

AGENDA

2022 MENA Regional Meeting

The AAHCI Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Regional Office host, the American University of Beirut Medical Center ([AUBMC](#)), is organizing this in-person meeting to provide members in the region an opportunity to dive in on how the COVID pandemic and conflicts around the world have had a major impact on academic health centers. Academic health centers must adapt and transform in order to continue their vital mission. The meeting is being co-hosted by Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences ([MBRU](#)) in Dubai and Gulf Medical University Academic Health Center ([GMU](#)), in Ajman, UAE.

Under the theme, *Transforming Academic Health Centers: Innovation and Resilience*, members will explore how academic health centers can EVOLVE in the way they deliver clinical care, ADAPT in medical education, INVEST in collaborative clinical and translational research, and be resilient both operationally and through local, regional, and international partnership cultivation. This conference will address ways academic health centers can transform through innovation and resilience.

Session Topics include:

- Evolving Clinical Care: transforming focus to the patient experience
- Investment in Biomedical Research
- Resilience of Academic Health Centers: what does it mean?
- Adaptations in Health Professions and Medical Education
- Partnerships and Community Outreach

Location and more

Meeting Venue locations:

Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medical and Health Sciences (MBRU)
Building 14
Dubai Healthcare City
Dubai, UAE

Gulf Medical University (GMU)
Lecture Hall 1
Thumbay Medicity
Ajman, UAE

Logistics:

For registration, hotel information, and the local health & safety protocol: please visit the [meeting page](#).

October 1-2
UAE

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Saturday, October 1

All times listed are in UAE Time

Location: Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU) in Dubai, UAE

8:00 AM Registration & Information

All attendees

9:00 AM Opening Remarks

- Welcome and housekeeping by [Yumna Maalouf](#), MPH, Executive Administrator, American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC), AAHCI MENA Office Regional Manager (Lebanon)
- [Mohamed H. Sayegh](#), MD, FAHA, FASN, ASCI, AAP, FRCP, Professor of Medicine and Immunology, American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC), AAHCI MENA Regional Ambassador, Lebanon
- [Hanan Alsuwaidi](#), Chief Business Officer, Dubai Academic Health Corporation, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU) (UAE)
- [Alison Whelan](#), MD, Chief Academic Officer, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) (USA)

9:30 AM Opening Presentation

[Alawi Alsheikh-Ali](#), Chief Academic Officer, Dubai Academic Health Corporation, Executive Vice President, Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU) (UAE)

"Integration and Partnerships in Academic Healthcare Centers: Perspectives from the Dubai Academic Health System"

Introduction by [Mohamed H. Sayegh](#), MD, FAHA, FASN, ASCI, AAP, FRCP, Professor of Medicine and Immunology, American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC), AAHCI MENA Regional Ambassador, Lebanon

10:00 AM Networking Break

All attendees

10:15 AM Keynote Presentation

[Nadine Hachach-Haram](#), MD, CEO and Founder of Proximie, Consultant Plastic Surgeon and Head of Clinical Innovation at Guy's and St. Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust (UK) (*presenting virtually*)

"Improving Academic Health Systems With New Technologies"

Introduction by [Mohamed H. Sayegh](#), MD, FAHA, FASN, ASCI, AAP, FRCP, Professor of Medicine and Immunology, American University of Beirut Medical Center (AUBMC), AAHCI MENA Regional Ambassador, Lebanon

10:45 AM **Evolution of Clinical Care: Transforming Focus to the Patient Experience**

Panel Session

[Kadir Atas](#), Director of IT, Bezmialem Vakif University (BVU) (Turkey)
"Designing Artificial Intelligence Based - Healthcare Processes"

[Siddiq Anwar](#), MD, Physician and Data Scientist, Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC) (UAE)
"Engineering Safer Care with a Systems View Of Analytics: A Few Use Cases from Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City"

[Maher Soubra](#), MD, Director of Patient Affairs, Emirates Hospital (UAE)
"A physician journey to "Patient Experience": lessons learned"

Facilitators:

[Sola Aoun Bahous](#), MD, PhD, MHPE, Professor and Dean, Department of Internal Medicine – Division of Nephrology, Lebanese American University (LAU) (Lebanon)

[Naser Mahmud Ammash](#), MD, FACC, FASE, CEO, Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC) (UAE)

12:00 PM **Lunch Break**

All attendees

1:15 PM **Investment in Biomedical Research**

Panel Session

[Srirama Rao](#), MD, PhD, Vice-President for Research and Innovation, Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) (USA)
"The role of research universities and its AHCs in advancing enterprise-wide research innovation through strategic planning and investment: A VCU perspective"

[Asma Ibrahim Al Mannaie](#), MD, Executive Director Research and Innovation Center, Drugs & Medical Products Division, Research and Innovation Center, Department of Health (Abu Dhabi)

[Elie Akl](#), MD, Associate Dean for Clinical Research, American University of Beirut (Lebanon)
(presenting virtually)
"Return on investment in clinical research, in times of crises"

[Frank Rühli](#), Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Zurich, and AAHCI European Regional Ambassador (Switzerland)
(presenting virtually)
"The future of medicine and biomedical research: A Zurich perspective"

Facilitator:

[Assaad A. Eid](#), DSc, EMBA, Professor and I/Chairperson, Department of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Physiological Sciences & Associate Dean for Basic/Translational Research and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Medicine, American University of Beirut (AUBMC) (Lebanon)

