

Destination Partner

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Convention & Exhibition Bureau

1st Respiratory Therapy Congress

Breathing Innovation: RT Leadership in the Era of Advanced Life Support



Pre-Congress Workshop: 08 May 2026
Main Congress: 09-10 May 2026



Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche
United Arab Emirates



This congress has been accredited by the Department of Health for a maximum of **14.30 of DOH CME**

Congress Book

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Welcome Message

Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to the **1st Respiratory Therapy Congress 2026**, held under the theme “**Breathing Innovation: RT Leadership in the Era of Advanced Life Support.**” The congress will take place on **8–10 May 2026** at Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche, UAE.

As the inaugural edition, this congress is dedicated to advancing respiratory therapy practice and strengthening leadership in pulmonary and critical care. Aligned with the UAE’s vision of delivering advanced, technology-driven healthcare, the event will provide a dynamic platform for knowledge exchange, innovation, and collaboration.

Bringing together distinguished experts, clinicians, and researchers, the congress will showcase the latest advances in AI-guided mechanical ventilation, ECMO and advanced oxygenation, pulmonary diagnostics and rehabilitation, along with pathways for the professional growth of Respiratory Therapists. Through engaging scientific sessions and interactive discussions, participants will gain practical, evidence-based insights aimed at improving patient outcomes in high-acuity clinical settings.

The program has been carefully designed for Respiratory Therapists and allied healthcare professionals, including nurses, pulmonologists, ENT physicians, family medicine specialists, neurologists, internal medicine specialists, emergency physicians, anesthesiologists, perfusionists, residents, interns, and medical students, all of whom share a commitment to excellence in respiratory care.

Your active participation is essential to shaping the success and establishing the enduring legacy of this first edition. Together, we will strengthen respiratory therapy leadership and help define the future of advanced life support.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, we warmly welcome you to Abu Dhabi for an enriching and inspiring inaugural congress.

Warm regards,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, sweeping loop followed by a smaller, more intricate flourish.

Ms. Seddiqa Al Mansoori

Congress Chair,
Respiratory Therapist

Scientific & Advisory Board



Ms. Seddiqa Al Mansoori
Congress Chair,
Respiratory Therapist



Mr. Sriharsha Tatineni
Congress Co-Chair,
Respiratory Therapist



Mr. Jacob Philip
Scientific Committee Chair,
Respiratory Therapist



Mr. Sidy Niang
Scientific Committee Co Chair,
Respiratory Therapist

Speakers



Dr. Benedict Raj Rajkumar
Consultant - Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon



Dr. MUSAAB ALI AL RAMSI
Consultant - Critical Care



Dr. Benedict Thomas Griffiths
Consultant - Pediatric
Cardiac Critical Care



Ms. Seddiqa Al Mansoori
Congress Chair,
Respiratory Therapist



Dr. Manjush Karthika
Associate Professor,
Respiratory Care



Mr. Afzal Mohamad Ali
Respiratory Therapist



Mr. Sriharsha Tatineni
Congress Co Chair,
Respiratory Therapist



Mr. Sidy Niang
Scientific Committee Co Chair,
Respiratory Therapist



Mr. Umesh Kumar Bylappa
Respiratory Therapist



Mr. Niyas Parappurath
Respiratory Therapist

Speakers



Dr. Rizwan Ahmed
Consultant - Adult Cardiologist



Dr. Jayachandran RamchandranPanickar
Consultant - Pediatric Pulmonologist



Mr. Aaron Thrush
Manager, Inpatient
Therapies & Rehabilitation



Dr. Majid Aziz
Consultant - Neurologist



Mr. Sanjay Sasi Kumar
Respiratory Therapist



Ms. Fatima al Hashmi
Clinical Dietitian



Ms. Marilou Panganiban
Respiratory Therapist



Mr. Vijoe Thomas
Respiratory Therapist



Mr. Didier Moens
Senior International Leader
in Medical Ventilation Technology



Dr. Fares Chedid
Consultant - Neonatologist

Speakers



Mr. Jacob Philip
Scientific Committee Chair,
Respiratory Therapist



Dr. Hesham Tawakol
Consultant - Neonatologist



Ms. Glasiela Alcalá
Researcher, Critical Care and
Mechanical Ventilation



Mr. Benjamin Philipp Barnhill
Clinical Application Specialist
Leader EMEA

Podium Presenters



Prof. Mohammad Al-hamas
Senior Lecturer, Consultant
Respiratory and Acute Medicine



Dr. Ihab H M Elkadry
Consultant - Neonatologist



Ms. Fatima Alawadhi
Lecturer, Higher Colleges
of Technology



Ms. Willessa Paredes
Respiratory Therapist



Dr. Khiadi Tseloeva
Pediatric Consultant

Moderators



Dr. Naveen Raj Hosabettu
Consultant Physician,
Department of Anaesthesia



Mr. Sidy Niang
Scientific Committee Co Chair,
Respiratory Therapist



Ms. Maria Cristina Mendoza
Respiratory Therapist



Mr. Eldo Vijo Paramby
Respiratory Therapist



Ma. Victoria Sunga
Respiratory Therapist



Ambily Kurian Varghese
Respiratory Therapist

Congress Objectives

By the end of this educational program, participants will be able to:

- Apply advanced mechanical ventilation strategies, including adaptive and closed-loop modes, high-frequency ventilation, and ultra-lung-protective ventilation in complex critical care settings.
- Evaluate and implement evidence-based ECMO practices, including cannulation strategies, circuit management, mobilization, and post-ECMO recovery.
- Integrate AI-driven technologies and automated oxygenation systems into respiratory care while maintaining patient safety and clinical effectiveness.
- Optimize patient-ventilator synchrony and implement early liberation and fast-track extubation protocols.
- Utilize advanced bedside diagnostic and monitoring tools, including lung ultrasound, neuro-monitoring, and modern pulmonary function testing.
- Apply evidence-based approaches to ARDS management, acute brain injury ventilation, congenital diaphragmatic hernia stabilization, and neuro-respiratory disorders.
- Incorporate pulmonary and cardiopulmonary rehabilitation principles, including structured patient education and chronic disease management strategies.
- Strengthen RT leadership through implementation of RT-led protocols, research methodology, interdisciplinary collaboration, and quality improvement initiatives in advanced life support environments.

