcard.com. Please contact mlme.customerservice@informa.com if you have not received your log-in information. Registered delegates for the physical show can also access the virtual sessions.

Access to Physical Event

The organisers sent the **digital badge** via noreply@gesevent.com to the email address of delegates registered for the physical show. The digital badge will need to be saved on your mobile to enter the venue. Please contact medlabmemarketing@informa.com if you have not received the log-in details.

Informa All Secure

Medlab Middle East is organized in accordance with [Informa's AllSecure](#) health and safety standard. As the world's leading events' organizer, Informa has developed a detailed set of enhanced measures to provide the highest levels of hygiene and safety at its events, providing everyone with reassurance and confidence they are participating in a safe and controlled environment.

Attendees are requested to follow a range of measures to ensure everyone involved can enjoy a safe, hygienic, productive, and high-quality organized event experience. Please refer to the information on Covid-19 for details.

Session Scanning

CME accreditation: Please ensure your electronic badge is scanned each time you enter and leave the room.

Real-time monitoring: As part of Informa's safety commitment, the organisers will implement real-time capacity management to ensure compliance with Crowd Density Standards.

Mobile Phones

Please turn your mobile phones to silent/vibrate mode during the conference to not disturb the session. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Speaker Refreshments

Coffee breaks and lunch will be served in the speaker lounge located in Za'abeel hall 4, Stand Z4.H10.

Delegate Refreshments

Coffee breaks and lunch will be served in Za'abeel Hall 1.

Parking and Other Transport

Dubai World Trade Centre

Car Parks 1A, 1B & 1C are free of charge and located off 312th Road, close to the Convention Gate/Novotel entrance, as well as additional parking near the Za'abeel Hall entrance.

Two Multi-Storey Car Parks have a nominal parking fee per hour and are located behind Sheikh Rashid Hall, Sheikh Maktoum Hall, and Sheikh Rashid Tower (close to Hall 1).

Careem

Use code MEDLABME20 to get 20% off your Careem rides from 21-24 June 2021 and a max of 10 rides.

Metro

The Dubai Metro system is a reliable, air-conditioned service with stations near most of Dubai's city hotels. Dubai World Trade Centre has its station located directly next to the venue on the Red Line.

Covid – 19 Information*

Precautionary notice: Do not attend the event if you have fever, cough, shortness of breath, are feeling unwell or suspect you have symptoms of COVID-19.

Before the event

- All tourists and residents arriving in Dubai from any point of origin (including GCC countries) must hold a negative PCR test certificate, taken no more than 72 hours prior to the time of departure.
- Negative COVID 19 certificates must be printed in English or Arabic. No handwritten, SMS or digital certificates will be accepted.
- UAE nationals are exempt from the above (unless required by the country of origin) but will be mandatory to take a PCR test on arrival at Dubai airport.
- For select destinations, international visitors may need to take two COVID 19 PCR tests: one before departure with a validity of 72 hours from the date of the test, and a second test upon arrival in Dubai.
- Please check the Dubai Airport website for the latest updates and check with your airline provider to ensure you have the necessary and relevant documentation before travelling.
- There are currently no mandatory regulations on vaccinated travellers to be exempt from taking the PCR test.
- For all travel advice, please contact your local embassy and consular service for further details.

PCR Testing

- PCR testing is available at several locations, including DWTC, located at Hall 8, and the result will be sent via email or through mobile within 24 hours. The vaccination centre is situated at Zabeel 2.
- Timings are from 9:00am to 6:00pm on event days
- You will be asked to scan a QR code and fill in your information before taking the test. Your passport copy is required (digital will be accepted) to take the test
- The PCR test cost is AED 150 per test
- Payment in credit card (preferred) or cash is available, and an official receipt will be provided
- For more information on PCR testing please click [here](#)

On arrival and during the conference

- Face coverings must be worn at all times
- Use your own notepads and pens – there will be no handouts to reduce touch points
- Dispose of masks, gloves, and tissues in PPE bins
- Adhere to maximum capacities in all areas

If you tested positive while in attendance:

If you experience or develop COVID - 19 symptoms or receive a positive test result while attending an event, please alert the organiser's dedicated COVID-19 coordinator and call +971 50 440 1139 or reach out to DWTC staff immediately.

The Authorities will handle the logistics and coordinate the relocation of the participant's belongings from the hotel he/she is residing in into the assigned facility.

The organiser will have all touchpoints which the participant may have been in contact with sanitised. This includes areas visited by the participant after the event is over for the day.

