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*Embassy of Italy
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*Consolato Generale di Italia
Dubai*

ITALIAN HEALTHCARE WORLD



When Technology Meets Networking:
an Interactive Showcase of the Excellent Italian Medical Expertise and Research
in the UAE

Downtown Renaissance Hotel - 27th January 2019 - Dubai

Professional Congress Organization
Association Management Company
Destination Management Company
Hotel Reservation Center

International Bidding
Special Project

Operational Offices:
Turin (Italy)
Abu Dhabi (UAE)

ISO 9001: 2015
Legality Rating: A++

Italian Style
International Quality Standard



+40
Years of Technical and Scientific
Conferences and Congresses

+2000
Events from 100
to 7000 attendees

+9000
Managed Associate Members

Technical Exhibition Managing
Institutional References
CME Educational Activities

Problem Solving
Graphic Events Identity
Social Media Promotion
Marketing Associative

ITALIAN HEALTH CARE WORLD



PROGRAM

7,30 pm Welcome Speech
H.E. Italian Ambassador - Liborio Stellino
Italian Consul - Valentina Setta

CCI Professional Congress Organizer
Abu Dhabi Branch Office G.M. Germana Garrone

Projectual experiences in UAE

- Prof. Antonio Pinna - CLEVELAND CLINIC, ABU DHABI
- Dr. Valentina Giaccaglia - MEDICLINIC CITY HOSPITAL, DUBAI
- Prof. Francesco Cappellano - HARLEY STREET HOSPITAL, ABU DHABI
- Dr. Ilaria Saredi - ALLIED MEDICAL CENTER, DUBAI
- Dr. Federica Vagnarelli - DANAT AL EMARAT HOSPITAL, ABU DHABI
- Dr. Adriana Rotundo - SEHA EMIRATES HOSPITAL, ABU DHABI
- Dr. Alessandro Terruzzi - MEDICLINIC CITY HOSPITAL, DUBAI
- Dr. Pierdanilo Sanna - ZIA MEDICAL CENTER, BIOSCIENCE MIDDLE EAST, DHCC, DUBAI

Special project

- Dr. Luca Piretta - LA SAPIENZA UNIVERSITY, ROMA ITALY

Prof. Antonio Pinna MD, Transplant Surgeon – Digestive Diseases

CLEVELAND CLINIC, ABU DHABI

LIVER TRANSPLANT PROGRAM IN THE UAE

February 2018 – January 2019 – An Italian and UAE achievement.

Establishing a new liver transplant program maybe is not too difficult as one may expect if you do so in a country with an history and healthcare structures already involved in the transplant field. Much different is if you want to start a liver transplant activity in a country where it does not exist any past experience in transplantation or any activity in organ donation.

The challenge to develop a Liver transplant activity in the UAE appeared few years ago a chimera and was considered not worth it. The considerations were mostly due to a lack of donor network system and the fact that most patients were educated to get a liver transplant in other countries under government coverage.

The need to decrease the Healthcare expenses and to increase the perception of modern Health system in the UAE, prompts Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi to start a multiorgan transplant program in cooperation with the department of Health and SEHA network Hospitals. First a Brain Death Donor law was passed and education among physicians and nurses was started. During December 2017 and January 2018 a waiting list of potential candidates for liver transplant was built up on February 1st 2018 we performed our first cadaveric liver transplant at the CCAD.

The increased amount of potential patients who can benefit from the liver transplant and the still scarce amount of cadaveric brain death donors, moved our team to launch the Living Donor Liver Transplant Program. With this procedure a relative donates a small portion of his/her liver to the patient who will benefit from the transplant. The liver will regenerate both in the donor and in the recipient in the way to obtain two full livers from one. This is considered the most advanced and complex surgical procedure in the transplant and surgical field.

Up until January 2019 we have performed 11 Liver Transplants, 4 of them from Living Donors. Three patients, 2 from cadaveric donors and one from living donor, were transplanted in very sick conditions and had a very poor prognosis without transplant. All the patients transplanted are doing well with good liver function.

This can be again considered another Italian signature in a succesfull story.

