



**THE PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY EAST AND MEDITERRANEAN
(POEM) GROUP 3RD SCIENTIFIC MEETING**
**CHILDHOOD CANCER:
ADVANCING THROUGH ADVERSITY**

MARCH 3-5, 2023 | MUSCAT, OMAN

Organized by the Pediatric Oncology East and Mediterranean (POEM) Group, St. Jude Global (SJG), and the American University of Beirut (AUB)

In addition to the Scientific Meeting Program, four workshops will take place: Nursing Workshop, Multidisciplinary Workshop for Local Treatment of Abdominal Tumors, Retinoblastoma Workshop (closed meeting), and Qualitative Research Workshop (for health care professionals and Foundations).

This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*.

hpdc.aub.edu.lb



St. Jude Global



General Information

Program Overview

POEM (<https://www.poemgroup.org/>) is a collaborative pediatric oncology regional group, formed in 2013 as a cooperative platform for physicians, scientists, and healthcare professionals from institutions in the Middle East, North Africa, and West Asia region, with the goal of sharing experience, initiation of cooperative trials, and establishing common strategies to achieve optimization of the care of pediatric oncology patients. POEM carries out several educational activities throughout the year, including educational symposia, workshops, and a biannual Scientific Conference.

POEM's Group Mission

To continuously improve pediatric oncology care through capacity building, research, training and advocacy in the East and Mediterranean region by integrated teamwork.

POEM's Group Vision

"Every child with cancer in the region has equitable access to highest quality care".

Objectives

By the end of this activity, participants will be able to:

- Describe the Ongoing Challenges of childhood cancer care in the POEM region
- Identify the experience and treatment protocols of leukemia and lymphoma
- Describe regional impact of GICC on POEM region
- State new advances and challenges for treating brain and solid tumors
- Define Benign Hematology treatments and new therapies

Target Audience

This activity is designated for physicians, scientists, nurses, and healthcare professionals involved in childhood cancer care and research.

Date and Venue

March 03-05, 2023

Venue: Al Bustan Palace, a Ritz-Carlton Hotel
Muscat, Oman

Hotel Map

[Click here for the hotel map and directions.](#)

Accommodation

Please [click here](#) for more information regarding hotel reservation (at reduced conference rate) in Al-Bustan, Sheraton Oman and Al-Falaj Hotel.

Meals

Meals will be provided during the meeting.

Activity Directors

Khaled Ghanem (Scientific Committee Chair)

Abdul Hakim Al Rawas (Organizing Committee Chair)

Scientific Program Committee

Khaled Ghanem (Chair)

Mohammad Fahad Abdullah

Laila Hessissen

Nita Radhakrishnan

Ruzanna Pappan

Khalil Ghandour

Bilal Mazhar Qureshi

Zeena Salman

Alaa Elhaddad

Azim Mehrvar

Organizing Committee

Abdul Hakim Al Rawas (Chair)

Ayman Saleh

Iyad Sultan

Khadra Salami

Khalid Al Habaybeh

Reema Al Hayek

Reham Abdelaziz Khedr

Mustafa Tezer Kutluk

Yasser Wali

Julius Xavier Scott

Accreditation Statement

This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™*.

Faculty Disclosure Statement

The Healthcare Professional Development Center (HPDC) at AUBMC has implemented a policy to comply with the current Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education “Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education” requiring identification, mitigation and disclosure of all faculty financial relationships with ineligible companies.

Faculty Disclosure

In accordance with the Standards for Integrity and Independence issued by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), The Healthcare Professional Development Center mitigates all faculty conflicts of interest to ensure CME activities are free of commercial bias.

The following faculty have indicated that they may have a relationship, which in the context of their presentation(s) could be perceived as a potential conflict of interest:

Amar Gajjar

Genentech/Roche, Study support
QED Pharmaceuticals, Consulting
DOT Therapeutics, DSMB Member

Andrew Davidoff

Biomarin, patented material has been licensed to them

Gaurav Narula

ImmunoACT, Scientific Advisory Board Member

Gevorg Tamamyan

Luzsana Biotechnology, Advisor
Agenus Inc, Grant

James Bussel

Rigel, Consultant
Grifols, Consultant
Janssens, Consultant
UCB, Consultant, dsmb
RallyBio, Consultant
Sobi, Consultant
AstraZeneca, dsmb
Novartis, dsmb

