



# 5<sup>th</sup> International Paediatric Neurodisability & Neurorehabilitation Conference



October 16 - 17, 2026



InterContinental Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi UAE



### Dr Majid Aziz

Conference Chairman  
MBBS, FRCPCH, CCT(Pediatric Neurology),  
Epilepsy Fellowship (Aus)  
Division Chief and Consultant Paediatric Neurologist  
Sheikh Khalifa Medical City  
Abu Dhabi.



### Dr Tarek Ibrahim El-Azzabi

Conference Co-Chairman  
MBBCh, MRCPCH, FRCPCH, DCH, CCT (UK)  
Senior Consultant Paediatrician - Neurodisability  
Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi  
A/Assistant Professor in Paediatric, UAE University, Al Ain, UAE

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## Scientific Agenda

Day 1: Friday, October 16, 2026

### Timings

01:00 - 02:00 PM

### Activity

Onsite Registration and Welcome and Introduction to the Program

### Session 1: Neurodevelopment

Moderator: TBA

02:00 - 02:25 PM

**Genetic Mechanisms in Neurodevelopmental Disorders**

Speaker: *Mariam Al Shehi - Consultant Clinical Genetics SKMC, UAE*

02:25 - 02:50 PM

**Neuroplasticity in Pediatric Brain Injury: Mechanisms and Therapeutic Targets**

Speaker: *Dr. Fatima Ismail, UAE*

02:50 - 03:15 PM

**Premature Brain Injury: From NICU to Long-term Neurodevelopmental Outcomes**

Speaker: *Dr. Bibian Ofoegbu, Corniche Hospital, UAE*

03:15 - 03:40 PM

**Novel Therapeutics on the Horizon in CP: Stem Cells and Neuroprotective Agents – Where Are We Now?**

Speaker : *Dr. Haitham Bashir, UAE*

03:40 - 04:05 PM

**Advancing Rehabilitation in Cerebral Palsy**

Speaker : *Dr. Amal Fahmy, UAE*

**04:05 - 04:20 PM**

**Coffee Break**

04:20 - 04:45 PM

**Standardized Tools for Global Developmental Delay**

Speaker: *Dr. Huda Sadek, UAE*

04:45 - 05:10 PM

**Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) Targeted Intervention**

Speaker: *Dr. Zeinab Alloub, Al Jalila, UAE*

05:10 - 05:35 PM

**Use of AI and the Future of Autism Diagnosis and Management**

Speaker: *Dr. Binu George, SAKINA, UAE*

05:35 - 06:00 PM

**Downs Syndrome: Neurodevelopmental Optimization – Early Intervention, Education, and Cognitive Enhancement**

Speaker: *Dr. Tawfiq Hen, SKMC, UAE*

06:00 - 06:25 PM

**Educational Inclusion: Policy & Practice in Childhood Neurodisability**

Speaker: *TBC*

**06:25 PM**

**Dinner**



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## Scientific Agenda

Day 2: Saturday, October 17, 2026

### Timings

08:00 - 09:00 AM

### Activity

Onsite Registration and Welcome and Introduction to the Program

### Session 2: Epilepsy & Comorbidities

Moderator: TBA

09:00 - 09:25 AM

**Precision Medicine in Pediatric Epilepsy: Genetic Testing to Targeted Therapy**

Speaker: *Dr. Anil Israni, Tawam Hospital, UAE*

09:25 - 09:50 AM

**Epilepsy-Autism Comorbidity – Shared Mechanisms and Dual Diagnosis Management**

Speaker: *Dr. Dina Saleh, Reem Hospital, UAE*

09:50 - 10:15 AM

**Dietary Therapies for Epilepsy: Ketogenic Diet Updates and Implementation**

Speaker: *Dr. Samar Al Muntaser, Al Jalila, UAE*

10:15 - 10:40 AM

**Autoimmune Encephalitis: Diagnostic approach and Treatment Escalation**

Speaker : *Dr. Pawan Kashyape, Al Jalila Hospital, UAE*

10:40 - 11:05 AM

**Transition from Pediatric to Adult Epilepsy Care – A Bridge Between Two Worlds**

Speaker : *Dr. Mohamad Ayman Haykal - CCAD, UAE*

11:05 - 11:20 AM

**Coffee Break**

### Session 3: Neuromuscular

Moderator: TBA

11:20 - 11:45 AM

**Newborn Screening Implementation: Early Diagnosis and the Window of Therapeutic Opportunity**

Speaker: *Dr. Amal Al Tenaiji, UAE*

11:45 - 12:10 PM

**Exon-Skipping Therapies: Eteplirsen, Golodirsen, and Viltolarsen – Real-World Evidence and Patient Selection [Sponsor]**

Speaker: *TBC*

12:10 - 12:35 PM

**Elevidys (Delandistrogene Moxeparvovec) Update: Efficacy Data, Recent FDA Safety Warnings, and Ambulatory Patient Selection [Sponsor]**

Speaker: *TBC*

11:35 - 12:00 AM

**Spinraza (Nusinersen): Long-term Efficacy, Higher-Dose DEVOTE Trial Results, and Intrathecal Delivery Innovations [Sponsor]**

Speaker: *TBC*

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01:35 - 02:00 PM

Zolgensma (Onasemnogene Apeparvovec): IV vs. Intrathecal Routes, STEER Trial Outcomes, and Real-World Comparative Data [Sponsor]  
Speaker: *TBC*

01:35 - 02:00 PM

Evrysdi (Risdiplam): RAINBOWFISH and SUNFISH Long-term Data, Presymptomatic Treatment, and Oral Therapy Advantages [Sponsor]  
Speaker: *TBC*

**01:00 - 02:00 PM**

**Lunch Break**

### Session 4: Miscellaneous Moderator: TBA

02:00 - 02:25 PM

Adolescent Sleep Health – School Start Times, Circadian Biology, and Mental Health  
Speaker: *Dr. Arif Khan Neuropedia, UAE*

02:25 - 02:50 PM

Functional Neurological Disorder in Children and Adolescents – Rehabilitation Approaches to "Mind-Body" Conditions  
Speaker: *Dr. Biju Hameed, UAE*

02:50 - 03:15 PM

Persistent Pediatric OSA After Adenotonsillectomy – Multilevel Evaluation and Targeted Interventions  
Speaker: *Dr. Sophia Konstantinopoulou SKMC, UAE*

03:15 - 03:40 PM

Binocular Vision Dysfunction in Neurodevelopmental Disorders  
Speaker : *Dr. Irfan Khan - Moore Field Eye Hospital, UAE*

**03:40 - 03:55 PM**

**Coffee Break**

03:55 - 04:20 PM

Hip Surveillance Programs – From Early Detection to Decision-Making  
Speaker : *Dr. Ken Kontio, SKMC, UAE*

04:20 - 04:45 PM

3D Gait Analysis in Clinical Practice  
Speaker: *Jennifer Walsh, Al Jalilal, UAE*

04:45 - 05:10 PM

Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR) – Patient Selection, Timing, and Long-Term Functional Outcomes  
Speaker: *Dr. Robert Pemp SKMC, UAE*

**05:10 PM**

**Adjournment**