

1st Emirates International Congress in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics

"Exploring Multidisciplinary Care Models in a world of Neurodiversities"

May 17 - 18, 2025

Sofitel Hotel,
Abu Dhabi, UAE

Timings GST / UAE	Saturday, 17th May 2025	
07:30 - 08:30	Registration	
08:30 - 08:45	Welcome & introduction	Dr. Dalal ElSori, UAE

PLENARY SESSION 1- Early Childhood Development SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Dalal ElSori, UAE		
08:45 - 09:00	Milestones and Red Flags in Early child hood Development	Dr. Dalal ElSori, UAE
09:00 - 09:15	The Importance of Early diagnosis and Early Intervention (EI)	Dr. Pamela High, USA
09:15 - 09:30	Integrating Mental Health Awareness, Screening, and Referral Services in Educational Settings	Dr. Cairo Fatima Ali Arafat, UAE Mrs. Amina Ahmed Alhosani, UAE
09:30 - 09:45	The Role of Early Education Systems in Developmental Surveillance: Collaboration between schools and health providers	Dr. Tracey Ferguson, UAE
09:45 - 10:00	Panel Discussion	
10:00 - 10:30	OFFICIAL INAUGURATION	
10:30- 10:45	COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing	

SESSION 2- Developmental Disorders SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Huda Sadek, UAE		
10:45 - 11:00	Speech and Language delays: when to worry?	Dr. Huda Sadek, UAE
11:00 - 11:15	Emerging Trends in ADHD Medications/management: What's New?	Dr. Meshal Sultan, UAE
11:15 – 11:30	The Impact of Screen Time on Development in Young Children: Latest research findings.	Dr. Binu George, UAE
11:30 - 11:45	Neurodiversity Lecture	Dr. Haitham ElBashir, UAE
11:45 - 12:00	Panel Discussion	
12:00 - 13:00	LUNCH BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking	

PARALLEL SESSION 3 –Mental Health SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Azhar Abu Ali, UAE			SESSION 3: Role of community and childhood authorities in early childhood initiatives
13:00 - 13:20	Infant Mental health	Dr. Azhar Abu Ali, UAE	13:00 - 13:20 Abu Dhabi Strategy for People of Determination: An emirate roadmap to achieve the inclusion of People of Determination Ms. Nancy ElKaraan, USA
13:20 - 13:40	Anxiety and Mood Disorders in Neurodivergent children	Dr. Saqib Latif, UAE	13:20- 13:40 The role of Zayed Higher Organization for People of Determination in providing support services for children with disabilities in early childhood

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			Ms. Sedra Al Mansoori, UAE
13:40 - 14:00	Development of Adolescence	Dr. Ruba Rizk, UAE	<p>13:40- 14:00</p> <p>The Family Development Foundation's efforts to guarantee the long-term social development of children.</p> <p>Dr. Fatma Abdulla Alhammadi, UAE</p>
14:00 - 14:20	Role of Sleep in Pediatric Mental Health and Behavior: Effective sleep interventions for children with developmental delays.	Dr. Habib Abdullah, UAE	<p>Panel Discussion: How to streamline the efforts with medical facilities</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Nancy ElKaraan</p> <p>Participants:</p> <p>Dr. Nawal Al Kaabi, Dr. Dalal Elsori, Dr. Fatma Abdulla Alhammadi, Dr. Rashed Arif Alnooryani, ADEK representative, DOH representative, Ms. Sedra Al Mansoori</p>
14:20 - 14:40	Panel Discussion		<p>14:20- 14:40</p> <p>Interaction between the audience, panel, and experts that presents scenarios and some of the family's experiences in addition to presenting "first step" application from Zayed Higher Organization</p>
14:40 - 15:00	COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing		<p>14:40 - 15:00</p> <p>Summary of Future Recommendations</p>

SESSION 4: Genetics/neurology

SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Hamda Abouhoul, UAE

15:00 - 15:40	Role of genetic testing in children with neuro-developmental condition	Dr. Amal Altenaiji, UAE
15:40 - 16:20	Metabolic work up for children presenting with developmental delay	Dr. Hamda Abouhoul, UAE
16:20 - 17:00	Movement Disorder	Dr. Mohamad Babaker, UAE
17:00 - 17:40	Early Identification of children with cerebral palsy: latest updates?	Dr. Thanooja Naurshad, UAE
17:40 - 18:00	Panel Discussion	
18:00	End of Day 1	

