



MENA SPINE CONGRESS

MSC2027 Program





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CONGRESS

Day 1: Saturday, 23rd January, 2027 (08:00 – 17:30)

08:00 - 08:30	Opening Ceremony	Speaker
08:30 - 09:30	Session 1: NASS Session: International Collaboration and Leadership to Advance Global Spine Care	Moderators: Patrick Hsieh - Jeffrey Wang
08:30 - 08:40	Advancing Global Spine Care through International Education and Research Initiatives	Patrick Hsieh
08:40 - 08:50	Improving Neglected Spine Care in Developing Countries	Hani Mhaidli
08:50 - 09:00	Standardizing Endoscopic Spine Surgery Education: Integrating VR, Simulation, and Cadaver Training for Global Adoption	Luke Kim
09:00 - 09:10	Who Pays for Innovation? The Global Battle for Reimbursement in Spine Surgery	Don Moore
09:10 - 09:20	Developing Leadership Skills to Improve Global Spine Care through Academic Spine Societies	Jeffrey Wang
09:20 - 09:30	Panel Discussion and Q&A	
09:30 – 10:30	Session 2: GSC session	Moderators: Jeffrey Wang - Juan Emmerich - Sameh Abolfotouh
09:30 - 09:35	Introduction to the Global Spine Congress	Jeffrey Wang
09:35 - 09:45	Artificial Intelligence: The Future of Spine Surgery	Jens Chapman
09:45 - 09:55	Social Media for Practicing Spine Surgeons	Klaus Schnake
09:55 - 10:05	Chat GPT and AI for the Modern Spine Surgeon	Patrick Hsieh
10:05 - 10:15	Novel Education for the New Generation of Spine Surgeon	Richard Bransford
10:15 - 10:25	Social media's influence on Surgeons and patient expectations of spinal treatment	Hani Mhaidli
10:25 - 10:30	Discussion	
10:30 11:00	Coffee break	



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11:00-12:00	Session 3: AO Spine Symposium: Surgeon Longevity: Mastering a Sustainable Career in Spine Surgery	Moderators: Juan Emmerich - Muzahem Taha- Jens Chapman
11:00 - 11:10	The Physical Demands of Spine Surgery	Richard Bransford
11:10 - 11:20	Radiation Safety in Spinal Surgery	Luke Kim
11:20 - 11:30	The Silent Battles: Mental Health, Isolation, and the Price of Success	Jeffrey Wang
11:30 - 11:40	Dealing with Difficult Outcomes and Complications	Jens Chapman
11:40 - 11:50	Longevity in leadership: The emotional burden in governance while leading global change	Juan Emmerich
11:50 - 12:00	Panel Discussion	
12:00-13:00	Session 4: CSRS Session: Navigating the Cervical Spine: A Deep Dive into Diagnosis, Technology, and Complications	Moderators: Carmen Vleggeert-Lankamp - Oscar Alves
12:00 - 12:10	Is inflammation an important factor in radiculopathy? the role of macrophages	Carmen Vleggeert-Lankamp
12:10 - 12:20	Revisions strategies in pseudarthrosis	Oscar Alves
12:20 - 12:30	How helpful is cervical spine endoscopy as a surgical tool?	Ahmed Ibrahim
12:30 - 12:40	Multiple Complications Long-Term After Three-Level Cervical Spondylectomy	Petr Vachata
12:40 - 12:50	2 of a kind cervical bone tumour	Oscar L Alves
12:50 - 13:00	Discussion	
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch Break	



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14:00 – 15:30	Session 5: Challenging Case Discussion	Moderators: Ayush Sharma - Tony Tannoury - Youssry El Hawary
14:00 - 14:10	IONM drop complication	Sandesh Lakkol
14:10 - 14:20	Transarticular anterior C1-C2 fixation: An innovative surgical technique	Waseem Aziz
14:20 - 14:30	Single stage posterior approach with Ponte osteotomies and use of beam rods for correction of high grade rigid Adolescent idiopathic scoliosis: case series	Waleed Hekal
14:30 - 14:40	My worse cervical case	Imad Hashim
14:40 - 14:50	The Domino Effect: Multilevel Contiguous Osteoporotic Lumbar Fractures	Aseem Alhaj
14:50 - 15:00	Dislocations needed more to do	Wael Al-Samak
15:00 - 15:10	Same level, different lesson. My recurrent disc	Rizwan Akram
15:10 - 15:20	A case of Revision Scoliosis	Charbel Moussallem
15:20 - 15:30	Q&A	
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee Break	



