



NewsLetter

Message from the president



Dear friends and colleagues

Welcome to the September edition of the SWAAC ELSO Newsletter.

This month, we are especially delighted to share the results of the recent SWAAC ELSO Steering Committee elections, details of which you will find in this newsletter. For the first time, the elections were conducted under the new bylaws, with the country representative candidates chosen by our members through their SWAAC ELSO centres—truly reflecting the voice of our community.

We warmly welcome our newly elected country representatives and sub-committee chairs, who bring with them extensive experience in both clinical practice and leadership. We are fortunate to have such accomplished colleagues joining the Steering Committee, and we look forward to their valuable contributions in shaping our chapter's vision and initiatives.

Looking ahead, we are also preparing for the upcoming SWAAC ELSO 2026 Conference in Chennai next February. Abstract submission is now open, and we warmly encourage you to participate by sharing your work and joining us for what promises to be an outstanding scientific and educational event.

Warm regards,
Huda Alfoudri
President, SWAAC ELSO





SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



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Election Results

Congratulations to the newly elected members of the SWAAC ELSO Steering Committee. This year, the election process followed the new bylaws where the nominations and voting was done by members of the steering committee as well as the SWAAC ELSO centres for the country representatives.

The new elections reflects the SWAAC ELSO members commitment to the advancement of extracorporeal life support and the trust placed in them by their colleagues. The new members leadership skills will strengthen our chapter and further the mission of SWAAC ELSO in our region.

Please feel free to communicate with any of them in their respective role. The newly elected members are as follows:

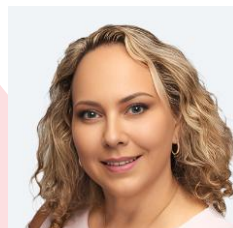
A - Country Representatives



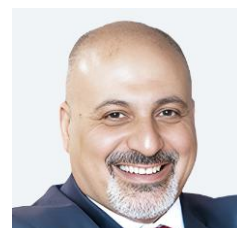
Egypt
Alia Abdulfattah



India
Vinod Singh



Qatar
Grace Van Leeuwen



Kuwait
Mohammed
Shamsah



South Africa
Norbert Welkovic

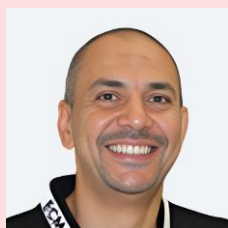


Oman
Ala Al Lawati



Iran
Mohamad Amin
Gorji

B – Sub-Committee Chairs



**Education
Sub-committee**
Ahmad Labib



**Conference
Sub-committee**
Mohamed Azzam



**Membership
Sub-committee**
Nazar Bukamal



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Update on Committees/Subcommittees

The chapter bylaws have been updated aiming to ensure a greater representation and alignment with the needs of our community. Below are the current members of steering committee. Please feel free to communicate with them for any matters relating to the chapter in their respective roles:

The Following is the Updated SWAAC ELSO Steering Group Committee Members:

Position	Name	Country	Email Address
Chairman	Huda Al Foudri	Kuwait	h_alfoudri@hotmail.com
Past-Chairman	Poonam Kapoor	India	drpoonamaims@gmail.com
Chairman-Elect	Marlice van Dyk	South Africa	dr.marlice@icudoctor.co.za
Chairman Standing Committee	Ahmad Labib	Qatar	ahmedlabeeb@hotmail.com
Edu/Simu/Comm			
Chairman Standing Committee Research	Vivek Gupta	India	dr_vivekg@yahoo.com
Chairman Standing Committee Registry /Protocols	Ibrahim Fawzy Hassan	Qatar	ihassan@hamad.qa
Chairman Standing Committee Devices & Technology	Mohamed Azzam	Saudi Arabia	mohamed.azzam77@me.com
Chairman standing committee - Conference	Mohamed Azzam	Saudi Arabia	mohamed.azzam77@me.com
Chairman standing committee - Membership	Nazar Bukamal	Bahrain	nbukamal@mkcc.bh
Treasurer	To be determined		
Secretary	Pranay Oza	India	Drpranay.oza@gmail.com
Member at Large	Vinod Singh	India	vinodksingh66@yahoo.co.in
Member at Large	Grace Van Leeuwen	Qatar	gvanleeuwe@sidra.org
Member at Large	Mohammed Shamsah	Kuwait	Mashamsa@yahoo.com
Member at Large	Ala Al Lawati	Oman	Ala.allawati@icloud.com
Member at Large	Mohamed Azzam	KSA	mohamed.azzam77@me.com
Member at Large	Alia Abdulfattah	Egypt	dr.aliafattah@gmail.com
Member at Large	Brahim Housni	Morocco	Brahim.housni@ump.ac.ma
Member at Large	Timur Lesbekov	Kazakhstan	lesbekovt@mail.ru
Member at Large	Mohamad Amin Gorji Mahlabani	Iran	mahlab92@gmail.com
Member at Large	Jana Assy	Lebanon	jana.assy101@gmail.com
Member at Large	Norbert Welkovic	South Africa	Diewelk@mweb.co.za
Member at Large	Vivek Kakar	UAE	KakarV@clevelandclinicabudhabi.ae
Member at Large	Nazar Abdulrahman Bukamal	Bahrain	nbukamal@mkcc.bh
Member at Large	Bijoy Rajbanshi	Nepal	bijoy.rajbanshi@nepalmediciti.com
Member at Large	Tolusha Harischandra	Sri Lanka	tolushah@gmail.com