Dr. Valentina Giaccaglia MD, PhD - Consultant General Surgeon, Proctology and Pelvic Floor

MEDICLINIC CITY HOSPITAL, DUBAI

Working in the UAE as a doctor is not as easy as it may look.

My personal story can be described as a successful one but I must admit that has been extremely difficult for me to get a license first and then a good job. At the beginning I've been working in a small clinic in Dubai Healthcare City and then, after 1 year, I finally got an offer from the prestigious Mediclinic City Hospital where I'm still very happy and proud to work. Here I had the chance to build up one of the first Pelvic Floor and Coloproctology Centers in the UAE with the latest equipments and Patients coming from all over the world to benefit from this expertise.

Moreover in 2017 I've organized Dubai International Colorectal Symposium with outstanding faculty and live surgery and I had the honor of having both Italian Ambassador and Consul in UAE to open the Congress. I've been the first female expert doctor to organize a medical Congress in UAE. Since then, I've been organizing many different teaching activities and I had also the pleasure to travel in the Middle East to teach minimally invasive surgery as well. Recently I've been appointed Adjunct Associate Professor of Surgery at Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and I'm responsible and coordinator of Surgery teaching at Mediclinic City Hospital.

My story is a mixture of difficult and happy moments but it is the demonstration that UAE gives a lot of possibilities to people willing to work hard and progress in their career.

Prof. Francesco Cappellano MD, FEBU - Head of Urology and Neurourology Clinic

Director of Pelvic Care Center

HARLEY STREET HOSPITAL, ABU DHABI

The Pelvic Care Center is a highly specialized facility where different specialists work together to offer multidisciplinary care to patients complaining of various diseases or conditions affecting the pelvic organs. The pelvis is the anatomical area where different organs, such as urinary bladder/urinary structures, reproductive organs, rectum and anus are localized.

They are usually treated by a single specialist according to the most prevalent type of symptoms that the patient is complaining of. In many circumstances, pelvic organs belonging to different systems may be affected at the same time and therefore in order to achieve better and more comprehensive care, a multidisciplinary approach is the only solution in order to effectively improve a patient's condition.

Specialists who work in a Pelvic Care Centre are Urologists with neuro-urology skills, Gynecologists, Gastroenterologists and Colorectal surgeons: they are the core competence that should be present in any Pelvic Care Centre.

In addition to these specialists, specialized personnel in charge of rehabilitation treatments are usually present to complement the activity of the center.

Dr. Federica Vagnarelli MD

Specialist Paediatrician/Neonatology

DANAT AL EMARAT HOSPITAL, ABU DHABI

Dr. Federica is a Neonatologist and Pediatrician with more than 25 years of experience. She has been author of many scientific papers in international journals. She is based in Abu Dhabi since 6 years, currently working at Danat Al Emarat Hospital. Her fields of interest are Neonatal Intensive Care and neurodevelopmental follow up of full term and preterm babies and all kinds of pediatric diseases with special experience for infective and neurological problems.

Dr. Ilaria Saredi MD

Family Medicine Specialist / Laser Therapy

ALLIED MEDICAL CENTER, DUBAI

Dr Ilaria is a trilingual Italian Family Medicine Specialist, with an international experience treating patients for a variety of conditions, currently working at Allied Medical Center in Dubai. She offers a comprehensive approach to caring for patients of all ages with a range of medical histories. Areas of further specialization and interest include internal medicine, gynecology and obstetrics as well as pediatrics. Her key role includes assessment, diagnosis, treatment, management and health education of acute and chronic conditions, with special emphasis on women's health and pediatrics.

Dr Federica Vagnarelli and Dr Ilaria Saredi consult the Italian pediatric community on a daily basis, bridging the paediatric primary care gap between Abu Dhabi and Dubai for Italian families. They have set up a valuable collaboration between professionals that acts as a polyvalent resource for the community and introduced helpful projects such as comparative vaccination schedules between Italy and the UAE. Dr Vagnarelli is the lead Paediatrician to whom Dr Saredi refers complicated cases to in need of specialist care, while Dr Saredi works as Family Medicine Specialist taking care of the community's health as a whole.