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16:00 – 17:30	Session 6: The Everyday Decision Dilemmas	Moderators: Christian Morgenstern - Luke Kim - Ghazwan Hasan
16:00 - 16:30	Sacro-iliac joint pain and surgery: A neglected topic in spine	Oscar Alves
16:00 - 16:10	Pseudoarthrosis: Do I really need to re-operate?	Jens Chapman
16:10 - 16:20	Dural tears: What's the best strategy?	Saleh Baeesa
16:20 - 16:30	Post operative neuritis: How to prevent and treat?	Joseph El Khalil
16:30 -16:40	Q&A	
16:40 - 16:50	Interbody fusion devices: What's the best evidence?	Jeffrey Wang
16:50 -17:00	2-level Cervical Disc: Does a hybrid construct make any difference?	Tony Tannoury
17:00 - 17:10	Overcoming my fears: Should I invest in learning endoscopy?	Christian Morgenstern
17:10 - 17:20	Enabling technology: overcoming my fears and egos	Ali Baaj
17:20 - 17:30	Q&A	



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Day 2: Sunday, 24th January, 2027 (07:00 – 17:00)

07:00 – 08:00	Session 7: Breakfast with AO Spine Youth Club : Bridging Generations in Spine Surgery: Leadership, Mentorship, and the Lessons We Don't Usually Talk About	Moderator: Deya Alwady
07:00 -07:15	Youth Perspectives	
07:00 - 07:05	Leadership: from an early-career stage	Maria-Mădălina Ancuța
07:05 - 07:10	Mentorship: insights from the mentee perspective	Guna Pratheep Kalanchiam
07:10 -07:15	Teaching : How we learn and what we value in surgical training. How teaching is different from leadership and mentorship	Angélica L. Arce Stanković
07:15 - 07: 25	Faculty Reflections	
07:15 - 07:25	Panel Discussion	Panelists: Juan Emmerich - Sameh Abolfotouh - Jeffrey Wang - Ali Baaj - Jens Chapman - Richard Bransford - Omar Alnori - Waleed Awwad
	How do leadership and mentorship evolve over the course of a career?	Jeffrey Wang
07:25 - 07:35	Tips and tricks and life time scenarios	Moderators: Sabir Khan - Kaushik Simha Haravu Ramprasad - Doria Crismaruc - Turtureanu Irina - Angélica L. Arce Stanković
07:35 - 07:45	The Things We Never Talk About	Irina Turtureanu
07:45 - 08:00	Closing Remarks	AO SYC



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08:00 - 09:30	Session 8: Adult Spine Deformity	Moderators: Khaled Faraj - Mohamed Khattab - Marcus Head
08:00 - 08:10	What's the best Surgical option? Debate session	
08:10 - 08:20	I would only decompress the spine	Abdul Razzaq Al-Obaid
08:20 - 08:30	One level fusion usually does the job	Abdulaziz Almutair
08:30 - 08:40	It's a deformity case: Go big or go home!	Sami Aleissa
08:40 - 08:45	Pre-Operative Planning and Strategies to Minimize Iatrogenic Deformity	Mohamed Armouty
08:45 - 08:55	Anterior Approach to Restore Lumbar Lordosis	Tony Tannoury
08:55 -09:05	When to operate and when not to in Adult Spine Deformity	Ahmed Shawky
09:05 - 09:15	Proximal Junctional Kyphosis: Is it avoidable?	Sultan Aldebeyan
09:15 - 09:25	Is there a role for Schroth in Adult Spine Deformity?	Nikola Jevtic
09:25 - 09:30	Q&A	



