



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).

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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 planned and implemented in accordance with the essential areas and policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through the American University of Beirut Medical Center. The Healthcare Professional Development Center at AUBMC is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The Healthcare Professional Development Center at AUBMC designates this live activity for a maximum of 20 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Faculty Disclosure Statement

Evaluation Form and CME Certificate

The evaluation and the ability to claim CME credits will be available online approximately 10 working days after the event. An e-mail from AUBMC HPDC Office will be sent to you with instructions for claiming AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™, and you will have 60 days following the activity to claim credits.

Important Notes

The same e-mail address which was used for registration and where you receive the e-mail and instructions from AUBMC HPDC will need to be used in order to claim credits.

Faculty Disclosure

In accordance with the Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education issued by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Healthcare Professional Development Center at AUBMC requires the identification, mitigation and disclosure of all faculty financial relationships with ineligible companies to ensure CME activities are free of commercial bias.

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

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

Agios, 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:

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Giuseppe Troisi

Hanafy Hafez

Iman Sidhom

Iyad Sultan

John Lucas

Julius Xavier Scott

Kathy Pritchard-Jones

Khadra Salami

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Mohammad Najajreh

Monika Metzger

Mustafa Tezer Kutluk

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Raya Saab

Reema Al Hayek

Rejin Kebudi

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Registration Information

Disclaimer

The information in this educational activity is provided for general medical education purposes only and is not meant to substitute for the independent medical judgment of a physician relative to diagnostic and treatment options of a specific patient's medical condition. The viewpoints expressed in this CME activity are those of the authors/faculty. They do not represent an endorsement by the American University of Beirut Medical Center. In no event will the American University of Beirut Medical Center be liable for any decision made or action taken in reliance upon the information provided through this CME activity.

- 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 - 11:40	Panel Discussion: Economic crises effect on childhood cancer care in the Eastern Mediterranean region Moderator: Khaled Ghanem Panelist: <i>Alia Ahmad Hanafy Hafez, Giuseppe Troisi (WHO)</i>
11:40 - 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: Asim Belgaumi, Rawad Rihani

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 - 9:00 **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), Nasim Pourghazian (WHO) and Catherine Lam (St. Jude)*
- 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

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</i>

For more information about this activity, please contact:

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