Emergency Medical Service onsite is located at Al Wasl Reception, next to Exhibition Hall 5. Telephone: +971 (4) 306 4040. For further information, please call the DHA hotline 800342 or visit www.dha.gov.ae

*All information in this document is based on current knowledge and is subject to change in response to changes in status and requirements

Fire and Emergency**Fire Incident**

During a Fire Incident, upon hearing the alarm/siren, remember to:

- Stay calm and follow the security guidance
- Use directed escape route
- Do not stop collecting personal belongings
- Remain at assembly point until further notice
- Report missing persons
- Do NOT re-enter the venue

Medical Emergency

If there is a medical incident, remember to:

- Isolate immediate area where the victim is situated
- Call for medical assistance
- Administer First Aid

Emergency Contact Numbers

List of important numbers to call during an emergency

- Police – 999/901
- Ambulance – 998
- Fire – 997 / 04 306 4444
- Medical Clinic – 04 306 4040

Overview

The 20th edition offers you 8 CME accredited multi-disciplinary conferences, including lab management, histopathology, clinical chemistry, microbiology, molecular diagnostics, haematology and blood transfusion in addition to a special track dedicated to COVID-19

Target Audience

The course is directed to:

- Heads of Laboratory
- Laboratory Directors
- Chiefs of Laboratory
- Laboratory In-charge
- Laboratory Managers
- Laboratory Supervisors
- Pathologists
- Haematologists
- Phlebotomists
- Histopathologists
- Cytologists Immunologists
- Clinical Chemists
- Clinical Microbiologists
- Clinical Scientists
- Geneticists
- Laboratory Technologists
- Laboratory Technicians
- Blood Bank Healthcare Professionals
- Blood Bank Technicians
- POCT Coordinators
- Laboratory information management system (LIMS) Managers
- Heads of LIMS
- Lab Research Assistants
- Quality Officers
- Laboratory Compliance Officers
- Lab Administrators
- Lab Assistants

Course Objectives

- Review new diagnostic tests in the lab and their effectiveness
- Discuss AI in the lab and patient healthcare data
- Evaluate latest in flow cytometry
- Review COVID-19 management strategies in the lab
- Discuss post COVID-19 preventive measures
- Identify practical microscopic techniques to aid in accurate diagnosis
- Interpret histopathological examination for liver and breast cancers
- Analyze the latest in global and regional surveillance updates in antimicrobial resistance
- Identify metabolic disorders and how they can be correlated with lab data
- Discuss pitfalls of Thyroid function tests
- Evaluate blood transfusion practice, guidelines and regulatory updates
- Examine application of gene therapy
- Review genetic technology and its applications for molecular diagnostics

Evaluation

Informa Markets, the organisers of Medlab Middle East Congress, constantly strive to produce high-quality and up-to-date medical conferences. We, therefore, appreciate all comments and feedback from our delegates, and we always ensure that we refer to them when creating the next year's programmes.

The organizers will send the evaluation form post-event via surveys@mailor.explori.com.

Exhibition

Please take the time to visit the exhibition.

21 June 2021: 10:00 - 18:00

22 June 2021: 10:00 - 18:00

23 June 2021: 10:00 - 18:00

24 June 2021: 10:00 - 17:00

Schedule and Locations

Location		21-Jun	22-Jun	23-Jun	24-Jun
Dubai room	Za'abeel hall 6	Laboratory Management	Histopathology	Clinical Microbiology	Molecular Diagnostics & Genetics
Bangkok room	Za'abeel hall 1	Haematology	COVID-19 Special Edition	Clinical Chemistry	Blood Transfusion Medicine
		Za'abeel hall 1		Delegate Catering	
		Za'abeel hall 4 (Z4.H10)		Speaker Lounge	

Thank you again for your commitment and continued support to Medlab Middle East Congress. We hope you will enjoy the event and leave with ideas and methods to apply for your practice.

Warm regards,

The Medlab Middle East Congress Team

Accreditation and CME information

The Dubai Health Authority accredits this conference.

Accreditation Statement

Dubai Health Authority is a government body regulating healthcare-related practices and accreditation in the United Arab Emirates. It has provided the CME/CPD accreditation for the event.

Breakdown of CME

Please see below CME credits for each conference.

Conference	Date	CME Credits	DHA Reference #
Laboratory Management	21-Jun	5.50	DHA/MTS/ACC/21-0842/A
Haematology	21-Jun	4.00	DHA/MTS/ACC/21-0842/A
Histopathology	22-Jun	5.00	DHA/MTS/ACC/21-0842/A
COVID-19 Special Edition	22-Jun	5.50	DHA/MTS/ACC/21-0842/A
Clinical Microbiology	23-Jun	5.50	DHA/MTS/ACC/21-0842/A
Clinical Chemistry	23-Jun	5.25	DHA/MTS/ACC/21-0842/A
Molecular Diagnostics & Genetics	24-Jun	5.00	DHA/MTS/ACC/21-0842/A
Blood Transfusion Medicine	24-Jun	4.00	DHA/MTS/ACC/21-0842/A

Accredited Sessions

These sessions are accredited for CME credits:

- In-person sessions
- Live virtual sessions
- On-demand sessions

CME Claiming Procedure

It is mandatory for delegates who wish to claim CME points to follow these procedures:

In-person attendees:

- Scan your digital badge when you enter and exit the conference room with your device in the badge scanning machine situated at the conference room entrance
- Your login and logout details for each session will be cross-checked when claiming points from the accreditation body. Without the delegate registration data, points cannot be processed and allocated for CME activity.