**Dr. Adriana Rotundo MD, Consultant Upper GI, Bariatric, laparoscopic and General Surgeon
Director Of international Bariatric Club in the Middle East
SEHA EMIRATES HOSPITAL, ABU DHABI**

Obesity is on the rise globally and UAE is not faring well compared to other countries. More than 2.1 billion people - close to 30 per cent of the global population - today are overweight or obese, according to the World Health Organisation. In UAE more than 66 per cent of men and 60 per cent of women are already overweight or obese. Obesity represents the main risk factor for type II Diabetes, and it is also associated with higher risk of developing hypertension, sleep apnoea, cardiovascular disease, hyperlipidemia, osteoarthritis, gastroesophageal reflux disease and cancer.

About 1.8 million people in UAE are affected by type II diabetes, which represent almost 20% of the adult population.

It is scientifically proven that diet alone cannot cure Obesity, as this is a well-recognized chronic inflammatory disease with a multifactorial etiology. The only effective treatment of Obesity is Bariatric surgery associated with behavioral changes. Surgery in the middle east, and mostly worldwide, is reserved for a small minority of the obese population. This is because of costs and difficult access to medical facility.

In UAE surgery is funded by one insurance (Thiqat) for the local population when the Body Mass Index is over 40, or over 35 with at least a documented obesity related medical problem, or over 30 with uncontrolled diabetes. According to the DOH recommendation this surgery should be performed by surgeons with experience in the field of bariatric surgery and a multidisciplinary approach is mandatory.

The most common bariatric procedures performed in UAE are called laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy and laparoscopic gastric bypass (Roux- en-Y or Mini gastric bypass). Both procedures allow weight loss and remission of type II diabetes (60% chance with sleeve and over 80% chance with gastric bypass). They are for this reason called metabolic surgeries because both induce changes in the hormonal profile and gut bacteria of the patients independently from the weight loss.

There are also endoscopic procedures like the intragastric balloon insertion and the endoscopic sleeve gastroplasty reserved for patients with smaller BMI or who don't want or can't have surgery.

In my practice in Abu Dhabi started over 1 year ago, we managed to establish a brand new service, with a physician, a dietician, a psychiatrist and a psychologist, a bariatric nurse coordinator and a dedicated anaesthetic team. We performed over 110 surgical bariatric procedures and over 100 intragastric balloon uneventfully.

**Dr. Alessandro Terruzzi MD, Consultant Neurologist
MEDICLINIC CITY HOSPITAL, DUBAI**

Stroke is a really frequent disease, and the numbers are simply scary: hitting worldwide over 17 million people each year, stroke can be fatal for almost 6.5 million and a further 5 million are left permanently disabled. Approximately 1.9 million neurons are lost every minute during a stroke; 1 person suffers a stroke every <6 seconds, worldwide; 1 in 6 people will have a stroke within their lifetime and stroke can happen to anyone, of any age, from pediatric and juvenile stroke to stroke in the elderly. 80 million people in the world have had a stroke, and 50 million stroke survivors are permanent disabled. Stroke is cause n°1 of long term disability and is the 2nd cause of death, globally.

In the UAE, after road accidents, stroke is the 2nd leading cause of disability: annually 8,000-10,000 patients in the UAE get a stroke (2015 data): 1% of the country's population; means that every hour, 1 person gets a stroke in the UAE; every year (incidence) there are from 27.5 to 63 new strokes per 100,000 people, while prevalence for stroke cases is between 42 and 68 per 100,000 inhabitants. 50% of stroke patients in the UAE are below the age of 45. Hypertension, obesity, diabetes and high salt consumption are the main risk factors.

Stroke is a treatable condition, and we can significantly reduce its impact if we act fast.

In order to organise and build up a Stroke Center, Mediclinic City Hospital gathered stroke Neurologists to bring the project to life, so my personal adventure in the UAE, Dubai to be accurate, begun in February 2017, after being scouted as Stroke Neurologist and Neurosonologist with Italian Certification in Neurosonology and a 2nd Level University Master in stroke management.