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Timings GST / UAE	Sunday, 18th May 2025	
08:00 - 08:50	Registration	
08:50 - 09:00	Welcome and Introduction	Dr. Dalal ElSori

PLENARY SESSION 5: Autism Spectrum Disorder SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Zeinab Alloub, UAE		
09:00 - 09:15	Diagnosing Autism: an evidence-based approach	Dr. Shola Faniran, UAE
09:15 - 09:30	CAM – ASD	Dr. Zeinab Alloub, UAE
09:30 - 09:45	ABA: The controversy (debunking some myths on ABA)	Dr. Sharifa Al Yateem, UAE
09:45 - 10:00	Transition to adulthood in children with autism	Ms. Neena Raina, UAE
10:00 - 10:15	Panel Discussion	
10:15 - 10:30	Best Poster Awards	
10:30 - 10:45	COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing	

SESSION 6: Comprehensive Care: Integrating Multidisciplinary Approaches through Ancillary Therapies SESSION CHAIRS: Ms. Nannette R. Wicker, UAE		
10:45 - 11:00	Occupational Therapy: approach to sensory Processing	Ms. Nannette R. Wicker, UAE
11:00 - 11:15	Feeding problems in ND	Dr. Mpho Monese, UAE
11:15 - 11:30	Speech therapy topic: AAC	Ms. Danielle Hadchity, UAE
11:30 - 11:45	Gait Lab	Mr. Freddy Krishnan, UAE
11:45 - 12:00	Panel Discussion	
12:00 - 13:00	LUNCH BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking	

PARALLEL SESSION 7: Education /Resources /Research SESSION CHAIRS: Dr. Alain Sabri, UAE			SESSION 7: Unlock the power of Art & music therapy for children with development disabilities: Benefits and challenges
13:00 - 13:20	Brain Development in the Early Years: Insights from neuroscience	Dr. Viren Dsa, USA	13:00 - 13:20 Early intervention with art therapy Ms. Sara Powel, UAE
13:20 - 13:40	Breaking New Ground: Recent Research Advances/biomarkers in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics/ Autism Spectrum Disorder	Dr. Haneesha Pinnamaraju, UAE	13:20 - 13:40 Case study of a child (Sensorimotor Art Therapy (SAT)) Ms. Chris Storm, Australia
13:40 - 14:00	Managing stress and avoiding burnout in Pediatric caregivers and educators: a new stepwise approach for wellness and prevention	Dr. Alain Sabri, UAE	13:40 - 14:00 Art therapy benefits on children with emotional abuse Ms. Emma Mills, UK
14:00 - 14:20	Building Inclusive Education Systems	Dr. Ruba Tabari, UAE	14:00 - 14:20 Panel Discussion

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			Moderator: Ms. Sara Powel Panelists: Ms. Chris Storm, Dr. Zeinab Alloub, Ms. Sara Powel, Dr. Lamees Bu Haleeqa, Ms. Emma Mills
14:20 - 14:40	Panel Discussion		14:40 - 15:00 Future of Art/ Music therapy in the region: How to move forward Moderator: Ms. Ahlam Gadalla Participants: Ms. Mariam Al Halawani, Dr. Awad Alyami, Dr. Wael Hassan, Dr. Abeer Khader
14:40 - 15:00	COFFEE BREAK Exhibition Visit & Networking Poster Viewing		15:00 - 15:20 Art therapy exhibition & life workshops Ms. Ahlam Gadalla

SESSION 8: Empowering Families: Supporting Caregivers in Nurturing Development and Well-Being

SESSION CHAIRS: **Dr. Haneesha Pinnamaraju, UAE**

15:00 - 15:40	Parenting Through Challenges: Navigating Developmental Delays and Behavioral Issues	Ms. Nipa Bhuptani, UAE
15:40 - 16:20	Role of Evidence Based Programs in Supporting Parent and Child Wellbeing	Mrs. Nancy Merheb
16:20 - 17:00	My journey: A Self-Advocate's Perspective on Living with Autism	Dr. Haneesha Pinnamaraju, UAE
17:00 - 17:40	United for Change: The Power of Parent Advocates and Support Networks for Children with Disabilities	Dr. Dalal Elsori, UAE
17:40 - 18:00	Panel Discussion	
18:00	End of the Conference	