Remote attendees:

- Timestamps are automatically captured when you attend the virtual session. No further action is required.

Important Notice:

- CME credits are the same for all session formats
- CME credits will depend on the number of sessions attended and the duration of attendance
- Attendees must participate in at least 70 % of the session to be eligible for CME credit
- CME credits are calculated as 1 hour of learning is equivalent to 1 CME credit
- Delegates can only claim CME on sessions that are relevant to their job titles
- An attendee shall not be eligible to receive more than 8 CMEs per day

When to claim your CME Certificate

You will receive your CME certificate **by the end of July**.

If you have not received an email confirmation from LSRegistrationteam@informa.com or if you have registered and paid on the day of the event, please ensure that your email address is captured by approaching our staff onsite or email LSRegistrationteam@informa.com for support.

How long can delegates claim CME Credits post-event?

CME credits are valid until 31st December 2021 after the event
CME certificates can be claimed only until 31st December 2021

UAE Healthcare Delegates: For delegates claiming CME points via DHA, please use this [link](#). Otherwise, you may inquire with other local accreditation authorities based on your professional license.

International Healthcare Delegates: Present your CME certificate to your local accreditation body. The recognition of points depends on the respective countries.

DAY 1 Agenda - Monday, 21 June

Laboratory Management Conference

09:45 Opening remarks
Carlo Kaabar, Medical Director, MOHAP Laboratories, Purehealth, Sharjah, UAE
(Live In-person)

SESSION 1

Moderator: Carlo Kaabar **(Live In-person)**

- 10:00 Mentoring successfully in the laboratory
Dr Ismail Bakhsh, Consultant Clinical Scientist, Director, Ancillary Services, National Medical Care Co, Riyadh, KSA **(Live In-person)**
- 10:20 How to manage errors in the laboratory
Shirley Luciap, Laboratory and Quality Manager, King's College Hospital London, Dubai, UAE
(Live In-person)
- 10:40 Implementing a new test – Understanding verification and validation
Hiler Sonawala, Technical Manager - Middle East, College of American Pathologists (CAP), Dubai, UAE **(Live In-person)**
- 11:00 Laboratory Leadership: Maintaining quality during a pandemic
Dr Patrick Godbey, Founder and Laboratory Director, Southeastern Pathology Associates, Brunswick, Georgia, USA; President, College of American Pathologists (CAP) (Remote)
- 11:20 Q&A 1 - Laboratory Management Conference **(Live In-person)**
(Dr Ismail Bakhsh, Shirley Luciap, Hiler Sonawala)

11:30 Lunch break and visit exhibition

SESSION 2

Moderator: Carlo Kaabar (Live In-person)

- 12:45 Lab trends under the Microscope: Introducing Omnia Health Insights (Non-CME session)
Deepa Narwani, Senior Editor, Omnia Health Insights, Informa Markets, Dubai, UAE
(Live In-person)
- 13:00 Keynote: Laboratory leadership during Covid-19
Dr Sally A. Roberts, Acting Clinical Director, LabPlus, Clinical Microbiologist and Infectious Diseases Physician, Microbiology Department, LabPlus, Auckland Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand (Remote)
- 13:30 Keynote: Changes and advances in the field of pathology
Prof Ruthy Shaco-Levy, Head, Israeli Pathologists Association; Head, Department of Pathology, Soroka Hospital, Tel Aviv, Israel (Remote)
- 14:00 Keynote: The Laboratory and Artificial Intelligence, are we there yet?
Dr Junaid Bajwa, Chief Medical Scientist, Microsoft, London, UK (Remote)
- 14:30 Ask the expert panel discussion: What will be the future of medical laboratory leaders look like?
This open forum features Chief/Heads of Laboratory who will discuss updates regarding challenges and opportunities in laboratory management. **(Live In-person)**
Moderator:

Dr Rana Nabulsi, Consultant, Head of Quality Assurance Unit, **Pathology & Genetics Department, Dubai Health Authority, Dubai, UAE**

Panelists:

- **Dr Kadria Sayed**, Chief, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, **American Hospital, Dubai, UAE**
- **Dr Firas Al-Delfi**, Consultant Pathologist and Chairman of Pathology, Laboratory Medicine Dept, **SEHA – AHS, Abu Dhabi, UAE**

15:00 Coffee break and visit exhibition

SESSION 3

Moderator: Carlo Kaabar **(Live In-person)**

- 15:45 **Approaches to quality control of serology assays**
Wayne Dimech, Executive Manager, Scientific and Business Relations, **NRL Science of Quality, Victoria, Australia (Remote)**
- 16:20 **Strategic laboratory leadership in a disruptive healthcare environment**
Robert Michel, Editor in Chief, **The Dark Report, Spicewood, Texas, USA (Remote)**
- 16:55 **Quality care begins in the lab – Achieve accreditation through robust standards**
Ron S. Quicho, Associate Director, Standards Development and Interpretation, Certified Green Belt, **Joint Commission International, Oak Brook, Illinois, USA (Remote)**
- 17:15 **Point-of-care tests for viruses: challenges & prospects**
Dr Edmunds Reineks, Section Head for Point of Care Testing, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Institute, **Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio, USA (Remote)**
- 17:45 **Q&A 2 - Laboratory Management Conference** **(Hybrid Live)**
(**Robert Michel, Ron S. Quicho**)
- 18:00 End of conference