Highlighted Topics:

- **Future of Ventilation:** AI-guided, personalized mechanical ventilation.
- **ECMO & Advanced Oxygenation:** Best practices, mobilization, and weaning protocols.
- **Pulmonary Diagnostics, Rehabilitation & Wellness:** Community RT leadership and chronic disease management.
- **Professional Development:** RT research, education, and career pathways.

Target Audience

The 1st Respiratory Therapy Congress 2026 is designed for a diverse audience of healthcare professionals involved in respiratory care, pulmonary medicine, and critical care practice. The congress aims to bring together multidisciplinary teams committed to advancing innovation, leadership, and excellence in advanced life support.

The target audience includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Respiratory Therapists
- All Allied Health Care Professionals
- Nurses
- Pulmonologists
- ENT Physicians
- Family Medicine Specialists
- Neurologists
- Intensivists
- Cardiologists
- Cardio thoracic surgeons
- Internal Medicine Specialists
- Emergency Physicians
- Anaesthesiologists
- Perfusionists
- Residents & Interns
- Medical Students

General Information

Venue

An iconic luxury 5-star hotel on the Abu Dhabi located in the prime district of Abu Dhabi centre. A glittering seafront landmark, Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche seamlessly fuses French style with lavish Arabian hospitality. In a prime location with captivating views of the Gulf, there's no better place from which to experience the city.

Name Badges

Participants are required to wear their name badges throughout the meeting in order to be admitted to the lecture halls and other scheduled activities. Kindy ensure to scan in and scan out in the session halls attended.

Refreshment and Lunch

Refreshment and lunch will be offered in accordance with the breaks indicated on the Agenda.

Mobile Phones and Photography

Participants are kindly requested to keep their mobile phones silent mode in the conference hall and refrain from taking photographs with flash during sessions.

Speakers' Room

Myrtle Boardroom (P2 Level)

CME Accreditation

This Conference is Accredited by the Department of Health and designated for a maximum of **14.30 of DOH CME**

Day 1, 09/5/26 is Accredited for 7.05 CME Hours

Day 2, 10/5/26 is Accredited for 7.25 CME Hours

- Please ensure to scan in your name badge before every session in the session halls attended.
- CME points are accumulated based on attended hours.
- A notification containing the link and instructions on how to download the certificates will be sent to your registered email address.
- Please note that you are required to complete the online evaluation of the conference before you can access the link to download your CME certificates. It is your responsibility to download and retain a copy of the certificate for your records.
- Each medical specialist should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

Workshops Agenda

Pre-Congress | 8 May 2026
Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche

13:00-14:00 Registration

Track 1	Track 2
<p>14:00-15:00</p> <p>Ventilation Modes: Intelli-ASV & P-V Tool for Lung Recruitment and PEEP Titration</p> <p>Speakers: Sidy Niang & Edwin Varghese, Umesh Kumar Bylappa, Eldo Vijo Paramby</p>	<p>14:00-15:00</p> <p>Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing (CPET)</p> <p>Speakers: Zarina Akramyar and Jose Gallardo Banez</p>
<p>15:00-16:00</p> <p>Exercise Challenge Test (ECT)</p> <p>Speakers: Ehab Fuad Jaradat & Maria Christina Mendoza</p>	<p>15:00-16:00</p> <p>Airway clearance Techniques Workshop</p> <p>Speakers: Ahmed Ali Al Basha, Ferdinand Godoy De Guzman, Praveen Prabhu, Carolyn Reyes Uy</p>

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

Track 1	Track 2
<p>16:30-17:30</p> <p>Lung Ultrasound (LUS): Bedside assessment for pneumothorax and effusions</p> <p>Speakers: Dr. Maryam Ebrahim Al Nuaimi</p>	<p>16:30-17:30</p> <p>Difficult Airway Workshop: Hands-on station with video laryngoscopy and bronchoscope</p> <p>Speakers: Vijoe Thomas, Ambily Kurian Varghese, Ashwini Prabhu Prabhu, Allan Alderete Ventura, Ricardo Martinez Enriquez Jr</p>

Scientific Agenda

Day 1 | 9 May 2026
Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKERS
08:00-08:50	Registration	
08:50-09:00	Welcome Address and Opening Remarks	Mr. Sriharsha Tatineni, UAE
Keynote Session 1 - Moderator: Dr. Naveen Raj Hosabettu		
09:00-09:40	From Cardiac Bypass to Bedside: Early Extubation and Fast-Track Protocols	Dr. Benedict Raj Rajkumar, UAE
09:40-10:20	PARDS Different Approach for Lung Recruitment (Prospect Study)	Dr. Musaab Al Ramsi, UAE
10:20-10:40	Official Inauguration Ceremony	Ms. Maria Cristina Mendoza, UAE
10:40-11:00	Coffee Break Exhibition Visit & Networking	
Plenary Session 2 - Moderator: Mr. Sriharsha Tatineni		
11:00 -11:30	Science of Oscillation, High Frequency Ventilation: Physiological Mechanism and Clinical Translation	Mr. Didier Moens, Switzerland
11:30 -12:00	AI in Respiratory Therapy: Balancing innovation	Ms. Seddiqa Al Mansoori, UAE
12:00 - 12:30	Respiratory Therapy in the UAE: Current Landscape and the Way Forward	Dr. Manjush Karthika, UAE
12:30-14:00	Lunch Break Exhibition Visit & Networking	
14:00-14:30	Application of Electrical Impedance Tomography (EIT) to Guide Ventilatory Strategies/ Identify Optimal PEEP	Ms. Glasiele Alcala, Canada
Parallel Session 3		
Track 1 - Moderator: Ms. Maria Cristina Mendoza		
14:30 -14:55	Monitoring and Optimizing Patient - Ventilator Synchrony to Facilitate Early Liberation from Mechanical Ventilation Speaker: Mr. Afzal Mohamad Ali, UAE	
14:55 -15:20	RT Led protocols and practice: Driving Quality, Safety and Consistency in Patient care Speaker: Mr. Sriharsha Tatineni, UAE	
15:20 -15:45	Ultra-Lung-Protective Ventilation (ULPV):During VA & VV Extracorporeal Support Speaker: Mr. Sidy Niang, UAE	
15:45 - 16:10	Respiratory Care Research Methodology: From Bedside Observation to Peer-Reviewed Publication Speaker: Mr. Umesh Kumar Bylappa, UAE	
16:10-16:35	Advanced Mechanical Ventilation Strategy Employing Volume Guaranteed Ventilation in Neonates and Infants Speaker: Dr. Hesham Tawakol, UAE	
16:35	END OF DAY 1	
Track 2 - Moderator: Mr. Eldo Vijo Paramby		
14:30 - 15:00	The iNO: Clinical Savior or Costly Distraction? Speaker: Mr. Jacob Philips, UAE	
15:00-15:20 Coffee Break Exhibition Visit & Networking		
Podium Session		
15:20 - 15:35	Beyond the Algorithm: A Narrative Review With Structured Methodology of Artificial Intelligence in Mechanical Ventilation and Oxygenation (2021-2026) Dr. Mohammad Al-hamas, UK	
15:35 - 15:50	The Profile of Chronic Lung Disease in <32 Weeks Gestational Age Infants: A Retrospective Cohort Study Dr. Ihab H M Elkadry, UAE	
15:50 - 16:05	High-Flow Nasal Oxygen Across Acute and Chronic Respiratory Care: Clinical Effectiveness, Phenotype-Specific Indications, and Implementation Considerations Dr. Mohammad Al-hamas, UK	
16:05 - 16:20	Ultrasound-Led, Minimally Invasive Pleural Care: A Structured Review of Adult Pleural Disease (2020-2026) Dr. Mohammad Al-hamas, UK	

