# Al Ain Neurodevelopment Symposium 2026:

## *Growing Minds, Building Futures*

**April 18, 2026** **Al Ain Rotana, Al Ain, UAE**

DOH ACCREDITATION
CME
UNDER PROCESS

***Dr. Dalal Nasr***
**Chairperson**
HOD of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics
Mediclinic Al Madar
Al Ain, United Arab Emirates

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**MANAGED BY:** PEARL EVENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES

**For more info, please contact:** Mohammed Al Qishawi - Event Coordinator +971 58 535 5113 | m.alqishawi@pems.me

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# Chairperson

***Dr. Dalal Nasr***
HOD of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics
Mediclinic Al Madar
Al Ain, United Arab Emirates

# Organizing Committee

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Operations Manager
Mediclinic Al Ain Hospital,
Al Ain, UAE

***Mr. Syed Iffath Ullah***
Cluster Clinic Manager
Mediclinic Al Madar,
Al Ain, UAE

***Dr. Eiman Sakr***
Specialist Pediatrician
SEHA - Ambulatory Health Services,
Abu Dhabi, UAE

# Scientific Committee

***Dr. Zeinab Alloub***
Consultant
Neurodevelopmental Pediatrician
Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital,
Dubai, UAE

***Dr. Ibrahim Saddig***
Chair of Pediatrics,
SEHA - Ambulatory Health Services,
Abu Dhabi, UAE

***Dr. Dina Saleh***
Consultant Pediatric Neurologist
Head of Department
Reem Hospital, Abu Dhabi, UAE

***Dr. Dalal Nasr***
HOD of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics
Mediclinic Al Madar
Al Ain, United Arab Emirates

# Scientific Agenda

| Time | Activity / Session | Speaker |
|---|---|---|
| 08:00 – 09:00 | Registration | |
| 09:00 – 10:30 | **Session 1: Neurocognition & Early Development**<br>**Moderators:**<br>**Dr. Abdullah Al Ameri, Dr. Zuhair Shihab, Dr. Yassir Alassad** | |
| 09:00 – 09:20 | Neurocognition & Brain Development | **Dr. Islam Elbaroudy**<br>Senior Pediatric Consultant and<br>Chief Medical Officer<br>KidsHeart Abu Dhabi, Abu Dhabi, UAE |
| 09:20 – 09:40 | Developmental Screening for Infants & Preschool Children | **Dr. Ibrahim Saddig**<br>Chair of Pediatrics,<br>SEHA - Ambulatory Health Services,<br>Abu Dhabi, UAE |
| 09:40 – 10:00 | Neurodevelopmental Outcomes of Prematurity: Beyond CP | **Dr. Zeinab Alloub**<br>Consultant Neurodevelopmental Pediatrician<br>Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital, Dubai, UAE |
| 10:00 – 10:20 | Cerebral Palsy and Artificial Intelligence | **Dr. Tarek Elazzabi**<br>Senior Consultant Paediatrician in<br>Neurodisability & Neurodevelopment<br>Sheikh Khalifa Medical City Abu Dhabi, UAE |
| 10:20 – 10:30 | Q&A Discussion | |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | Coffee Break | |
| 10:45 – 12:15 | **Session 2: Neurodiversity**<br>**Moderators:**<br>**Dr. Ghada Ahmed, Dr. Alaa Anbar, Dr. Tamer Rizk** | |
| 10:45 – 11:05 | Evaluation of Neurodevelopmental Disorders | **Dr. Nicholas Hoque**<br>Head of Pediatrics<br>Kanad Hospital, Al Ain, UAE |
| 11:05 – 11:25 | Global Developmental Delay: Red Flags for Rare Diseases | **Dr. Abdelazeem Mabrouk**<br>Consultant Pediatrician,<br>Mediclinic,<br>Al Ain, UAE |
| 11:25 – 11:45 | Diagnostic Dilemma: Unravelling Neuro Deficits in a Child | **Dr. Aisha Al Shamsi**<br>Consultant Pediatrician<br>Division Chief of Genetic/Metabolic<br>Tawam Hospital Al Ain, UAE |
| 11:45 – 12:05 | Gut–Brain Axis: Celiac Disease & CNS Presentation | **Dr. Tawfik Al Hen**<br>General Pediatric Consultant,<br>Sheikh Khalifa Medical City, Abu Dhabi, UAE |
| 12:05 – 12:15 | Q&A Discussion | |
| 12:15 – 13:45 | **Session 3: Autism Spectrum Disorders**<br>**Moderators:**<br>**Dr. Hossam Mohamed Altatari, Dr. Muhammad Bassel Noureddin,**<br>**Dr. Alaa Ahmed Qasem** | |
| 12:15 – 12:35 | Autism: Facts and Myths | **Dr. Dalal Nasr**<br>HOD of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics<br>Mediclinic Al Madar, Al Ain, UAE |
| 12:35 – 12:55 | Evidence-Based Treatment of Autism | **Dr. Dina Saleh**<br>Consultant Pediatric Neurologist<br>Head of Department<br>Reem Hospital, Abu Dhabi, UAE |