Haematology Conference

- 09:45 **Opening remarks** **(Live In-person)**
Dr Chethan Belludi, Consultant Physician, HQ Medical Operations Division, **Union71, SEHA, Abu Dhabi, UAE**

SESSION 1

Moderator: Dr Chethan Belludi **(Live In-person)**

- 10:00 **Relapsed Refractory DLBCL**
Dr Leo Gordon, Professor in Medicine, Co-Director in Haematologic Malignancies Program, Haematology Oncology Division, **Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, Chicago, USA (Remote)**

SESSION 2

Moderator: Dr Aaron Han **(Live In-person)**

- 10:40 **COVID-19 considerations in haematology**
Dr Kayane Mheidly, Consultant Haematology, **Clemenceau Medical Center, Dubai, UAE**
(Live In-person)
- 11:10 **Haematology and haemolytic disease of the fetus and newborn (HDFN)**
Dr Suzanne Bakdash, Department of Clinical Pathology, Transfusion Medicine, **Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, USA (Remote)**

11:40 Q&A 1 – Haematology Conference **(Live In-person)**
(Dr Kayane Mheidly)

12:00 Lunch break and visit exhibition

SESSION 3

Moderator: Dr Aaron Han

13:00 Monocyte distribution width as a novel inflammatory biomarker in COVID-19 patients
Dr Laila Alsuwaidi, Associate Dean – Student Happiness and Wellbeing, Assistant Professor –
Molecular Haematology, College of Medicine, MBRU, Dubai, UAE **(Live In-person)**

13:30 New treatments for sickle cell disease
Dr Abdul Hafeez Siddiqui, Consultant Paediatric Haematologist/Oncologist, American Hospital,
Dubai, UAE **(Live In-person)**

14:00 Indolent T cell lymphoproliferative disorder of gastrointestinal tract
Dr Rahul Gurbux Matnani, Haematopathologist, Union71, SEHA, Abu Dhabi, UAE **(Live In-person)**

14:30 Coffee break

SESSION 4

Moderator: Dr Chethan Belludi

15:00 Updated recommendations in lymphoma workup
Dr Rania Medhat Seliem, Consultant Haematopathologist, Head of Pathology Laboratory,
Rashid Hospital, Dubai Health Authority, Dubai, UAE **(Live In-person)**

15:30 Quality in haematology – top deficiencies and how to avoid them
Dr Aaron Han, Consultant Pathologist, Adjunct Professor, MBRU School of Medicine; Vice
President, Emirates Pathology Society, Deputy International Commissioner for UAE, CAP;
King's Hospital London, Dubai, UAE **(Live In-person)**

16:00 Q&A 2 – Haematology Conference **(Hybrid Live)**
(Dr Suzanne Bakdash, Dr Leo Gordon)

16:30 End of conference

DAY 2 Agenda - Tuesday, 22 June

Histopathology Conference

09:45 Opening remarks **(Live In-person)**
Dr Mouza Al Sharhan, Consultant and Head of Pathology Section
Pathology Section, Dubai Hospital; President, Emirates Pathology Society, Dubai, UAE

SESSION 1

Moderator: Dr Mouza Al Sharhan **(Live In-person)**

10:00 Updates in Neuropathology
Dr Rawia Mohamed, Consultant Physician, Medical Affairs, Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE (Remote)

10:30 Liver pathology; A potpourri of cases from Jordan
Prof Ismail Matalaka, Professor of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine, King Abdullah University Hospital, Irbid, Jordan **(Live In-person)**

11:00 Emerging Next Generation Immunohistochemistry: Diagnostic, prognostic & predictive
Dr Abbas Agaimy, Vice-Chairman and Professor of Pathology, Department of Pathology, University Hospital Erlangen, Erlangen, Germany **(Live In-person)**

11:30 Lunch break and visit the exhibition

SESSION 2

Moderator: Dr Mouza Al Sharhan **(Live In-person)**

12:30 Q&A 1 – Histopathology Conference **(Live In-person)**
(Prof Ismail Matalaka, Dr Abbas Agaimy)

13:00 Breast cancer: Current perspectives in biomarker testing
(Sponsored by Roche Diagnostics – Non-CME session)
Dr Kadria Sayed, Consultant Pathologist; Chief, Pathology Department and Laboratory Services, American Hospital, Dubai, UAE **(Live In-person)**

13:30 Paediatric Non-infectious Colitides
Dr Kadria Sayed, Consultant Pathologist; Chief, Pathology Department and Laboratory Services, American Hospital, Dubai, UAE **(Live In-person)**