Scientific Agenda

Day 2 | 10 May 2026
Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKERS
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08:00-08:50	Registration	
08:50-09:00	Welcome Address and Opening Remarks by the Congress Chair	Ms. Seddiqa Al Mansoori, UAE

Keynote Session 4 - Moderator: Ma. Victoria Sunga

09:00-09:40	CPET Impact on Community	Dr. Rizwan Ahmed, UAE
09:40-10:10	Exhaled Nitric Oxide in Management of Pediatric Asthma	Dr. Jayachandran Panicker, UAE
10:10-10:30	Coffee Break Exhibition Visit & Networking	

Plenary Session 5 - Moderator: Mr. Sidy Niang

10:30 -11:00	Pulmonary & Cardiac Rehabilitation in ICU	Mr. Aaron Thrush, UAE
11:00-11:30	Neuro-Respiratory Sleep Disorders in Advanced Care: Evolving Diagnostics, Targeted Therapies, and Clinical Impact	Dr. Majid Aziz, UAE
11:30-12:00	ECMO - How to Get On and How to Get Off	Dr. Benedict Thomas Griffiths, UAE
12:00-13:30	Lunch Break Exhibition Visit & Networking	
13:30-14:00	Role of Mechanical vs. Electrostatic Filters in ICU Ventilation: Understanding the Details and Differences	Mr. Benjamin Philipp Barnhill, Germany

Parallel Session 6

Track 1 - Moderator: Ms. Ambily Kurian Varghese

14:00-14:25	Automated Closed-Loop Oxygenation (ACLO): Reducing Hyperoxiemia Exposure in the Acute Brain Injury Speaker: Mr. Sanjay Sasi Kumar, UAE
14:25 -14:50	Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation: SMART Goal-Setting and Patient Education (Patient Centred Diet Plan) Speaker: Ms. Fatima al Hashmi, UAE
14:50 -15:15	Clinical Respiratory Therapist Role in Post Acute Care UAE Perspective Speaker: Ms. Marilou Panganiban, UAE
15:15 -15:40	Understanding Pulmonary Graphics in Mechanical Ventilation Speaker: Dr. Fares Chedid, UAE
15:40 -16:05	Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia: Pre-Operative Stabilization and Post-Operative Ventilation Speaker: Vijoe Thomas, UAE

Track 2 - Moderator: Mr. Sidy Niang

14:00-14:30	CPET in Action - Understanding the Numbers Mr. Niyas Parappurath, UAE
14:30 - 14:50 Coffee Break Exhibition Visit & Networking	
Podium Session	
14:50 - 15:05	Evolution of Ventilator Liberation: A PRISMA Systematic Review of Global Guidelines, Automated Weaning, and Multidisciplinary Pathways (2020-2026) Dr. Mohammad Al-hamas, UK
15:05 - 15:20	AI-Guided Mechanical Ventilation: Clinical Applications and Implications for Respiratory Therapists Ms. Fatima Alawadhi, UAE
15:20 - 15:35	Analysis of Spirometry Errors in a Pulmonary Function Laboratory in Al Dhafra Hospitals, UAE Ms. Willessa Paredes, UAE
15:35 - 15:50	Cough and Overuse of Medications in Pediatrics: An Evidence-Based Analysis Dr Khiadi Tseloeva, UAE

16:05	END OF CONFERENCE
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Ventilation Modes: Intelli-ASV & P-V Tool for Lung Recruitment and PEEP Titration

8 May 2026 (14:00-15:00) | Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche, UAE

Target Audience

- Respiratory Therapists
- All Allied Health Care Professionals
- Nurses
- Pulmonologists
- ENT Physicians
- Family Medicine Specialists
- Neurologists
- Intensivists
- Cardiologists
- Cardio thoracic surgeons
- Internal Medicine Specialists
- Emergency Physicians
- Anaesthesiologists
- Perfusionists
- Residents & Interns
- Medical Students



Number of Delegates **20**

Workshop Description:

This workshop provides a comprehensive, hands-on overview of advanced ventilatory strategies, focusing on Intelli-ASV (Adaptive Support Ventilation) and the application of the Pressure-Volume (P-V) Tool for bedside assessment of lung mechanics.

Participants will explore how Intelli-ASV functions as a closed-loop ventilation mode, automatically adapting to patient lung mechanics and respiratory drive by continuously adjusting tidal volume, respiratory rate, inspiratory pressure, and PEEP based on real-time data. In parallel, the workshop will cover the interpretation of P-V curves to identify key physiological markers, assess lung recruitability, and guide individualized PEEP titration.