# Scientific Agenda

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|---|---|---|
| 12:55 – 13:15 | AI Approaches to ASD Screening & Diagnosis | **Prof. Maria Efstratopoulou**<br>Associate Professor, Special Education - (CEDU),<br>United Arab Emirates University, AL Ain, UAE |
| 13:15 – 13:35 | Dietary Management of Autism & ARFID | **Dr. Alaa Ahmed Qasem**<br>Consultant Pediatrician<br>Head of Pediatric Department<br>Mediclinic Al Jowhara Hospital, Al Ain, UAE |
| 13:35 – 13:45 | Q&A Discussion | |
| 13:45 – 14:45 | Lunch Break | |
| 14:45 – 15:55 | **Session 4: ADHD**<br>**Moderators:**<br>**Dr. Marwa Elsayed, Dr Hala Sedawy** | |
| 14:45 – 15:05 | ADHD Assessment & Diagnosis | **Dr. Shamsa Ali Almarzooqi**<br>Clinical Psychologist<br>Zayed Authority For People of Determination |
| 15:05 – 15:25 | ADHD Management | **Dr. Doaa Barakat**<br>Psychiatry Consultant,<br>Sakina For Children- SEHA, Al Ain, UAE |
| 15:25 – 15:45 | Childhood Hearing Loss: Neurodevelopment and Management | **Mohamed Sabir**<br>Senior Clinical Audiologist<br>Sheikh Tahnoon Medical City, Al Ain, UAE |
| 15:45 – 15:55 | Q&A Discussion | |
| 15:55 – 16:10 | Coffee Break | |
| **16:10 – 16:55** | **Panel Discussion 1**<br><br>Role of Special Education in Schools & Services for People of Determination | **Panelists:**<br><br>**1.) Dr. Shamsa Ali Almarzooqi**<br>*Clinical Psychologist*<br>*Zayed Authority For People of Determination, Abu Dhabi, UAE*<br><br>**2.) Dr. Ibrahim Saddig**<br>*Chair of Pediatrics,*<br>*Ambulatory Health Services, Abu Dhabi, UAE*<br><br>**3.) Dr. Ashraf Moustafa**<br>*Assistant Professor of Special Education*<br>*United Arab Emirates University, Al Ain, UAE* |
| **16:55 – 17:40** | **Panel Discussion 2** | **Panelists:** |
| 16:55 – 17:40 | MDT Approach to Autism Diagnosis & Management | **1.) Dr. Dalal Nasr**<br>*HOD of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics*<br>*Mediclinic Al Madar, Al Ain, UAE*<br><br>**2.) Prof Ahmed Hamdan**<br>Professor - Special and Gifted Education Dept,<br>United Arab Emirates University, Al Ain, UAE<br><br>**3.) Dr. Lamiaa Mohammed Mekawy**<br>*Educational Behavior Specialist*<br>*Mouza Bint Suhail Center for Exeptional Children,*<br>*United Arab Emirates University, Al Ain, UAE* |
| 17:40 | End of Symposium | |