14:00 Dermatopathology – problems in differential diagnosis
Dr Nigel Kirkham, Consultant Anatomic Pathologist, National Reference Laboratory, Abu Dhabi, UAE **(Live In-person)**

14:30 Pitfalls in the assessment of receptors in breast cancer
Prof Emad Rakha, Professor of Breast Pathology and Consultant, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham and Department of Cellular Pathology, Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, Nottingham, UK (Remote)

15:00 Q&A 2 – Histopathology Conference **(Live In-person)**
(Dr Kadria Sayed, Dr Nigel Kirkham)

15:15 Coffee break and visit the exhibition

SESSION 3

Moderator: Dr Mouza Al Sharhan **(Live In-person)**

16:00 Digital pathology and AI

Dr Aaron Han, Consultant Pathologist, Adjunct Professor, MBRU School of Medicine; Vice President, **Emirates Pathology Society**, Deputy International Commissioner for UAE, **CAP**; King's Hospital London, Dubai, UAE **(Live In-person)**

16:30 Interesting pathology cases

Dr Shroque Zaher, Assistant Professor, Pathology, College of Medicine, **Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences**; Consultant pathologist, **Al Qassimi Hospital, Dubai, UAE**; International advisor for the UAE, **Royal College of Pathologists, UK** **(Live In-person)**

17:00 The application of molecular diagnostics in ocular pathology: Where are we up to?

Prof Sarah Coupland, George Holt Chair in Pathology, Honorary Consultant Histopathologist, Institute of Translational Medicine, **University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK** **(Remote)**

17:30 Q&A 3 – Histopathology Conference **(Live In-person)**

(Dr Aaron Han, Dr Shroque Zaher)

17:45 End of conference

COVID-19 Special Edition Conference

09:45 Opening remarks **(Live In-person)**

Dr Eiman Ahmed Al Zaabi, Chair of Department, Physician-Laboratory Medicine Services, **Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE**

SESSION 1 COVID-19 in the UAE

Moderator: Dr Eiman Ahmed Al Zaabi **(Live In-person)**

10:00 UAE experience during COVID-19 pandemic

HE Dr Farida Al Hosani, Official Spokesperson for Health Sector in the UAE; Executive Director of Infection Diseases Sector, **Abu Dhabi Public Health Center, Abu Dhabi, UAE** **(Remote)**

10:30 Overview of the UAE experience with the vaccine trial

Dr Nawal Ahmed Mohamed Al Kaabi, Chairperson, National Covid-19 Clinical Management Committee; CMO, **Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE** **(Remote)**

11:00 Pathogenesis of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2)

Dr Gehad Eltayeb El Ghazali, Consultant Physician and Service Lead Immunologist, **Sheikh Khalifa Medical City - Union71, Abu Dhabi, UAE** **(Live In-person)**

11:30 Q&A 1 - COVID-19 Special Edition Conference **(Live In-person)**

(Dr Gehad Eltayeb El Ghazali)

12:00 Lunch break and visit the exhibition

SESSION 2 COVID-19 Diagnostic Updates

Moderator: Dr Gehad El Ghazali **(Live In-person)**

13:00 Serologic Testing for SARS-CoV-2

Dr Elitza S. Theel, Director, Infectious Diseases Serology Laboratory; Co-Director, Vector-Borne Diseases Laboratory Service Line; Associate Professor, Division of Clinical Microbiology, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, **Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA** **(Remote)**

13:30 Mass spectrometry for antigen detection in COVID-19 and studying host response
Dr Akhilesh Pandey, Professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Center for Individualized Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA (Remote)

14:00 Molecular testing for detection of SARS-CoV-2
Dr Joseph Yao, Consultant, Division of Clinical Microbiology, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA (Remote)

14:30 Histomorphological findings of COVID-19
Dr Anja C. Roden, Consultant Professor of Pathology; Director, Pulmonary Pathology Fellowship; Medical Director, Immunostains Laboratory Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA (Remote)

15:00 Coffee break and visit the exhibition

SESSION 3 Immunity and the post COVID-19 future

Moderator: Dr Gehad El Ghazali (Live In-person)

15:30 Assessing SARS-CoV-2 vaccine immune responses: Role of neutralising antibodies and cytotoxic T cells
Prof Basel Al Ramadi, Professor and Chair, Medical Microbiology & Immunology, CMHS, United Arab Emirates University, Al Ain, UAE (Live In-person)

16:00 Auto-Antibodies against type I IFNs in patients with life-threatening COVID-19 or adverse events to yellow fever live-attenuated vaccine
Dr Paul Bastard, MD-PhD Student, Rockefeller University, New York City, New York, USA (Remote)

16:30 Analytical performance of COVID-19 detection methods (RT-PCR) and vaccines. Scientific and societal concerns
Prof. Roberto Verna, Professor of Clinical Pathology; President, World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; President, World Pathology Foundation, Milan, Italy (Remote)

17:00 Panel Discussion: From new normal to new future
Moderator: Dr Eiman Ahmed Al Zaabi (Live In-person)
Panelists:

- **How to maintain a COVID free Hospital**
Dr Naser Ammash, Professor of Medicine, CEO, Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE (Live In-person)
- **Pandemic preparedness**
H.E. Matar Saeed Rashed Al Nuaimi, Director General, Abu Dhabi Public Health Centre, Abu Dhabi, UAE (Hybrid Live)

17:30 Q&A 2 - COVID-19 Special Edition Conference (Hybrid Live)
(Dr Elitza Theel, Dr Joseph Yao, Dr Anja C. Roden)

17:45 End of conference

DAY 3 Agenda - Wednesday, 23 June

Clinical Microbiology Conference

09:50 Opening remarks **(Live In-person)**

Dr Adnan Alatoom, Consultant Clinical Pathologist and Microbiologist, National Reference Laboratory, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Dr Wael Faroug Mohamed Elamin, Consultant Clinical Microbiologist, G42 Healthcare, Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer, Queen Mary University London, UK, Abu Dhabi, UAE

SESSION 1

Moderators: Dr Adnan Alatoom & Dr Wael Faroug Mohamed Elamin **(Live In-person)**

10:00 Rapid diagnostics for infectious diseases

Dr Robin Patel, Elizabeth P. and Robert E. Allen Professor of Individualized Medicine, Professor of Medicine, Professor of Microbiology, Director of the Infectious Diseases Research Laboratory, Co-Director of the Bacteriology Laboratory, Vice Chair of Education in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Mayo Clinic, Immediate Past President, American Society of Microbiology, Rochester, Minnesota, USA (Remote)

10:30 Machine learning will improve the clinical microbiology laboratory

Dr Daniel D. Rhoads, Section Head of Microbiology, Robert J. Tomsich Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, USA (Remote)

11:00 Diagnostic stewardship in microbiology

Dr Adnan Alatoom, Consultant Clinical Pathologist and Microbiologist, National Reference Laboratory, Abu Dhabi, UAE **(Live In-person)**

SESSION 2

Moderators: Dr Adnan Alatoom & Dr Wael Faroug Mohamed Elamin **(Live In-person)**

11:30 MDR & TB: What's new?

Dr Simon Tiberi, Honorary Clinical Reader, Blizard Institute, Queen Mary University of London, Infectious Diseases Consultant, Department of Infection, Royal London Hospital Barts Health NHS Trust, London, UK (Remote)

12:00 CAP Inspection in the microbiology laboratory, lessons to learn

Dr Christina Wojewoda, Pathologist, University of Vermont Medical Center, Associate Professor, Larner College of Medicine, UVM, Burlington, USA (Remote)

12:30 Global and regional surveillance updates

Dr John Stelling, Co-Director, WHO Collaborating Centre for Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, USA (Remote)

13:00 Lunch break and visit exhibition

SESSION 3

Moderators: Dr Adnan Alatoom & Dr Wael Faroug Mohamed Elamin **(Live In-person)**

14:30 Update on AMR resistance levels and trends in the UAE

Dr Jens Thomsen, Section Head, Environmental Health, Abu Dhabi Public Health Centre, Abu Dhabi, UAE **(Live In-person)**

15:00 Candida auris

Dr Lalitha Gade, Mycotic Diseases Branch, Division of Foodborne, Waterborne and Environmental Diseases, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, USA (Remote)

15:30 COVID-19 considerations: infection control
Dr Wael Faroug Mohamed Elamin, Consultant Clinical Microbiologist, G42 Healthcare, Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer, Queen Mary University London, UK, Abu Dhabi, UAE (Live In-person)

16:00 Coffee Break

SESSION 4

Moderators: Dr Adnan Alatoom & Dr Wael Faroug Mohamed Elamin (Live In-person)

16:30 Revival of robust manual solutions for sepsis diagnostic and AMR surveillance in low-resource settings: Case study of Médecins Sans Frontières Mini-Lab
Jean-Baptiste Ronat, Scientific and Technical Leader, Médecins Sans Frontières, Paris, France (Live In-person)

17:00 Parasite diagnostics: past, present and future
Prof Peter Chiodini, Consultant Parasitologist, Hospital for Tropical Diseases, Honorary Professor, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Director, Public Health England (PHE), Malaria Reference Laboratory and the PHE National Parasitology Reference Laboratory, London, UK (Remote)

17:30 Q&A 1 - Clinical Microbiology (Hybrid Live)
(Dr Christina Wojewoda, Dr Lalitha Gade)

18:00 End of conference

Clinical Chemistry Conference

09:45 Opening remarks: (Live In-person)
Dr Fayha Ahmed, Consultant and Head of Biochemistry Unit, Pathology & Genetics Department, Dubai Hospital, Dubai, UAE

SESSION 1 Advances in clinical chemistry

Moderator: Dr Fayha Ahmed (Live In-person)