The session will emphasize lung-protective strategies, including optimal PEEP selection, differentiation between recruitable and non-recruitable lung, and the reduction of ventilator-induced lung injury (VILI). Additionally, it will highlight how these approaches can reduce clinician variability and improve workflow efficiency in both acute and critical care settings.

Learning objectives

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Explain the principles of Intelli-ASV
- Explain ASV role in closed-loop mechanical ventilation
- Initiate and optimize Intelli-ASV settings
- Troubleshooting during ASV
- Apply Intelli-ASV in weaning strategies
- Understand the fundamentals of PV Tool
- Learn how to assess recruitability
- Learn how to perform a recruitment maneuver
- Learn how to find Optimal peep
- Troubleshoot

Ventilation Modes: Intelli-ASV & P-V Tool for Lung Recruitment and PEEP Titration

8 May 2026 (14:00-15:00) | Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche, UAE

Workshop Agenda

Time	Session Title
14:00-14:20	Introduction to Intelli-ASV and PV-Tool
14:20-14:40	Hands on Setup , parameter adjustments
14:40-15:00	Troubleshooting, weaning strategies.

Workshop Instructors

Mr. Sidy Niang
Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Umesh Kumar Bylappa
Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Edwin Varghese
Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Eldo Vijo Paramby
Respiratory Therapist

Exercise Challenge Test (ECT)

8 May 2026 (14:00-15:00) | Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche, UAE

Target Audience

- Respiratory Therapists
- All Allied Health Care Professionals
- Nurses
- Pulmonologists
- ENT Physicians
- Family Medicine Specialists
- Neurologists
- Intensivists
- Cardiologists
- Cardio thoracic surgeons
- Internal Medicine Specialists
- Emergency Physicians
- Anaesthesiologists
- Perfusionists
- Residents & Interns
- Medical Students



Number of Delegates **20**

Workshop Description:

This workshop provides a comprehensive overview of the Exercise Challenge Test (ECT) as a diagnostic tool for exercise-induced bronchoconstriction (EIB). A presentation will cover the physiological basis of airway response to exercise, standardized testing protocols, interpretation of spirometry results, and comparison with alternative bronchial provocation methods.

Learning objectives

- By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:
- Understand the pathophysiology of exercise-induced bronchoconstriction.
 - Identify appropriate clinical indications for Exercise Challenge Testing.
 - Describe the standardized protocol and key steps of performing ECT.
 - Interpret spirometry changes and diagnose EIB based on FEV₁ decline.
 - Differentiate ECT from other bronchial provocation tests (e.g., methacholine, EVH).

Workshop Agenda

Time	Session Title
15:00-15:30	Introduction
15:30-16:00	Exercise Challenge Test

Workshop Instructors

Mr. Ehab Fuad Jaradat
Supervisor of Cardiovascular Services

Ms. Maria Cristina Mendoza
Respiratory Therapist

Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing (CPET)

8 May 2026 (14:00-15:00) | Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche, UAE

Target Audience

- Respiratory Therapists
- All Allied Health Care Professionals
- Nurses
- Pulmonologists
- ENT Physicians
- Family Medicine Specialists
- Neurologists
- Intensivists
- Cardiologists
- Cardio thoracic surgeons
- Internal Medicine Specialists
- Emergency Physicians
- Anaesthesiologists
- Perfusionists
- Residents & Interns
- Medical Students



Number of Delegates **20**

Workshop Description:

This interactive workshop is designed to provide participants with both practical and theoretical expertise in conducting Cardiopulmonary Exercise Testing (CPET) to a high standard. The session combines hands-on training with focused presentations to ensure a comprehensive understanding of best practices and guideline-based approaches.

Participants will engage directly with CPET equipment, gaining experience in patient preparation, test execution, and real-time monitoring. Emphasis will be placed on techniques that ensure accuracy, reproducibility, and patient safety throughout the testing process. The presentation component will cover key principles for obtaining high-quality CPET results, including calibration procedures, protocol selection, data interpretation, and common pitfalls.

Learning objectives

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Understand the basics of CPET.
- Apply proper patient preparation and test protocols.
- Perform accurate calibration and quality control procedures.
- Recognize and avoid common errors affecting test validity.
- Integrate best practices into routine clinical workflows.

Workshop Agenda

Time	Session Title
14:00-14:30	Introduction to CPET: Principles & Indications
14:30-14:50	CPET Parameters & Interpretation

Workshop Instructors

Ms. Zarina Akramyar
Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Jose Gallardo Banez
Area Sales Manager, Jaeger Medical

Airway clearance Techniques Workshop

8 May 2026 (15:00-16:00) | Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche, UAE

Target Audience

- Respiratory Therapists
- All Allied Health Care Professionals
- Nurses
- Pulmonologists
- ENT Physicians
- Family Medicine Specialists
- Neurologists
- Intensivists
- Cardiologists
- Cardio thoracic surgeons
- Internal Medicine Specialists
- Emergency Physicians
- Anaesthesiologists
- Perfusionists
- Residents & Interns
- Medical Students



Number of Delegates **20**

Workshop Description:

Interactive workshop provides participant with comprehensive understanding of airway clearance techniques used in the management of the patients with respiratory conditions. It focuses on evidence-based practices to enhance secretion removal, improve ventilation, and optimize patient outcomes.

Learning objectives

- By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:
- Understand the physiological basis of airway clearance.
 - Understand the importance of airway clearance.
 - Learning different ACT methods.
 - Demonstrate key airway clearance techniques safely and effectively.
 - Identify which techniques suit different patients.
 - Apply airway clearance strategies in various clinical scenarios.