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09:30 - 10:30	Session 9: Northwestern Medicine Session: The Aging Spine	Moderators: Ali Baaj - Waleed Awwad - Faisal Konbaz
09:30 - 09:40	Risk Stratification and Frailty in the elderly population	Don Moore
09:40 - 09:50	Optimizing Surgical Strategies: Comprehensive Evaluation of Osteoporotic Vertebral Fractures	Klaus Schnake
09:50 - 10:00	Instrumentation strategies in the osteoporotic bone	Fahad Alhelal
10:00 - 10:10	Central Cord Syndrome: Myth VS Reality	Ali Baaj
10:10 - 10:20	Geriatric Odontoid fracture: Old vs older patients!	Sultan AlKalbani
10:20 - 10:30	Q&A	
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 - 12:00	Session 10: JBJS Symposium: Calling All Surgeons: The Art of “IDEATION”	Moderators: Mohit Bhandari - Sameh Abolfotouh
11:00 - 11:02	Introduction/Welcome	Sameh Abolfotouh
11:02 - 11:11	Why Are “Disruptive Ideas” Declining?	Mohit Bhandari
11:11 - 11:20	Does A.I. Make Us More (or Less) Creative?	Alex Thabane
11:20 - 11:29	Innovating in the Operating room	Jens Chapman
11:29 - 11:38	Building Ideation Teams: What Surgeons can learn from Inter-disciplinary teams	Gerald Huesh
11:38 - 11:45	Ideas to Implementation: Navigating the Innovation pipeline	Beate Hanson
11:45 - 12:00	Panel Discussion and Summary	Sameh Abolfotouh



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12:00 - 13:00	Session 11: Spine and Life: Journeys to the Top	Moderators: Don Moore - Omar Alnori - Nayef Bin Dajim
12:00 -12:10	Bending Without Breaking: How My Toughest Cases Shaped My Life	Richard Bransford
12:10 - 12:20	The Lone Climb: Building a Spine Career Against All Odds	Jeff Wang
12:20 - 12:30	Panel Discussion	
12:30 - 12:40	From membership to leadership: Lessons I Learned on my journey to leadership of AO Spine	Juan Emmerich
12:40 - 12: 50	Breaking the Mold: Innovating When No One Believed	Mohit Bhandari
12:50 - 13:00	Panel Discussion	
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00 - 15:00	Session 12: SMISS AP symposium: Advances and Challenges in MIS surgery	Moderator: Yoshihisa Kotani
14:00 - 14:12	Posterior cervical endoscopic discectomy, Tips tricks and pitfalls	Ayush Sharma
14:12 - 14:24	Minimally Invasive TLIF in High Grade Spondylolisthesis	Arvind Kulkarni
14:24 -14:36	MIS adult deformity surgery: Advantage and Complication prevention	Yoshihisa Kotani
14:36 - 14:48	Current status of Robotic spine surgery in China	Yu Liang
14:48 - 15:00	Q&A	
15:00 – 15:20	Coffee Break	



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15:20 - 16:30	Session 13: Challenging case discussions	Moderators: Tony Tannoury - Arvind Kulkarni - Ahmed Shawky
15:20 - 15:30	Congenital Kyphosis	Khalifa Alghafri
15:30 - 15:40	Dural Dilemmas: Navigating the most common Spine Surgery Complication	Nader Hebelah
15:40 - 15:50	Dreaded Complications in Deformity Correction Surgery	Mason Alnori
15:50 - 16:00	Spinal surgery for a case of adult IDIOPATHIC SCOLIOSIS: what went wrong?	Nicandro Figueiredo
16:00 - 16:10	A Challenging case of kyphoscoliosis	Antony Louis Rex Michael
16:10 - 16:20	Thoracic spine tumors : complex illustrative cases	Mohamed Alasha
16:20 - 16:30	When your routine practice fails....	Rami Salameh
16:30 - 17:00	Closing remarks + Best Paper Award	



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THANK YOU