10:00 Case study on metabolic disorders: Clinical & laboratory correlations
Dr Osama Aldirbashi, Head, Newborn Screening, National Reference Laboratory, Abu Dhabi, UAE (Live In-person)
Dr Ayman El-Hattab, Associate Professor, College of Medicine, University of Sharjah, and Consultant Genetics and Metabolic, Mediclinic City Hospital, King's College Hospital, Kanad Hospital, University Hospital Sharjah, KidsHeart, Neuropedia, and Genesis, UAE (Live In-person)

11:00 Advances in Clinical Chemistry
Prof Riad Bayoumi, Prof - Basic Sciences, College of Medicine, MBRU, Dubai, UAE (Live In-person)

11:30 Tumour markers; Updates on the application of liquid biopsy & circulating tumour cells
Dr Laila Abdel Wareth, Deputy CEO & Chief Scientific Officer, National Reference Laboratory (NRL), Chair, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine Institute, Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi (Live In-person)

12:00 Clinical chemistry transformation: DHA experience
Dr Fayha Ahmed, Consultant and Head of Biochemistry Unit, Pathology & Genetics Department, Dubai Hospital, Dubai, UAE (Live In-person)

12:30 Lunch Break and visit to exhibition

SESSION 2 Interesting case studies in clinical chemistry

Moderator: Dr Fayha Ahmed

- 13:50** The impact of increasing prevalence, false omissions, and uncertainty on COVID-19 tests and the future of point-of-care testing
Prof Gerald Kost, Professor Emeritus, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, University of California Davis, California, USA (Remote)
- 14:20** Keynote: Thyroid Disorders and overview and pitfalls of thyroid function tests
Prof Damien Gruson, Head of the Medical Biochemistry Service, Department of Laboratory Medicine, Cliniques Universitaires St Luc, Brussels, Belgium (Remote)
- 14:50** Applications of AI in clinical chemistry
Prof Ulysses G. J. Balis, Director, Division of Pathology Informatics; Director, Computational Pathology Laboratory Section, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA (Remote)
- 15:25** Reference ranges in paediatrics: The CALIPER Study findings
Prof Khosrow Adeli, Head & Full Professor, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada; President Elect, The International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) (Live In-person)

15:50 Coffee Break

SESSION 3 POCT Testing

Moderator: Dr Fayha Ahmed

- 16:20** Best practice in POCT program implementation
Prof Dr Dalal Mohideen Nemenqani, Professor & Consultant of Pathology & Cytopathology, Dean, College of Medicine, TAIF University, KSA (Live In-person)
- 16:40** Utility of POCT INR in anticoagulation management
Jonathan Harris, Senior Manager, Point of Care Testing & Quality, National Reference Laboratory, Abu Dhabi, UAE (Remote)
Bassam Atallah, Clinical Associate Professor, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Senior Pharmacotherapy Specialist – Cardiology, Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, UAE (Live In-person)
- 17:10** Challenges and Opportunities in point of care and rapid testing for SARS-CoV-2
Dr Bradley Karon, Chair, Division of Clinical Core Laboratory Services at Mayo Clinic, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the Mayo Clinic School of Health Sciences, Program Director for Mayo's Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Residency, and a Professor of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and Science, Rochester, USA (Remote)
- 17:40** Q&A 1 - Clinical Chemistry Conference (Hybrid)
(Dr Bradley Karon)
- 18:00** End of conference

Day 4 Agenda - Thursday, 24 June

Molecular & Genomic Diagnostics Conference

09:45 Opening remarks **(Live In-person)**

Dr Ahmad Abou Tayoun, Director, The Al Jalila Children's Genomics Centre; Associate Professor, Genetics, Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences, Dubai, UAE

SESSION 1 Genomics of COVID-19

Moderator: Dr Ahmad Abou Tayoun **(Live In-person)**

10:00 SARS-CoV-2 testing and genomic surveillance

Dr Greg Tsongalis, Vice Chair for Research, Director of Clinical Genomics and Advanced Technology (CGAT), Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center; Professor of Pathology, Geisel School of Medicine, Lebanon, New Hampshire, USA (Remote)

10:30 Immunogenetics & COVID-19

Dr Jacob Glanville, Founder, CEO & President, Centivax, San Francisco, California, USA (Remote)

11:00 COVID-19 genomic epidemiology in the UAE

Dr Tom Loney, Associate Professor - Public Health and Epidemiology, Associate Professor of Public Health and Epidemiology, Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences, Dubai, UAE **(Live In-person)**

SESSION 2 Genomics applications I

Moderator: Dr Ahmad Abou Tayoun

11:30 Prenatal sequencing

Dr Heather Mason-Suares, Assistant Professor of Pathology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts, USA (Remote)

12:00 Postnatal sequencing: KSA Experience

Dr Ahmed Alfares, Assistant Professor, Qassim University, Qassim, KSA; Consultant, Medical Genetics, National Guard Hospital, Riyadh, KSA **(Live In-person)**

12:30 Q&A 1 - Molecular & Genomic Diagnostics Conference **(Live In-person)**

(Dr Tom Loney, Dr Ahmed Alfares)