Workshop Agenda

Time	Session Title
15:00-15:20	Airway clearance
15:20-15:40	Demonstrate Hands on workshop
15:40-16:00	Demonstrate Hands on workshop

Workshop Instructors

Mr. Ahmed Ali Al Basha
Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Praveen Prabhu
Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Ferdinand Godoy De Guzman
Respiratory Therapist

Ms. Carolyn Reyes Uy
Respiratory Therapist

Difficult Airway Workshop: Hands-on Station with Video Laryngoscopy and Bronchoscope

8 May 2026 (16:30-17:30) | Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche, UAE

Target Audience

- Respiratory Therapists
- All Allied Health Care Professionals
- Nurses
- Pulmonologists
- ENT Physicians
- Family Medicine Specialists
- Neurologists
- Intensivists
- Cardiologists
- Cardio thoracic surgeons
- Internal Medicine Specialists
- Emergency Physicians
- Anaesthesiologists
- Perfusionists
- Residents & Interns
- Medical Students



Number of Delegates **20**

Workshop Description:

This hands-on workshop focuses on the management of the difficult airway, integrating the use of video laryngoscopy and flexible bronchoscopy for safe, effective, and controlled airway management. Participants will review structured airway assessment tools and apply evidence-based difficult airway algorithms in real-time scenarios.

The session emphasizes improving first-pass success through optimal preparation, positioning, and device selection. Through simulation-based stations, participants will gain practical experience in video laryngoscopy-guided intubation, bronchoscopy-assisted intubation, and combined techniques for complex airway situations such as limited mouth opening, airway obstruction, and anticipated difficult intubation.

Workshop Agenda

Time	Session Title
16:30-16:50	Airway Assessment and Difficult Airway Strategy
16:50-17:10	Hands-on Video Laryngoscopy and Techniques
17:10-17:30	Bronchoscopy-guided Intubation

Learning objectives

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Identify predictors of a difficult airway
- Demonstrate proper technique for Video Laryngoscopy
- Perform Bronchoscopy-guided intubation
- Apply a stepwise difficult airway algorithm
- Recognize and manage failed airway situations

Workshop Instructors

Mr. Vijoe Thomas
Senior Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Ashwini Prabhu Prabhu
Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Allan Alderete Ventura
Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Ricardo Martinez Enriquez Jr.
Respiratory Therapist

Ambily Kurian Varghese
Respiratory Therapist

Lung Ultrasound (LUS): Bedside Assessment for Pneumothorax and Effusions

8 May 2026 (16:30-17:30) | Sofitel Abu Dhabi Corniche, UAE

Target Audience

- Respiratory Therapists
- All Allied Health Care Professionals
- Nurses
- Pulmonologists
- ENT Physicians
- Family Medicine Specialists
- Neurologists
- Intensivists
- Cardiologists
- Cardio thoracic surgeons
- Internal Medicine Specialists
- Emergency Physicians
- Anaesthesiologists
- Perfusionists
- Residents & Interns
- Medical Students



Number of Delegates **20**

Workshop Description:

This hands-on workshop introduces the principles and clinical applications of Lung Ultrasound (LUS) in the rapid bedside assessment of pneumothorax and pleural effusions. Participants will gain practical knowledge on probe selection, scanning techniques, and interpretation of key sonographic signs. Emphasis will be placed on integrating LUS into routine clinical practice for timely diagnosis and decision-making in acute and critical care settings.

Workshop Agenda

Time	Session Title
16:30-17:00	Introduction to LUS & Pneumothorax Assessment
17:00-17:30	Pleural Effusion Assessment & Hands-on Practice

Learning objectives

By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Understand the basic principles and physics of lung ultrasound.
- Identify normal lung ultrasound anatomy and artifacts.
- Recognize key ultrasound signs of pneumothorax (e.g., lung sliding, barcode sign).
- Detect and differentiate pleural effusions using ultrasound.
- Apply LUS findings to support clinical decision-making at the bedside.

Workshop Instructor

Dr. Maryam Al Nuaimi

Consultant, Emergency Medicine Department



Speakers` Biography

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Benedict Raj Rajkumar
Consultant - Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon

Dr. Benedict Raj Rajkumar is a Consultant Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City (SKMC), one of the UAE's leading tertiary healthcare institutions. SKMC is recognized as a national referral center and houses the only pediatric cardiac surgery program in Abu Dhabi, performing a high volume of congenital heart surgeries annually.

He specializes in the surgical management of congenital heart diseases in infants and children, contributing to advanced cardiac care within a multidisciplinary pediatric cardiac team. His clinical work involves complex corrective and palliative cardiac procedures, as well as perioperative care for critically ill pediatric patients. At SKMC, Dr. Rajkumar is part of a highly specialized cardiac sciences program that provides comprehensive heart care for both pediatric and adult patients, supported by state-of-the-art facilities and collaborative expertise



Dr. Musaab Ali Al Ramsi
Consultant - Critical Care

Dr. Musaab Alramisi earned his medical degree from UAE University, Al Ain in 2006. He was subsequently trained in general pediatrics at Tufts Medical Center, Boston, and followed by training in pediatric critical care medicine at the Stanford University School of Medicine, California, USA. He is certified by the American Board of Pediatrics in general pediatrics and in pediatric critical care medicine, and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

He is currently the Chairman of Critical Care Medicine at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, and Local Principal investigator of PROSpect trial in UAE, has multiple publications in the field of pediatric critical care medicine.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Benedict Thomas Griffiths
Consultant - Pediatric Cardiac Critical Care

Dr. Benedict Griffiths, a Pediatrics specialist at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, focuses on pediatric intensive care medicine, congenital heart disease, airway management, ECMO, and advanced hemodynamic monitoring. His expertise ensures optimal care for critically ill pediatric patients.



Ms. Seddiqa Al Mansoori
Congress Chair, Respiratory Therapist

Seddiqa is a graduate student of respiratory therapy through Fanshawe College. She has trained within a large teaching hospital with experience in providing cardio-respiratory care in variety setting, including the intensive care unit, operating suites, wards and emergency departments. Currently, she is working at Sheik Khalifa Medical Center (SKMC) and joins respiratory therapy department in March 2015.



Dr. Manjush Karthika
Associate Professor, Respiratory Care

Dr. Manjush Karthika holds doctoral and postdoctoral qualifications in Respiratory Care, with advanced certifications in Emergency Medical Care and Academic Practice. His clinical expertise spans adult and pediatric respiratory care, extracorporeal life support, and critical care ultrasonography, supported by extensive acute care experience. He is certified across multiple advanced life-support and critical care instructor pathways and integrates clinical practice with innovation in health professions education. He has contributed extensively to the scholarly field through several peer-reviewed publications and book chapters in respiratory and critical care.