Jane Hankins

Global Blood Therapeutics, Consultant
Forma Therapeutics, Consultant

Katherine Matthay

Rayze Bio, consultant
Ymabs, consultant

Laila Hessissen

Sanofi, Project Coordinator

Michael Makris

Grifols, Honorarium for reviewing grant applications
NovoNordisk, Speaker

Miguel Abboud

Novartis, Advisory board research funding
GBT, speaker/ research funding
Forma therapeutics, Research funding
Vertex therapeutics, Safety monitoring committee
Agiros, Advisory Bord

The following faculty have indicated they have no relationship which, in the context of their presentation(s), could be perceived as a potential conflict of interest:

Abdelhafeez Abdelhafeez	Mazin Al-Jadiry
Abdul Hakim Al Rawas	Mohammad Fahed Abdullah
Ahmad Zaghal	Mohammad Najajreh
Alaa Elhaddad	Monika Metzger
Alia Ahmad	Mustafa Tezer Kutluk
Amita Trehan	Nasim Pourghazian
Azim Mehrvar	Nita Radhakrishnan
Bilal Qureshi	Patte Catherine
Catherine Lam	Rabia Wali
Christiane Al-Haddad	Rawad Rihani
Ayman Saleh	Rasha Alyoussef
Gamal Zain	Raya Saab
Giuseppe Troisi	Reema Al Hayek
Hanafy Hafez	Rejin Kebudi
Iman Sidhom	Reham Khedr
Iyad Sultan	Ruzanna Papyan
John Lucas	Sadaf Altaf
Julius	Sima Jeha
Kathy Pritchard-Jones	Thomas Merchant
Khadra Salami	Yacoub Yousef
Khaled Ghanem	Yasser Wali
Khalid Al Habaybeh	Yavuz Anacak
Khalil Ghandour	Zeena Salman
Matthew Wilson	

Registration Information

Registration is now open! [Click here to register.](#)

- 20\$ for Nurses
- 50\$ for Physicians

Reimbursement of registration fees is possible after sending the ticket and hotel reservation to info@poemgroup.org, or you can apply for the "Registration Fees Exemption" by:

- Becoming a POEM Member ([Click here to join POEM Group for free](#))
- Sending to info@poemgroup.org evidence of ticket and hotel reservation

"Registration Fees Exemption" for local attendees is not available.

Scientific Meeting Program

Scientific Meeting Program

Day 1: Friday, March 3, 2023 (Local time)

8:00 - 8:30

Registration

8:30 - 9:30

Meet the Expert Session

How I treat infantile brain tumors

Amar Gajjar

Refractory and relapsed Hodgkin's in low-resource setting

Monika Metzger

Session 1: Ongoing Challenges | Moderator: Gevorg Tamamyan

9:30 - 9:50

Challenges of childhood cancer care in the POEM region

Raya Saab

9:50 - 10:35

Panel Discussion:

War and childhood cancer care in the POEM region

Moderator: Rejin kebudi

Panelists: *Gamal Zain, Rasha Alyoussef,*

Mazin Al-Jadiry, Mohammad Najajreh

10:35 - 11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00 - 11:40

Panel Discussion:

Economic crises effect on childhood cancer care in the Eastern Mediterranean region

Moderator: Khaled Ghanem

Panelist: *Alia Ahmad*

Hanafy Hafez, Giuseppe Troisi (WHO)

11:40 - 12:00

The impact of COVID-19 on pediatric oncology care in the POEM region

Mustafa Tezer Kutluk

12:00 - 13:00

LUNCH BREAK

Session 2: Leukemia and Lymphoma | Moderators: Alaa El Haddad, Rawad Rihani

13:00 - 13:30

Leukemia - Experience from regional protocols - Mediterranean

Iman Sidhom

13:30 - 14:00

Leukemia - Experience from regional protocols - India

Amita Trehan

14:00 - 14:30	CAR-T Cells in Leukemia: Implications for Low-and Middle-Income Economies <i>Gaurav Narula</i>
14:30 - 15:00	COFFEE BREAK
15:00 - 15:30	Hodgkin disease: treatment practice in the POEM region <i>Rabia Wali</i>
15:30 - 16:00	Immunotherapy for Hodgkin disease <i>Monika Metzger</i>
16:00 - 16:30	Burkitt's Lymphoma Therapy in Developing Countries <i>Catherine Patte</i>

Session 3: Posters | Moderator: Khaled Ghanem

16:30 - 17:30	Poster Presentations - Session 1
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Day 2: Saturday, March 4, 2023 (Local time)