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News and Updates



SWAAC ELSO 2024
CROSSING BOUNDARIES



- 10th SWAAC ELSO 2024 lectures free access is available for the whole extracorporeal life support community. To access the lectures, register through this link [CLICK HERE](#) and you will receive a personalized access code that you can use to enter the material through the [SWAACELSO2024](#) website.

SWAAC ELSO
11th ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2025
EMPOWER · DRIVE · INNOVATE · ADVANCE



- 11th SWAAC ELSO 2025 scientific podcast playlist hosting global ECLS specialists. The collection of podcasts showcase important elements in the field within the chapter. Stay tuned and check the [playlist here](#)



- SWAAC ELSO chapter application was launched in February 2025 during the 11th SWAAC ELSO Conference. You will find useful information about the chapter in the app. Download it on  



- Members of the SWAAC ELSO Chapter continue to make significant contributions to the medical and scientific community, serving as a source of pride for us all. Their efforts drive advancements in patient care and reinforce our commitment to delivering cutting-edge treatments. Go to [page 12](#) for the chapter member publications.



- We are currently working on developing SWAACELSO subcommittees working groups so if you are interested in joining (education, innovation, research, policies and guidelines) stay tuned for the announcement of the official application form on SWAAC ELSO's socials.



- 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference is inviting you to participate in the annual meeting taking place in Chennai, India. Visit [page 7](#) for more information and to check abstract submission deadlines.



- SWAAC ELSO Chapter bylaws have been approved and published in the ELSO website. [Click here](#) to view them.



- [Click here to answer](#) the Survey on Doctors' Experiences with Arterial Cannulation in VA-ECMO during ECPR.



ELSO Endorsed Courses

The following is the list of the **ELSO ENDORSED COURSES** in SWAAC ELSO region:

1. Mumbai, India - **ECMO Training Course**
2. Kuwait - **Al-Adan Comprehensive Adult ECMO Simulation Course**
3. Cairo, Egypt - **ECMO EXPERTS COMPREHENSIVE Made Easy Course**
4. Abu Dhabi, UAE. - **Adult ECMO Comprehensive Simulation Based Course**
5. Najran, Saudi Arabia - **Najran ECMO course**
6. Gurgaon, India - **Fortis Memorial Research Institute: Oncology Department ECMO Course**

You can apply to any of these course and this will qualify as step 1 and 2 in the pathway to obtaining the ELSO Adult ECMO Practitioner Certification (E-AEC).

Please visit the ELSO website for more details : <https://www.elso.org/ecmo-education/certificationexam.aspx>

Upcoming SWAAC region ECMO courses:

The following are ECMO courses within the SWAAC ELSO Chapter:

- Comprehensive ELSO-Endorsed Simulation based ECMO workshop, Cleveland Clinic, **Abudhabi UAE**
 - 1st – 4th Oct 2025
 - 5th Oct 2025 Hands on ECMO Cannulation Workshop

For information contact events@mco.ae - +971509789377
- 12th ELSO Endorsed comprehensive simulation – Simulation based ECMO course, at Riddhi Vinayak Riddhi Vinayak Vinayak Critical Care and Cardiac Centre, **Mumbai India**
 - 24th – 26th October 2025 – Virtual talk
 - 31st – 2nd November 2025 – Hands on Simulation

[ECMO India 2025 Oct course.pdf](#)
- Aladan comprehensive ELSO endorsed Adult ECMO Simulation Course, Aladan hospital **Kuwait** on 18th – 20th October 2025
 - For information visit <https://ecmocenterkw.com/my>
- 12th ELSO Endorsed comprehensive simulation – Simulation based ECMO course, at Riddhi Vinayak Riddhi Vinayak Vinayak Critical Care and Cardiac Centre, **Mumbai India**
 - 1st – 3rd January 2026 – Virtual talk
 - 8th – 10th January 2026 – Hands on Simulation

For registration [Conference Registration | ECMO Society Of India](#)
- Najran ELSO Endorsed Corse held by King Khalid Hospital, **Najran KSA**
 - 4th – 7th Dec 2025

For information email islamsada2@gmail.com



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SWAAC ELSO conference 2026

We're excited to share the upcoming **12th SWAAC ELSO Annual Conference 2026** with you, which will be held in **Chennai India**, from the 5th – 8th of February 2026. Mark your calendars and enjoy the Beauty, culture, and colors of Chennai.