Dr. Manjush is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA, UK) and a Fellow of the International Society for Quality in Healthcare (FISQua, Ireland) and the Indian Association of Respiratory Care (FIARC, India). He currently serves as Associate Professor of Respiratory and Emergency Care at Liwa University and President of the Respiratory Care Special Interest Group at the Emirates Thoracic Society, leading key initiatives to advance clinical education and professional practice across the UAE and beyond.

Speakers` Biography



Mr. Afzal Mohamad Ali
Respiratory Therapist

Afzal Mohamad Ali is a dedicated Respiratory Therapy Supervisor at Sheikh Shakhbout Medical City. A registered Respiratory Therapist certified by the Canadian Board of Respiratory Care, Afzal brings a wealth of clinical expertise and leadership to his role. He is known for his commitment to advancing respiratory care through education and professional development. Afzal has delivered numerous talks and conducted workshops on ventilator management at regional and international conferences, sharing his insights and promoting best practices in critical care settings.



Mr. Sriharsha Tatineni
Congress Co-Chair, Respiratory Therapist

Sriharsha Tatineni (Harsha), FIARC is an accomplished healthcare leader with over 20 years of experience in respiratory care and clinical management. He currently serves as the Supervisor of Respiratory Therapy at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City (SKMC) in Abu Dhabi, where he directs critical clinical operations within the SEHA network.

Beyond his clinical role, Harsha is a global advocate for the profession, serving as the Vice President of the Indian Association of Respiratory Care (IARC). A distinguished Fellow of the IARC (FIARC), he has been instrumental in establishing the organization's structural bylaws and advancing respiratory education across India and the UAE. Harsha holds a PGDM in Hospital and Health Management and is NBRC (USA) certified, combining frontline bedside excellence with strategic healthcare innovation to elevate international standards of patient care.

Speakers` Biography



Mr. Sidy Niang

Scientific Committee Co-Chair,
Respiratory Therapist

Sidy Niang is a Senior Respiratory Therapist with over 19 years of experience in critical care respiratory medicine, specializing in the management of complex respiratory conditions across pediatric and adult populations. Throughout his career, he has developed extensive expertise in advanced ventilatory support, acute respiratory failure management, and multidisciplinary critical care practice.

He spent five years practicing in New York, USA, where he worked in high-acuity hospital environments and gained significant experience managing critically ill patients requiring advanced respiratory interventions. He currently serves as a Senior Respiratory Therapist at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City (SKMC) in Abu Dhabi, where he has been practicing for the past fourteen years.

Deeply committed to professional education and clinical excellence, he actively contributes to staff training, mentorship, and the advancement of respiratory therapy practice through evidence-based care and continuous professional development.



Mr. Umesh Kumar Bylappa

Respiratory Therapist

Umesh Kumar is a Senior Respiratory Therapist at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, with over 22 years of experience in respiratory care and critical care medicine. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, India. His clinical expertise includes mechanical ventilation management in ICU, NICU, PICU, and CCU settings.

He is the author of "Handbook of Mechanical Ventilation," now in its third edition. In addition to his book, Umesh has contributed significantly to academic literature with numerous research and review publications.

Notable works include:

Adaptive Support Ventilation – A Way Different from Traditional Ventilation
Update in ARDS Clinical Ventilator Management & Prone Ventilation
Ultrasound vs. Bronchoscopy-Guided Percutaneous Tracheostomy, among others.

Speakers` Biography



Mr. Niyas Parappurath
Respiratory Therapist

Niyas is a Senior Respiratory Therapist at Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi with over 17 years of experience in respiratory care, with a strong focus on cardiopulmonary exercise testing (CPET) and advanced pulmonary diagnostics. He played a key role in establishing the Pulmonary Function Laboratory and CPAP Clinic at CCAD, contributing to the development of workflows, quality standards, and clinical services.

He is credentialed as a Registered Pulmonary Function Technologist (RPFT), Registered Polysomnographic Technologist (RPSGT), and Certified Respiratory Function Scientist (CRFS). His clinical expertise includes comprehensive pulmonary function testing, sleep-disordered breathing management and has a strong passion for exercise physiology and CPET, with a particular interest in ventilatory efficiency, gas exchange abnormalities, and identifying patterns of exercise limitation.

He is currently involved in an ongoing CPET reference value study in the UAE population, aiming to improve the clinical applicability and accuracy of CPET testing and interpretation. In this session, "CPET in Action," he will focus on the key numbers to look for and provide a simple, structured approach to basic CPET interpretation, enabling Respiratory care practitioners to quickly identify patterns and apply findings confidently in clinical practice.



Dr. Rizwan Ahmed
Consultant - Adult Cardiologist

Dr. Rizwan Ahmed is the Division Chief of Adult Cardiology at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, specializing in Adult Congenital Heart Disease, Pulmonary Hypertension, Inherited Cardiac Conditions, and Advanced Cardiac Imaging. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and a member of the European Society of Cardiology. Dr. Ahmed trained in Cardiology in East of England and pursued specialized training in Adult Congenital Heart Disease at leading London hospitals.

He holds a PhD in cardiovascular genomics from Imperial College London and has published extensively. His expertise includes advanced cardiovascular imaging and hemodynamics in Adult Congenital Heart Disease.

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Jayachandran Ramchandran Panickar
Consultant - Pediatric Pulmonologist

Dr. Jayachandran Ramchandran Panickar is a leading pediatrician at Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, specializing in respiratory health for children. With a focus on conditions like asthma, cystic fibrosis, and obstructive sleep apnea, Dr. Panickar employs a compassionate approach in his practice. Known for his dedication to pediatric lung function, he ensures a child-centric experience, employing advanced methods for accurate diagnoses and effective treatment plans. With a commitment to child wellness, Dr. Panickar stands out for his expertise and caring approach, making him a trusted figure in pediatric respiratory care.



Mr. Aaron Thrush
Manager, Inpatient Therapies & Rehabilitation

Aaron Thrush is a critical care physical therapist at Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, where he is also the Rehabilitation Education Specialist, and a clinical researcher. He is board-certified as a cardiovascular and pulmonary physical therapy specialist by the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties.

Aaron serves as a Clinical Content Expert and Research and Evidence Based Practice Chair for the Academy of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Physical Therapy in the United States. He earned a Doctor of Physical Therapy from Arcadia University, a Master of Public Health (Global Health concentration) from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and is currently a student in the Movement Science Ph.D. program at Arcadia University (USA).