12:40 Lunch break and visit exhibition

SESSION 3 Counseling & ethical issues in genomics

Moderator: Dr Ahmad Abou Tayoun **(Live In-person)**

13:30 Islamic ethics and genomics

Dr Mohammed Ghaly, Professor of Islam and Biomedical Ethics, College of Islamic Studies, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Doha, Qatar **(Live In-person)**

14:00 Genetic counselling

Alan Taylor, Genetic Counsellor, The Al Jalila Children's Genomics Centre, Dubai, UAE **(Live In-person)**

14:30 Coffee break and visit exhibition

SESSION 4 Genomics applications II

Moderator: Dr Ahmad Abou Tayoun

- 15:00 **Pharmacogenomics**
Dr Bassam Ali, Professor, Molecular and Genetic Medicine; Leader, Genetics and Development Research Priority Group, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, **United Arab Emirates University, Al Ain, UAE** (Live In-person)
- 15:30 **Carrier screening**
Dr Youssef Idaghdour, Assistant Professor of Biology; **Idaghdour Lab - Environmental Genomics, New York University, Abu Dhabi, UAE** (Live In-person)
- 16:00 **Integrated Genomic Diagnostics for Precision Cancer Care**
Dr Marilyn Li, Vice Chief, Division of Genomic Diagnostics & Director of Cancer Genomic Diagnostics, **Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA** (Remote)
- 16:30 **Q&A 2 - Molecular & Genomic Diagnostics Conference** (Hybrid Live)
(Dr Greg Tsongalis, Dr Heather Mason-Suares, Dr Marilyn Li)
- 16:45 **End of conference**

Blood Transfusion Medicine Conference

- 09:45 **Opening remarks** (Live In-person)
Dr May Yassin Raouf, Head & Medical Director, **Dubai Blood Donation Center, Pathology & Genetics Department, Expert Member for Transfusion Safety, WHO, Regional Director for Eastern Mediterranean Region, ISBT, Dubai, UAE**

SESSION 1: Insights on COVID-19 implication on blood services

Moderator: Dr May Yassin Raouf (Live In-person)

- 09:55 **Keynote address: The impact of COVID-19 on transfusion medicine**
Professor Erica Wood, Head, Transfusion Research Unit, Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, **Monash University, President, International Society of Blood Transfusion, Melbourne, Australia** (Remote)
- 10:25 **Updates on COVID-19 convalescent plasma**
Dr Cynthia So-Osman, Consultant Haematology and Transfusion Medicine, **Sanquin Blood Supply, Amsterdam, The Netherlands**, Regional Director for Europe, **International Society of Blood Transfusion, Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands** (Remote)
- 10:55 **Q&A 1 - Blood Transfusion Medicine Conference** (Live In-person)

SESSION 2: Blood donors infectious disease testing

Moderator: Dr May Yassin Raouf (Live In-person)

- 11:00 **An update on emerging pathogens**
Professor Hans Zaaijer, Head of Department of Blood-Borne Infections, **Sanquin Research, Amsterdam, The Netherlands** (Remote)

11:30 Lunch break and visit exhibition

SESSION 3: Donors and donations

Moderator: Dr May Yassin Raouf (Live In-person)

- 13:00 **Frozen red blood cells technology for emergency & rare blood group**
Professor Masja de Haas, Department of Immunohaematology Diagnostic Services, Center for Clinical Transfusion Research, Sanquin Research and Department of Immunohaematology and Blood Transfusion, Leiden University Medical Center, Amsterdam, Netherlands (Remote)
- 13:25 **Causal impact of temporary deferrals on return behaviour**
Dr Naima Oumeziane, Medical Director, Abu Dhabi Blood Bank, Specialist Physician, Laboratory Medicine – Medical Affairs, Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE
(Live In-person)
- 13:40 **Q&A 2 - Blood Transfusion Medicine Conference (Live In-person)**
(Dr Naima Oumeziane)

14:00 Coffee Break

SESSION 4 Clinical aspect of blood transfusion

Moderator: Dr May Yassin Raouf (Live In-person)

- 14:30 **Immunological aspects of transfusion support in thalassemia**
Dr Nay Win, Consultant Haematologist (Transfusion Medicine), NHS Blood and Transplant Tooting Centre, London, UK (Remote)
- 14:55 **Clinical utility of neutrophil antigen and antibody testing**
Associate Professor Lin Fung, Associate Professor, School of Health and Behavioural Sciences, Program Coordinator, Associate Degree Medical Laboratory Science, University of the Sunshine Coast, Sunshine Coast, Australia (Remote)
- 15:25 **Highlights on paediatric transfusion**
Dr Shadhiya Al Khan, Consultant Haematopathologist, Department of Haematology and Transfusion Medicine, The Royal Hospital, Ministry of Health, Muscat, Oman (Remote)
- 15:45 **Q&A 3 - Blood Transfusion Medicine Conference (Hybrid Live)**
(Dr Nay Win)
- 16:15 **Closing remarks**
Dr May Yassin Raouf (Live In-person)
- 16:30 End of conference