2:30 PM **Resilience of Academic Health Centers: What does it mean?**

Panel Session

[Omar Najim](#), MD, Director Executive Affairs Office, Department of Health (Abu Dhabi)
"Achieving a whole of health system resilience, Abu Dhabi approach"

[Shadi Saleh](#), PhD, MPH, Founding Director, Global Health Institute (GHI), Professor of Health Systems and Financing, American University of Beirut (AUB) (Lebanon)
"Integrating Resilience Strategies in Management and Operations of Health Care Institutions"

[Hibah Osman](#), MD, MPH, Palliative Care Physician and Assistant Professor, Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School (USA) (*presenting virtually*)
"Palliative care as a model of resilience in medical education and practice"

Facilitators:

[Hanan Alsuwaidi](#), Chief Business Officer, Dubai Academic Health Corporation, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU) (UAE)

[Reem Saleh Easa Al Gurg](#), Director, Strategy and Institutional Excellence and Assistant Professor of Health Policy, Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU) (UAE)

3:45 PM **Closing Presentation**

[Bilal Kaafarani](#), PhD, Professor of Chemistry, Advocate of Transformative Education, Interactive Teaching and Experiential Learning, American University of Beirut (AUB) (Lebanon)
"A model for transformative education"

Facilitator: [Abdel Halim Deifalla](#), MBCh, DPed, MSC, MD, Dean, College of Medicine & Medical Sciences, Arabian Gulf University (AGU) (Bahrain)

4:15 PM **Day 1 of MENA Regional Meeting Concludes**

October 1-2
UAE

AAHCI is a wholly owned subsidiary of the AAMC

Sunday, October 2

All times listed are in UAE Time

Location: Gulf Medical University Academic Health Center (GMU) in Ajman, UAE

8:00 AM Transportation

Transportation will be provided from MBRU to GMU for Day 2 of the MENA Regional Meeting.

9:00 AM Refreshments and Networking Break

9:30 AM Welcome Remarks

- [Hossam Hamdy](#), PhD, MBChB, DS (DM) FRCS, Chancellor, Professor of Surgery and Medical Education, Gulf Medical University Academic Health Center (GMU) (UAE)
"Challenges in leading the Academic Health Centers"
- [Akbar Moideen Thumbay](#), Vice President, Thumbay Healthcare Division, Gulf Medical University Academic Health Center (GMU) (UAE)
- [Massimo Pignatelli](#), MD, PhD, FRCPath, AAHCI Steering Committee Chair, and Dean, School of Medicine, Nazarbayev University (Kazakhstan)

10:00 AM Adaptation in Health Professions and Medical Education

Panel Session

[J. Michael Bostwick](#), MD, MFA, Consultant, Division of Hospital Practice, Department of Psychiatry & Psychology, Professor of Psychiatry, Mayo Clinic (USA) (*presenting virtually*)

[Thurayya Arayssi](#), MD, Vice Dean for Academic and Curricular Affairs, Professor of Clinical Medicine, Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar (WCM-Q) (Qatar) (*presenting virtually*)

[Suzanne El-Sayegh](#), MD, FACP, FASN, Program Director Internal Medicine Residency, Director of Nephrology, Associate Chair of Medicine, Professor of Medicine, Zucker School of Medicine (USA) (*presenting virtually*)
"Transition from UME to GME"

Facilitators:

[Ibrahim Janahi](#), MD, Chair of Medical Education, Designated Institutional Officer and the Division of Pulmonology, Sidra Medicine (Sidra) (Qatar)

[Philip \(Phil\) R. Fischer](#), MD, Consultant, Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine, Chairman of Division, Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City (SSMC) (UAE)

11:15 AM **Networking Break**

All attendees

11:45 AM **Partnerships and Community Outreach**

Panel Session

[Khairat Al Habbal](#), MD, Assistant Professor, Family Medicine, Khalifa University (KU) (UAE)

"Partnerships and community outreach: KU's perspective"

[Damalie Nakanjako](#), MBChB, MMED, PhD, Professor of Medicine, Principal, Makerere University College of Health Sciences (Uganda)

"Partnerships and community outreach"

[Lina Daouk-Öyry](#), PhD, Associate Professor, BI Norwegian School of Business (Norway) *(presenting virtually)*

"Building interdisciplinary and inter-professional networks for better healthcare management: the case of EHMU & ADILLA"

[Brittany Seymour](#), DDS, MPH, Associate Professor, and Global Health Discipline Director, Harvard School of Dental Medicine (USA) *(presenting virtually)*

"Building Bridges"

Facilitators:

[Nancy Falco Chedid](#), MD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Director of Student Affairs, Lebanese American University, Gilbert and Rose-Marie Chagoury School of Medicine, Byblos (LAU) (Lebanon)

[Nabil Zary](#), Senior Director, Institute for Excellence in Health Professions Education, Professor of Medical Education, Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences (MBRU) (UAE)

1:00 PM **Closing Keynote Presentation**

[Alison Whelan](#), MD, Chief Academic Officer, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) (USA)

"Current and Future Trends in Health Professions Education"

Facilitator: [Massimo Pignatelli](#), MD, PhD, FRCPath, AAHCI Steering Committee Chair, and Dean, School of Medicine, Nazarbayev University (Kazakhstan)

1:30 PM **Lunch Break**

All attendees

3:00 PM **Closing of MENA Regional Meeting 2022**

Transportation will be provided from GMU back to MBRU.