Speakers` Biography



Dr. Majid Aziz
Consultant - Neurologist

Dr. Majid Aziz is an accomplished pediatric neurologist and epileptologist, recognized for his expertise in complex epilepsy, epilepsy surgery, ketogenic diet, and EEG. He further specializes in movement disorders, neuroinflammatory conditions, headaches, and stroke.

Dr. Aziz completed his pediatrics and child neurology training in the United Kingdom. He then undertook a fellowship in movement disorders at Evelina Children's Hospital, London, followed by a second fellowship in pediatric epilepsy surgery and EEG at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne.

In 2019, Dr. Aziz joined Sheikh Khalifa Medical City in Abu Dhabi, where he currently serves as the division chief of Paediatric Neurology and leads the epilepsy surgery program, collaborating with Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Previously, he was a consultant neurologist at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital, UK, and clinical lead for the Northern Children's Epilepsy Surgery Service from 2015.



Mr. Sanjay Sasi Kumar
Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Sanjay is an experienced Respiratory Therapist with graduate and postgraduate training in Respiratory Therapy, specializing in Adult Cardio-Respiratory Critical Care from Manipal University, India. Since 2016, He have been working at Rashid Hospital under the Dubai Health Authority, where he contribute extensively to multidisciplinary care across intensive care units, emergency services, and trauma departments. His role also includes active involvement in staff development, clinical education, and competency-based training programs.

He is an American Heart Association-certified ACLS and BLS Instructor and currently affiliated with the Mohammed Bin Rashid University (MBRU) Training Center, where he regularly teach life-support courses to healthcare professionals. Prior to his current position, he served as a Lecturer and Clinical Instructor at the University of Dammam, Khobar, Saudi Arabia, which strengthened his academic foundation and passion for teaching.

He serve as an Executive Member of the Indian Association of Respiratory Care (IARC) and as a reviewer for the Indian Journal of Respiratory Care (IJRC), contributing to the professional and scientific advancement of the field. His key areas of interest include invasive mechanical ventilation, non-invasive ventilation strategies, and inhalation therapy techniques.

Speakers` Biography



Ms. Fatima al Hashmi
Clinical Dietitian

Ms. Fatima Al Hashmi is a competent professional with 19 years of experience in Dietetics, Nutrition Assessment, and Patient Consultancy Operations, with extensive expertise in promoting dietary health and managing medical conditions through evidence-based nutrition planning and individualized dietary interventions. She is skilled in advising patients on specialized diets, educating healthcare professionals and the public on nutrition-related matters, and identifying and addressing key health needs to support overall patient wellbeing.

Ms. Al Hashmi is a member of Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (formerly the American Dietetic Association) and is actively involved in the Patient Care JCI Chapter. She is also certified as an Adult Weight Management Dietitian by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR-ADA). In addition, she is experienced in conducting teaching sessions, inductions, peer reviews, case studies, and delivering clinical presentations.



Ms. Marilou Panganiban
Respiratory Therapist

Ms. Marilou Panganiban is a highly experienced Respiratory Therapist with nearly 25 years of clinical expertise in neonatal, pediatric, and adult critical care, as well as Long-Term Acute Care (LTAC) and Long-Term Ventilator Unit (LTVU) settings. She joined Amana Healthcare in 2018 as a Senior Respiratory Therapist, overseeing the Al Ain facilities and SSBZH. Prior to this, she served for 13 years at King Abdulaziz Hospital under NGHA, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, from 2005 to 2018, where she worked as one of the senior Respiratory Therapists and also spent one year as a locum academic instructor at King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences. Ms. Panganiban began her Respiratory Therapy career at Philippine Children's Medical Center before pursuing her professional career overseas. In addition to her clinical responsibilities, she is also a certified Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Instructor accredited by the American Heart Association.

Speakers` Biography



Mr. Vijoe Thomas
Respiratory Therapist

Mr. Vijoe is a dedicated healthcare professional with extensive experience in neonatal, pediatric, and adult care. He currently serves in a senior respiratory therapist (RT) role, focused on elevating standards of practice within specialized respiratory environments. His career is defined by a strong commitment to patient safety and quality in respiratory care. He is passionate about bridging the gap between theoretical guidelines and frontline clinical application, ensuring that teams—from senior to junior staff—operate with precision and clarity.



Mr. Didier Moens
Senior International Leader
in Medical Ventilation Technology

Didier Moens is a senior international leader in medical ventilation technology, specializing in HFOV. His career combines industry leadership, innovation, and global clinical engagement, particularly in advancing life-saving respiratory support systems for neonatal and critical care.



Dr. Fares Chedid
Consultant - Neonatologist

Dr. Fares Chedid is Consultant Neonatologist and Chief of Department at Kanad Hospital. He studied Medicine and Pediatrics at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium and Specialized in Neonatology at the Catholic University of Leuven and Flinders University in South Australia. Dr. Chedid has over thirty years-experience in Neonatology, he worked at internationally accredited teaching hospitals in Belgium, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and UAE.

Dr. Chedid has more than eighty publications and is a recipient of multiple awards in education and research. His main interests are assisted ventilation, perinatology, biostatistics, and evidence-based medicine.

Speakers` Biography



Mr. Jacob Philip
Scientific Committee Chair,
Respiratory Therapist

Jacob Philip is a healthcare professional with more than 25 years of clinical experience across a broad spectrum of critical care environments. He holds a Master of Science as a Physician Assistant, a Post Graduate Diploma in Perfusion Technology, and subsequently completed the Respiratory Therapy program with Neonatal/paediatric Specialty (RRT NPS) certification.

He is currently working as a Senior Respiratory Therapist at SKMC, where he provides compassionate, patient centred care. His extensive multidisciplinary background enables effective management of complex respiratory conditions across all age groups. Jacob is known for his strong commitment to clinical excellence, compassion, and evidence based practice in respiratory care.