We worked hard to organise a Stroke Unit, a core unit led by Stroke/Vascular Neurologists, "Strokeologists", specialised in stroke care, with a dedicated multidisciplinary team, including Interventional Neuro-Radiology.

In-Hospital high standard of care was guaranteed by an officially approved internal Stroke Pathway and specific protocols, based on the most updated International Guidelines, being able to finally obtain in March 2018 an International Certification as approved Stroke Unit, becoming the only private Hospital with an officially certified Stroke Center in Dubai.

All range of treatments are finally available in our Stroke Unit at City Hospital, 24/7, from first line i.v. tPA/thrombolysis to mechanical thrombectomy under the care of a dedicated Interventional Neuro-Radiologist.

I was able to develop and start also a dedicated, 2nd level ultrasound clinic, called the Neurosonology Lab, where I can perform Carotid and Transcranial Doppler studies for patients with cerebrovascular diseases, with a dedicated high end US Doppler machine. I am actually leading and finalising another project that I believe will be beneficial for the people of Dubai, as we will soon be able to start a Headache Center, at Mediclinic City Hospital in Dubai, offering a multidisciplinary, integrated approach.

We offer a "Hub and Spoke" connected system, through all Mediclinic's facilities in Dubai, referring the most complex cases to City Hospital Stroke Center. As Neurologist, at City Hospital, my vision and mission is to promote awareness about Stroke, in order to reduce Stroke global threat, to improve the standard of Stroke prevention (reduce the risk of stroke attacks) and Stroke treatment (acute treatment and recovery for survivors).

Dr. Pierdaniilo Sanna MD, Specialist Orthopaedic Surgeon, Scientific Consultant Regenerative Medicine for Ortho Ideator of the Italian Healthcare Online Platform

ZIA MEDICAL CENTER - BIOSCIENCE MIDDLE EAST, DHCC, DUBAI

Doctor Sanna has created the first international Italian Healthcare professional Web Platform: an innovative, simple and easy application for anyone outside of Italy who is looking for a network of healthcare Italian Specialists. The Platform allows to identify Doctors who work abroad, reading about their skills and specializations, checking the Clinics or Hospitals where they work, discovering the one closer to your own place. It is available both in English and Italian and it includes an online magazine, the "Journal of Italian Healthcare World" offering insights about different topics connected with Italian Healthcare sector in the World.

Everybody can access to IHW network: patients who can easily and efficiently Search, Find, Choose and Chat with the Specialists and Doctors; Doctors and Healthcare Specialists who can collaborate in a network of international direct interaction among members.

Dr. Sanna has been working in Dubai since 2015, as a Specialist Orthopaedic Surgeon both in Dubai and Abu Dhabi dialing with Traumatology, Sport Injuries, Joint replacement and Arthroscopy. He is also Scientific Collaborator at BIOSCIENCE CLINIC MIDDLE EAST for Regenerative Medicine in Orthopedics and recently was appointed as an International Member of American Academy of Regenerative Medicine (American Board).

Dr. Luca Piretta - Prof in Nutrition and Gastroenterology

LA SAPIENZA UNIVERSITY "CAMPUS BIO-MEDICO" ROME ITALY

The obesity epidemic and related diseases (diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, tumors, etc) that is involving developed countries are the main health problem and the most important challenge of national institutions. Choosing the right strategy to reduce this harmful trend can be complicated and often only seemingly successful strategies are undertaken, such as penalizing foods rich in sugars and fats, but where such measures have been applied no encouraging results have been reported.

Foods are composed of many nutrients and focusing only on the presence of fats for example would lead to the demonization of olive oil depriving the consumer of the huge treasure of polyphenols and antioxidants contained in it. It is now clear from the international scientific literature that the only effective strategy to decrease risk of NCDs is that of education to a healthy way of life and eating and the model of the Mediterranean diet (Intangible Heritage of UNESCO since 2010) has been demonstrated to be the most effective to achieve disease prevention but also to improve the quality of life. The Mediterranean diet much more than being a diet, represents a healthy and pleasant lifestyle that respects the cultural traditions and conviviality of a healthy society.



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