



NewsLetter

Message from the president



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to the January 2025 SWAAC ELSO Newsletter, and Happy New Year to all!

The past year has been full of activities for our chapter. We started with the highly successful annual meeting in Kuwait, which brought together over 135 ECMO experts from around the globe to share their experiences and knowledge with more than 1,500 delegates, both virtually and in person. Throughout the year, various courses, workshops, and meetings were held across the different countries in our chapter, some of which are highlighted in this issue.

It has also been a very productive year from a research perspective, with numerous surveys circulating in our region to explore practices related to ECLS infection and anticoagulation. We eagerly await their results. Additionally, the abstracts accepted during the 10th SWAAC ELSO Annual Conference were published for the first time as a supplement in the February edition of ASAIO, with plans to make this an annual practice.

On the education and quality assurance front, we are proud of our region's strong educational infrastructure. Six courses from SWAAC ELSO centers in India, Kuwait, Egypt, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia have been endorsed by ELSO, and three additional centers in our chapter have maintained or achieved excellence by obtaining the Center of Excellence Award.

On a more exciting note, the bylaws for our chapter have been updated. You can view these updates via the access provided in this issue. We hope the recent changes will provide greater representation and better align with the needs of our community. We will soon announce vacancies for various positions within the chapter and will communicate these opportunities through our SWAAC ELSO centers, so stay connected via our communication channels.

In terms of communication, we are thrilled to announce that the SWAAC ELSO app is nearly ready and will be launched during the upcoming 11th SWAAC ELSO Annual Meeting in Abu Dhabi. This meeting will feature a rich scientific program presented by an impressive ECLS world-leading faculty. Don't miss the chance to register and join us to **empower, drive, innovate, and advance**.

We hope to see you all next month in Abu Dhabi!

Warm regards,

Huda Alfoudri

SWAAC ELSO President



SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



Highlights of this issue

- Page 1:** Message from the president
- Page 2:** Highlights of this issue
- Page 3:** Updates on Committees and Subcommittees
- Page 4:** News and Updates
- Page 5:** ELSO Endorsed courses and upcoming
SWAAC region ECMO courses
SWAAC region ECMO meetings
- Page 6:** SWAAC ELSO Conference 2025
- Page 7:** Highlights from The Najran Health Cluster ECMO Course - KSA
- Page 8:** Highlights from the 35th Annual ELSO Conference and the 35th ELSO Anniversary at Ann Arbor
- Page 9:** Highlights from the Hamad Medical Corporation ECMO Course - Qatar
- Page 10:** Highlights from Aladan Comprehensive Adult ECLS Course, Kuwait
- Page 11:** Highlights from Super ICU Pearl meeting, Cairo Egypt
- Page 12:** Awards of Excellence
- Page 13:** SWAAC ELSO Chapter Publications
- Page 14:** ELSO Guidelines and publications
- Page 15:** In memory of Luciano Gattinoni



Update on Committees/Subcommittees

The chapter bylaws have been updated aiming to ensure a greater representation and alignment with the needs of our community. We would also like to congratulate Dr Marlice Van Dyk for being elected as the President Elect. Please stay connected through our social media platforms, as we will soon announce opportunities for members to participate in shaping the future direction of the chapter. 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	drpoonamaiims@gmail.com
Chairman-Elect	Marlice van Dyk	South Africa	dr.marlice@icudoctor.co.za
Chairman Standing Committee Edu/Simu/Comm	Huda Al Foudri	Kuwait	h_alfoudri@hotmail.com
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
Treasurer	To be determined		
Secretary	Pranay Oza	India	drpranay.oza@gmail.com
Member at Large	Ibrahim Fawzy Hassan	Qatar	ihassan@hamad.qa
Member at Large	Huda Al Foudri	Kuwait	h_alfoudri@hotmail.com
Member at Large	Said Al Hanshi, MD	Oman	abushatha50@hotmail.com
Member at Large	Mohamed Azzam	KSA	mohamed.azzam77@me.com
Member at Large	AkramAbdelbary	Egypt	akram_bary@yahoo.com
Member at Large	Brahim Housni	Morocco	Brahim.housni@ump.ac.ma
Member at Large	Timur Lesbekov	Kazakhstan	lesbekovt@mail.ru
Member at Large	Ali BoroujerdiAlavi	Iran	aba2002ir@yahoo.com
Member at Large	Jana Assy	Lebanon	jana.assy101@gmail.com
Member at Large	Marlice van Dyk	South Africa	dr.marlice@icudoctor.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



News and Updates



SWAAC ELSO 2024
CROSSING BOUNDARIES

- 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 chapter application is going to be launched in February 2025 during the 11th SWAAC ELSO Conference. You will find useful information about the chapter, so stay tuned for the release.



- The 35th Annual ELSO Conference abstract supplement is out, with several publications by SWAAC ELSO chapter members. Click for [The 35th ELSO Conference ASAIO abstract supplement](#)



- 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 13](#) 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) please contact SWAAC ELSO through email at swaacelsonewsletter@gmail.com to express your interest.



- 11th SWAAC ELSO Conference is inviting you to participate in the annual meeting taking place in Abudhabi, UAE. The conference is a host to rich scientific program by an impressive and ECLS world leading faculty. Click here for the [conference's brochure](#). And visit [page 6](#) for more information.