Dr. Hesham Tawakol
Consultant - Neonatologist

Hesham Tawakol, MD, FAAP, is a distinguished Consultant Neonatologist and the Program Director of the Neonatal Fellowship Program based in Abu Dhabi, UAE. With a career dedicated to advancing neonatal care, he serves as the Chairman of the Neonatal Committee of the NHS, playing a pivotal role in shaping clinical standards and educational excellence across multiple healthcare systems.

A recognized leader in medical education and programs development. He is a prominent figure in the international medical community, frequently chairing high-impact conferences and workshops, including the International Pediatric and Neonatal Multispecialty Conference and advanced neonatal mechanical ventilation sessions.

Beyond his clinical and administrative leadership, he is a dedicated advocate for the integration of Artificial Intelligence in medicine to enhance patient outcomes. He is also a novel writer and he published his first novel in 2022. His diverse intellectual pursuits also include a passion for classical art, the history of science, and archaeology.

Speakers` Biography



Ms. Glasiele Alcala

Researcher, Critical Care & Mechanical Ventilation

Glasiele Alcala is a researcher in critical care and mechanical ventilation, with a focus on lung physiology and bedside monitoring. Her work centers on the application of Electrical Impedance Tomography (EIT) to guide ventilatory strategies and improve the understanding of regional lung mechanics in patients with acute respiratory failure



Mr. Benjamin Philipp Barnhill

Clinical Application Specialist Leader EMEA

Benjamin Barnhill is a Clinical Application Specialist Leader for the EMEA region at Cytiva (Pall Medical division). He specializes in clinical education and application support for medical filtration technologies used in healthcare settings, including infusion therapy, mechanical ventilation, and hospital water and infection control systems.

In his role, he works closely with clinicians, biomedical engineers, and healthcare institutions across Europe, the Middle East, and Africa to support the safe and effective use of Pall Medical filtration solutions. His expertise focuses on improving patient safety, optimizing clinical workflows, and promoting best practices in medical filtration and contamination control.

He also contributes to educational initiatives and training programs aimed at increasing awareness of filtration technologies in critical care and hospital environments.

About Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi is the largest emirate in the United Arab Emirates, occupying 84 per cent of the national landmass territory. It has 200 islands and a long coastline stretching 700km. Its total area is 67,340 sq. km. Abu Dhabi city in the emirate is the federal capital of the UAE.

Population

According to Abu Dhabi Statistics Centre The estimated population of the emirate around mid-2016 was 2,908,173 (comprising 1,857,618 males and 1,050,555 females). 551,535 were UAE nationals and 2,356,638 were expatriates. The average annual population growth rate for the years from 2010 to 2016 was 5.6 per cent.

Location and Geopgraphy

The emirate of Abu Dhabi lies on the coast of the Arabian Gulf and is bordered by Sultanate of Oman to the east, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the south and the west and the emirate of Dubai to the northeast. The three main regions of the emirate are:

- the city of Abu Dhabi
- Al Ain in the east
- Al Dhafrah (earlier known as Al Gharbia) in the west.

In the eastern region, to the south of Al Ain city is Jebel Hafeet - the emirate's highest peak (1,240 metres).

Al Dhafrah has seven main cities: Liwa, Madinat Zayed, Ghayathi, Ruwais, Mirfa, Sila and Delma Island.

The city of Abu Dhabi is connected to the mainland by four bridges: Maqta bridge, Mussafah bridge, Sheikh Zayed bridge and Sheikh Khalifa bridge.

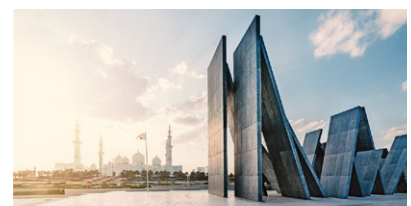
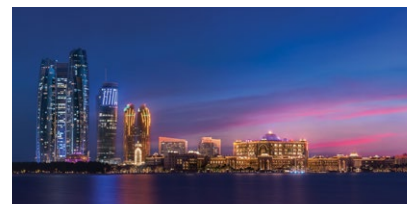
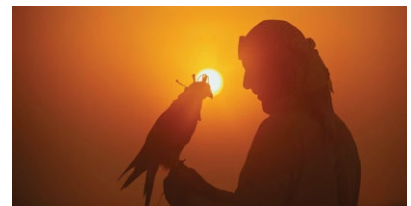
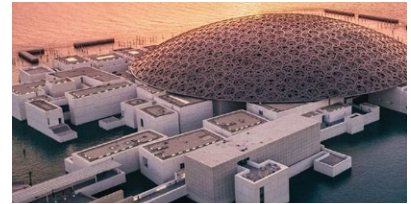
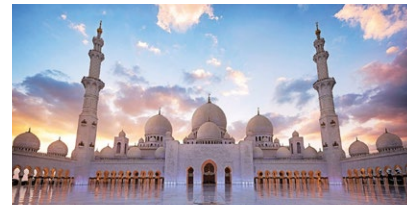
Economy

Over the recent decades, the emirate of Abu Dhabi has undergone a significant transformation in economic growth. Due to the vision of Abu Dhabi's leaders and the abundance of oil and natural gas reserves, the emirate has grown to become a dynamic hub and major competitor on the global stage. While recognising the success of the oil sector, Abu Dhabi is working hard to reduce its hydrocarbons reliance and broaden the emirate's economy. Investment in infrastructure, tourism, transport, health and education is continuing, in line with the government's 2030 economic plan. Tourism is playing an integral role in Abu Dhabi's economic development. Major investment in new luxury resorts and business hotels is underway. Abu Dhabi has many things to offer to its visitors and residents: a versatile landscape, thriving investment hub, and a friendly environment boasting one of the highest per capita incomes and one of the lowest crime rates in the world.

Touristic Importance

Abu Dhabi has become a centre for world-class sporting events such as: the Abu Dhabi Golf Championship, the prestigious Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge cross-country rally and the Formula One Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. In addition, the city will soon house the world's largest concentration of premier cultural institutions which will include the Sheikh Zayed National Museum, the Guggenheim Abu Dhabi and Louvre Abu Dhabi.

Abu Dhabi is rich in natural wonders too. While the emirate's famous Liwa oasis in the south of the emirate is home to some of the largest and most beautiful sand dunes in the world, the garden city of Al Ain in the foothills of Jebel Hafeet is home to several heritage sites.



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