

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT



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™*.

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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 Papyan

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:

Alok Srivastava

Sanofi, Research support / Advisory Board
Roche, Research support / Advisory Board
Novo Nordisk, Research support / Advisory Board
Pfizer, Research support / Advisory Board
Takeda, Research support / Advisory Board
Bayer, Grants Review Committee
Biomarin, Advisory Board
Spark Therapeutics, Advisory Board
Octapharma, Research support / Advisory Board

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 Matthey

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

Peter Noun

Novartis, Speaker
Novo Nordisk, Speaker
Sanofi, Speaker
Pfizer, Speaker
Takeda, Speaker
Roche, Speaker
Daiichi Sankyo, Researcher

Rejin Kebudi

BAYER, Research funding

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
Abdul Hakim Al Rawas
Ahmad Zaghal
Alaa Elhaddad
Ali Taher
Alia Ahmad
Amita Trehan
Azim Mehrvar
Bilal Qureshi
Cappellini Maria Domenica
Christiane Al-Haddad
Ayman Saleh
Gamal Zain
Iman Sidhom
Iyad Sultan
John Lucas
Julius
Kathy Pritchard-Jones
Khadra Salami
Khaled Ghanem
Khalid Al Habaybeh
Khalil Ghandour

Matthew Wilson
Mazin Al-Jadiry
Mohammad Fahed Abdullah
Mohammad Najajreh
Monika Metzger
Mustafa Tezer Kutluk
Nita Radhakrishnan
Patte Catherine
Rabia Wali
Ranin Soliman
Rasha Alyoussef
Raya Saab
Reema Al Hayek
Reham Khedr
Ruzanna Papyan
Sadaf Altaf
Sima Jeha
Thomas Merchant
Yacoub Yousef
Yasser Wali
Zeena Salman

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 <i>Amar Gajjar</i> Refractory and relapsed Hodgkin's in low-resource setting <i>Monika Metzger</i>

Session 1: Ongoing Challenges | Moderator: Gevorg Tamamyan

9:30 - 9:50	Challenges of childhood cancer care in the POEM region <i>Raya Saab</i>
9:50 - 10:35	Panel Discussion: War and childhood cancer care in the POEM region Moderator: Rejin kebudi Panelists: <i>Gamal Zain, Rasha Alyoussef, Mazin Al-Jadiry, Mohammad Najajreh</i>
10:35 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK
11:00 - 11:30	Panel Discussion: Economic crises effect on childhood cancer care in the Eastern Mediterranean region Moderator: Khaled Ghanem Panelists: <i>Peter Noun, Alia Ahmad, Ranin Soliman, International speaker (TBD)</i>
11:30 - 12:00	The impact of COVID-19 on pediatric oncology care in the POEM region <i>Mustafa Tezer Kutluk</i>
12:00 - 13:00	LUNCH BREAK

Session 2: Leukemia and Lymphoma | Moderators: Alaa El Haddad, Yasser Wali

13:00 - 13:30	Leukemia - Experience from regional protocols - Mediterranean <i>Iman Sidhom</i>
13:30 - 14:00	Leukemia - Experience from regional protocols - India <i>Amita Trehan</i>

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

Session 3: Posters | Moderator: Khaled Ghanem

- 16:30 - 17:30 Poster Presentations - Session 1

Day 2: Saturday, March 4, 2023 (Local time)

- 8:00 - 9:30 **Meet the Expert Session**
Pediatric Oncology Career Development in Low-Middle income countries
Asim Belgaumi and Raya Saab
- Building a retinoblastoma program in a lower-resource setting
Christiane Al-Haddad

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: *Kathy Pritchard Jones (immediate- past SIOP president), Iman Sidhom (POEM president), International speaker (TBD)*
- 9:45 - 10:45 **POEM 10th 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
Matthew W. Wilson (international speaker)
Yacoub Yousef (regional speaker)

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
Amar Gajjar

13:30 - 14:00 Advances in Radiation Therapy for Brain Tumors in Children
Thomas Merchant

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
Kathy Pritchard Jones

15:00 - 15:30 Neuroblastoma: Recent Advances
Katherine Matthay

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

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

9:00 - 9:30

How I treat persistent immune thrombocytopenia

James Busse

9:30 - 10:00

Hemophilia - a paradigm change in treatment options

Mike Makris

10:00 - 10:30

Gene therapy in hemophilia

Andrew M. Davidoff

10:30 - 11:00

Inhibitors in congenital hemophilia

Alok Srivastava

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

Ali Taher

12:30 - 13:00

How I treat iron overload in Thalassemia

Maria Cappellini Domenica

13:00 - 14:00

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

For more information about this activity, please contact:

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