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



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.else.org/ecmo-education/certificationexam.aspx>

Upcoming SWAAC region ECMO courses:

The following are ECMO courses within the SWAAC ELSO Chapter:

- 1st endorsed ECMO course in **Saudi Arabia, Najran**, Najran health cluster:
 - 29th Jan – 1st Feb 2025
 - For registration contact: eam-ecmo-najran@moh.gov.sa
 - 10th ELSO Endorsed comprehensive simulation – Simulation based ECMO course, at Riddhi Vinayak Riddhi Vinayak Vinayak Critical Care and Cardiac Centre, **Mumbai India**
 - 5th – 7th April 2025 – Virtual talk
 - 11th – 13th April 2025 – Hands on Simulation
- [ECMO India 2025 Brochure April.pdf](#)

Upcoming SWAAC region ECMO meetings:

14th Annual National Conference of ECMO Society of India, in Raajkutir, Kolkata.
15th – 18th of May, 2025.

For more information [Click here](#)



SWAAC ELSO conference 2025

We're excited to share the upcoming **11th SWAAC ELSO Annual Conference 2025** with you, which will be held in **Abu Dhabi UAE**, from the 4th – 8th of February 2025. Mark your calendars and enjoy the hospitality, culture, and serenity of Abu Dhabi.

Make sure to have a look at the poster below for details and contact information.





The Najran Health Cluster ECMO Course - KSA

Highlights from The Najran Health Cluster, KSA, ELSO endorsed ECMO course held in September 2024



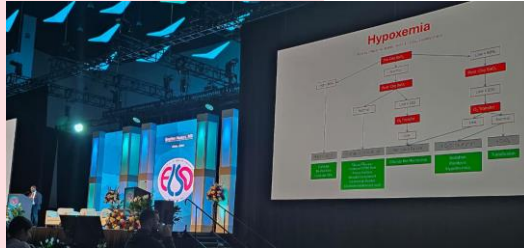


SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



SWAAC ELSO Chapter in the 35th Annual ELSO Conference

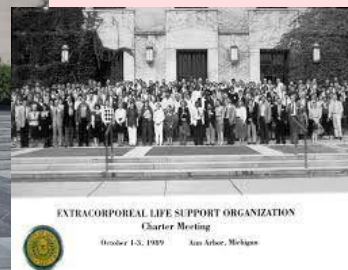
Highlights from The 35th Annual ELSO Conference held in Detroit, USA – OCT 2024



35th ELSO Anniversary at Ann Arbor



Group photo with Prof. Robert Bartlett 35 years between the two photos full of continuous work, achievements, and inspirations.





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Hamad Medical Corporation ECMO Course - Qatar

Highlights from Hamad Medical Corporation , Doha Qatar, ECMO Retrieval Course held in October 2024





Aladan Comprehensive Adult ECLS Course, Kuwait

Highlights from Aladan hospital Comprehensive Adult ECLS course, Kuwait, held in November 2024





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Super ICU Pearl meeting, Cairo Egypt

Highlights from The Super ICU Pearl Meeting, in Cairo Egypt held in December 2024





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

Gold Award of Excellence:



- Riyadh Second Health Cluster – Ministry of Health
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia – 2025
- 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

Silver Award of Excellence:



- King Khalid Hospital
Najran, Saudi Arabia – 2025
- 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 ELSO Guidelines and publications with contributions from SWAAC ELSO members:

- 35th Annual ELSO Conference supplemental abstracts publications – Oct 2024
[September-October 2024 - Volume 70 - Issue Supplement 4 : ASAIO Journal](#)
- Circulatory Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation Support for High-Risk Acute Pulmonary Embolism Abdulaziz, Salman Kakar, Vivek Alfoudri, Huda Shalaby, Mohammed Allen, Mikaela V. Beegom, Shameena Fraser, John F. Al Ali, Saleh Fares 2024/12/0, CHEST Critical Care,
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chstcc.2024.100096>
- Ali AIT Hssain, Amir Vahedian-Azimi, Matthieu Schmidt, Abdulsalam Saif Ibrahim, Kollengode Ramanathan, Ibrahim Fawzy Hassan, Amirhossein Sahebkar, Epidemiology and outcomes of patients with tuberculosis requiring extracorporeal membrane oxygenation: An ELSO registry analysis, Intensive and Critical Care Nursing, Volume 86, 2025:
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.iccn.2024.103841>
- Gupta V, Ramanathan KR. Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation Assisted Cardiac Interventions. Indian J Cardiovasc Dis Women. 2024;9:176-84 **[doi: 10.25259/IJCDW_48_2024](#)**
- Infection as an Indicator and Additional Factor for Consideration of ECMO Circuit Change-Out: A Call for Further Research
Salman Pervaiz Butt, Stephanie Thomas and Salman Abdulaziz J Extra Corpor Technol., Forthcoming article **<https://doi.org/10.1051/ject/2024034>**
- AlJassim NA, et al. Pediatric Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) Practices and Challenges in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Countries. Ann Med Health Sci Res. 2024;14:1057-1059. **[Pediatric Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation Practices and Challenges in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia \(KSA\) and Gulf Cooperation Council \(GCC\) Countries](#)**



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 \(SWAACEL... : 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](#)

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.



In memory of Luciano Gattinoni



Professor Gattinoni receiving the **LIFE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** from the Kuwaiti Minister of Health and the Italian Ambassador to Kuwait during the SWAAC ELSO 2024 annual meeting last year in Kuwait City.



With heavy hearts, we mourn the passing of Professor Luciano Gattinoni. He was a remarkable scientist whose brilliance and unwavering dedication transformed the field of intensive care.

Professor Gattinoni was an extraordinary individual, fully committed to advancing our understanding and challenging conventional thinking. This was highlighted in the 3 lectures he presented during the SWAAC ELSO annual meeting in Kuwait last year. The recorded lectures are downloaded on the SWAAC ELSO YouTube channel (**links below**) to allow the new generations to have access to his school of thoughts. His profound contributions will echo through generations, inspiring countless minds to carry on the vital work he championed with such passion.

Our deepest condolences to his family and the ECLS Community.

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[ARDS Definition Keeps Changing. Subtypes and Outcome](#)