8:00 - 9:00	Meet the Expert Session Pediatric Oncology Career Development in Low-Middle income countries <i>Asim Belgaumi and Raya Saab</i> Building a retinoblastoma program in a lower-resource setting <i>Christiane Al-Haddad</i>
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Session 1: Regional Impact of GICC

9:00 - 9:45	Panel Discussion: Global Initiative of Childhood Cancer in the WHO EMRO Region Moderator: Sima Jeha Panelists: <i>Kathy Pritchard Jones (immediate- past SIOP president), Iman Sidhom (POEM president), Nasim Pourghazian (WHO) and Catherine Lam (St. Jude)</i>
9:45 - 10:45	POEM 10 th Anniversary Celebration (Non-CME)
10:45 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK

Session 2: Retinoblastoma | Moderator: Raya Saab

11:00 - 12:00	Challenges and Regional Efforts in Advancing Retinoblastoma Care - International and Regional experiences <i>Matthew W. Wilson (international speaker)</i> <i>Yacoub Yousef (regional speaker)</i>
12:00 - 13:00	LUNCH BREAK

Session 3: Brain Tumors | Moderator: Bilal Qureshi

13:00 - 13:30	How I Treat Pediatric Low-Grade Glioma in 2022 <i>Amar Gajjar</i>
13:30 - 14:00	Advances in Radiation Therapy for Brain Tumors in Children <i>Thomas Merchant</i>
14:00 - 14:30	COFFEE BREAK

Session 4: Solid Tumors | Moderator: Ayman Saleh

14:30 - 15:00	Wilms Tumor: Latest Updates, and Challenges in Resource-Limited Settings <i>Kathy Pritchard Jones</i>
15:00 - 15:30	Neuroblastoma: Recent Advances <i>Katherine Matthay</i>

Session 5: Abstracts | Moderator: Khaled Ghanem

15:30 - 16:00	Oral Presentations for the Winning 3 Abstracts
16:00 - 17:00	Poster Presentations - Session 2

Day 3: Sunday, March 5, 2023 (Local time)

8:00 - 9:00

Meet the Expert Session

Refractory lymphoblastic Leukemia

Sima Jeha

Treatment of relapsed Nephroblastoma

Kathy Pritchard Jones

Health Systems and Policies

Catherine Lam

Session 1: Benign Hematology | Moderators: Miguel Abboud and Abdul Hakim Al Rawass

9:00 - 9:30

How I treat persistent immune thrombocytopenia

James Bussel

9:30 - 10:00

Hemophilia - a paradigm change in treatment options

Mike Makris

10:00 - 10:30

Gene therapy in hemophilia

Andrew M. Davidoff

11:00 - 11:30

COFFEE BREAK

11:30 - 12:00

New therapies for sickle cell disease

Jane Hankins

12:00 - 12:30

Current Treatment Strategy and Unmet Needs in Beta-thalassemia

Yasser Wali

12:30 - 13:30

LUNCH BREAK

Multidisciplinary Workshop for Local Treatment of Abdominal Tumors Program

Multidisciplinary Workshop for Local Treatment of Abdominal Tumors Program

Sunday, March 5, 2023 (Local time)

Session 1: Moderator: Abdelhafeez Abdelhafeez, Expert panelist: Sadaf Altaf

9:50 - 10:30	Surgical approach for treating Wilms tumor <i>Ahmad Zaghal</i>
10:30 - 11:10	Radiation therapy for Wilms tumor <i>Bilal Qureshi</i>
11:10 - 11:50	Surgical approach for treating Sarcoma <i>Abdelhafeez Abdelhafeez</i>
11:50 - 12:30	Radiation therapy for Rhabdomyosarcoma <i>John Lucas</i>
12:30 - 13:30	LUNCH BREAK

Session 2: Moderator: Bilal Qureshi, Expert panelist: Dr. Amita Trehan

13:30 - 14:10	Surgical approach for treating Neuroblastoma <i>Andrew M. Davidoff</i>
14:10 - 14:50	Radiation therapy for Neuroblastoma <i>John Lucas</i>
14:50 - 15:30	Local control for treating Liver tumors in children <i>Abdelhafeez Abdelhafeez</i>
15:30 - 16:45	Case presentations and discussions <i>Panelists: Amita Trehan, Sadaf Altaf, Yavuz Anacak</i>

For more information about this activity, please contact:

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