Deadline for Abstract Submission – 15th October 2025

Make sure to have a look at the poster bellow for details

Contact information: **+91 72999 45044**

<https://www.swaacelso26.com>





SOUTH WEST ASIA & AFRICA CHAPTER

S W A A C E L S O
12TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2026
 &
15th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ECMO SOCIETY OF INDIA 2026

EDUCATE LIBERATE SUSTAIN OUTSHINE

5th-8th February | Chennai | India

CALL for ABSTRACTS

Deadline for Abstract Submission: 15th October 2025
 Notification of Accepted Abstracts: 15th November 2025

www.swaacelso26.com



ECMO Society India workshop

The highlights of the ECMO Society of India Conference ECMO workshop, Kolkata India held in July 2025.



ICACON 2025 ECMO Workshop

The highlights from the 6th International and 16th National Conference of Indian College of Anaesthesiologists ECMO Course organized with the Indian Society of critical care medicine and ECMO Society of India, 29th August 2025, Jodhpur India.





3rd ECMO Fundamentals Workshop

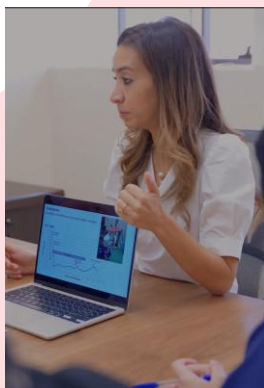
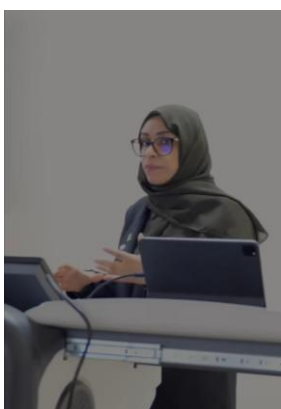
The highlights 3rd ECMO Fundamentals workshop conducted by ECMO HUB Narayana Bangalore and organized with ECMO Society of India, 6th Sept 2025, Bangalore, India.





The 1st Neonatal and Pediatric ECMO Symposium - Riyadh

Highlights from the 1st Neonatal and Pediatric ECMO Symposium and the Advanced Neonatal and Pediatric ECMO Simulation course that took place in Sept 2025 and hosted by the Riyadh Second Health Cluster – **Riyadh KSA**





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Awards of excellence

We congratulate the new centres that have been awarded with ELSO's award of Excellence in the past two years:



Platinum Award of Excellence:

- King Saud Medical City, member of Riyadh First Health Cluster
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia – 2026
- Riyadh Second Health Cluster – Ministry of Health
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia – 2026 - 2028



Gold Award of Excellence:

- Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates – 2026
- King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia – 2026
- Kuwait Extracorporeal Life Support Program
Kuwait city, Kuwait – 2026
- Riddhi Vinayak Critical Care and Cardiac Centre
Mumbai, India – 2027
- Hamad Medical Corporation
Doha, Qatar – 2027
- Sheikh Khalifa Medical Center
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates – 2027
- King Khalid Hospital
Najran, Saudi Arabia – 2026 - 2028



Silver Award of Excellence:

- Sidra Medicine
Doha, Qatar - 2025

We look forward to more centers achieving the award in the near future.



SWAAC ELSO Chapter Publications

The following are Guidelines and publications with contributions from SWAAC ELSO members:

- Veno-venous ECMO support in the management of a Jehovah's witness with severe COVID-19: a case report and literature review. Qandil M, Tawel R, Alamami A, Jaouni H, Hassan IF, El-Menyar A, Shehatta AL. **EJCRIM 2025;12:doi:10.12890/2025_005493**
- Pediatric Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation Practices and Challenges in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Countries Nada A. AlJassim*, Nooralhuda A. AlHadab, Nabeel Almashraqi, Mohamed Salim Kabbani, Yaser Kazaz [Click here to view](#)
- Infection as an indicator and additional factor for consideration of ECMO circuit change-out: A call for further research. Salman Pervaiz Butt (MBA, M.Sc), Stephanie Thomas (MBChB, FRCPPath), and Salman Abdulaziz (MBBS, FRCP) <https://doi.org/10.1051/ject/2024034>
- Enhancing lung transplantation with ECMO: a comprehensive review of mechanisms, outcomes, and future considerations <https://doi.org/10.1051/ject/2024023>
- Mechanical Circulatory Support for Massive Pulmonary Embolism Salman Abdulaziz Alain Combes , MBBS, MD; Vivek Kakar , MD, PhD; Daniel Brodie MMed; Saleh Fares Al Ali , MD; Praveen G. Kumar, MD; Ibrahim Fawzy Hassan , MD; Nicholas A. Barrett , MD; , MBBS(Hons), PhD; Jack Tan , MD, MPH <https://doi.org/10.1161/JAHA.124.036101>
- Need for Guidelines on Anticoagulation Reversal During Transition From Cardiopulmonary Bypass to ECMO—Call for Research Butt, Salman PervaizMahdaly, AshwaqAbdulaziz, Salman et al. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.athoracsur.2025.05.033>
- Aljassim, N., Tamimi, O., Mohamed, M.T. et al. Pulmonary arterial hypertension in neonates and children post open-heart surgery: assessment and management including extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) — a narrative review. *Cardiothorac Surg* **33**, 27 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s43057-025-00172-2>
- Omar, A.S., Molokhia, A.A. & Hassan, I.F. When medicine meets borders: a story of hope, and heartbreak, in the skies. *Intensive Care Med* **51**, 1727–1728 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00134-025-08023-8>
- Rabab Abdulmoez Amin Eltokhy, Shimaa Ahmed Alsaeed, Akram Mohamed Abd El Bary, Mahmoud Saad Nwar, Mohamed Yosri Mohamed, Bassant Abdelazeim, Doaa Tawfik, Amal Salama Mahmoud Mahmoud, The potential role of extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in the management of aluminum phosphide-poisoned patients: A series of 10 cases, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.toxac.2024.10.004>
- Nada A. AljassimMD, FCCP1*, Salman AbdulazizMBBS, FRCP2 and John F FraserMB ChB, PhD, FRCP (Glas), FFARCSI, FRCA, FCICM, FELSO3,4 Building better ECMO rooms: a roadmap to standardization and innovation. <https://doi.org/10.1051/ject/2025032>
- Al Taitoon, Safa Khalil Ebrahim, and Kannan Sridharan. 2025. "Systematic Review of Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation in Adult Sickle Cell Disease" *Journal of Clinical Medicine* 14, no. 19: 6725. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jcm14196725>



ELSO Guidelines and publications

The following are ELSO Guidelines and publications with contributions from SWAAC ELSO members:

- Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO): 2020 Pediatric Respiratory ELSO Guideline
 - [ASAIO Journal](#) (Contributed as an Author: Dr van Leeuwen, Grace)
- Extracorporeal Life Support Organization Guidelines for the Provision and Assessment of Nutritional Support in the Neonatal and Pediatric ECMO Patient:
 - https://journals.lww.com/asaiojournal/Fulltext/2022/07000/Extracorporeal_Life_Support_Organization.1.aspx (Contributed as an Author: Dr. Tala Al Dabbous)
- Extracorporeal Life Support Organization Guideline for Transport and Retrieval of Adult and Pediatric Patients with ECMO Support
 - https://journals.lww.com/asaiojournal/Fulltext/2022/04000/Extracorporeal_Life_Support_Organization_Guideline.1.aspx (Contributed as an Author: Dr. Ahmed Labib)
- Extracorporeal Life Support: The ELSO Red Book 6th Edition
 - <https://www.else.org/Publications.aspx> (SWAAC ELSO contributors: Dr. Ahmed Labib, Dr. Ibrahim Fawzi)
- 10th SWAAC Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (SWAACELSO) 2024 Conference Abstracts, Kuwait City, Kuwait, February 15th–17th, 2024
 - [10th SWAAC Extracorporeal Life Support Organization \(SWAACELSO\) : ASAIO Journal \(lww.com\)](#)
- Blood transfusion during extracorporeal membrane oxygenation: An ELSO Position Statement
 - <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39024410/> (Members from SWAAC ELSO region Contributed as an Authors)
- 35th Annual ELSO Conference supplemental abstracts publications – Oct 2024
 - [September-October 2024 - Volume 70 - Issue Supplement 4 : ASAIO Journal](#)
- Extracorporeal Life Support Organization 2024 Guideline for Early Rehabilitation or Mobilization of Adult Patients on Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation
 - [Extracorporeal Life Support Organization 2024 Guideline for Early Rehabilitation or Mobilization of Adult Patients on Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation – PubMed](#) (SWAAC ELSO contributors: Dr. Ahmed Labib)
- ELSO 2025 Narrative Guidelines on Pregnant and peripartum Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation
 - [ELSO 2025 Narrative Guidelines on Pregnant and peripartum Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation in ASAIO journal](#)
 - (SWAAC ELSO contributors: Dr. Ahmed Labib)

You can view all ELSO guidelines on the following link: <https://www.else.org/ecmo-resources/else-ecmo-guidelines.aspx>

You can view ELSO publications on the following link: <https://www.else.org/Publications.aspx>

Please email swaacelsonewsletter@gmail.com for any courses, publications, or events to be added in future newsletters.