

Conference Agenda

16–17 November 2026 · Grand Hyatt Hotel Kuwait

Day 1 — Monday, 16 November 2026

Main Scientific Program

7:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome Message & Opening Ceremony
Hepatitis Viruses Moderator: Dr. Fatima Bu Rhdha	
9:30 – 10:00	Keynote Lecture: Functional cure of Hepatitis B virus Dr. Samir Dervisevic 
10:00 – 10:30	HCV Global Elimination Efforts Dr. Ahmed Al-Fadhli 
10:30 – 10:40	Q & A
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee Break
Viral Pediatric Illnesses Moderator: Dr. Ebaa Al-Awadhi	
11:00 – 11:25	EBV in PICU patients Dr. Fajer Al-Tammar
11:25 – 11:50	Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease in Children: Clinical Spectrum, Emerging Enteroviruses and Molecular Diagnosis Dr. Hafza Zahira Manzoor 
11:50 – 12:15	RSV Immunization: The Post-2023 Era Dr. Hamad Bastaki 
12:15 – 12:40	When Kids Break Out Dr. Sara Al-Eidan 
12:40 – 12:50	Q & A
12:50 – 14:00	Prayer and Lunch Break
Human Papillomaviruses Moderator: Dr. Aziza Mudaffar	
14:00 – 14:25	HPV-Induced Gynecological Malignancies Dr. Noura Ibrahim 
14:25 – 14:50	Laryngeal Papillomatosis Dr. Sara Bushehri  / Dr. Bashayer Abdullah 
14:50 – 15:15	HPV Screening and Vaccination Dr. Muhammad Alper Ozarslan
15:15 – 15:25	Q & A
15:25 – 15:40	Coffee Break
Advances in Molecular Diagnostics Moderator: Dr. Eman Zubaid	
15:40 – 16:05	Emerging Molecular Diagnostics & Clinical Applications Dr. Faizan Haidar Khan 
16:05 – 16:30	The Intelligent Molecular Work Area: Scaling Intelligence and Automation Dr. Mo Hezwani
16:30 – 16:45	Q & A / Closing Remarks

Parallel Short Courses

Short Course - 1 Hall 1 13:30 - 16:30
ISO 15189:2022 Updates: International Quality Standards and Laboratory Accreditation
Dr. Ismail Bakhsh

Day 2 — Tuesday, 17 November 2026

Main Scientific Program

7:30 – 8:30	Registration
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Laboratory Excellence and Emerging Viral Threats

Moderator: Dr. Hussain Al-Shamari

8:30 – 8:55	Islamic Civilizations’ Forgotten Legacy in Virology Dr. Ismail Bakhsh 
8:55 – 9:20	Emerging and Re-emerging Viral Threats Dr. Fadhel Hassan Al-Habbabi 
9:20 – 9:45	Travel Health in a Connected World: Prevention, Surveillance, and the Role of the Laboratory Dr. Mariam Mansouri 
9:45 – 10:10	Preventing Viral Transmission in Healthcare System Dr. Areej Al-Ali 
10:10 – 10:20	Q & A
10:20 – 10:40	Coffee Break

HIV

Moderator: Dr. Samir Dervisevic

10:40 – 11:05	The Role of PrEP in the Prevention of HIV Dr. Joseph Heskin 
11:05 – 11:30	The Role of Next Generation Sequencing in the Treatment of HIV patients Dr. Fajer Al-Assaf
11:30 – 11:55	Viral Opportunistic Infections in HIV patients Dr. Aisha Al-Safi
11:55 – 12:20	Non-Viral Opportunistic Infections in HIV patients Dr. Hussain Al-Shammeri 
12:20 – 12:30	Q & A
12:30 – 13:30	Prayer and Lunch Break

Viral infections in Immunocompromised Patients

Moderator: Dr. Aisha Al-Safi

13:30 – 13:55	Viral Reactivation During Chemotherapy Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Jassem 
13:55 – 14:20	Torque Teno Virus in Solid Organ Transplant Patients Dr. Hafza Zahira Manzoor 
14:20 – 14:45	Pre-biologics Viral Screening Dr. Ghayda Al-Dabi 
14:45 – 14:55	Q & A
14:55 – 15:10	Coffee Break

CDC and WHO Local Office

Moderator: Dr. Sara Bushehri

15:10 – 15:40	Building Future Leaders for Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs: Kuwait Perspective Dr. Mohammad Shafi
15:40 – 16:10	National Antimicrobial Consumption Data: Trends, Recommendations, and Antivirals Dr. Hussain Al-Shamari 
16:10 – 16:25	Q & A / Closing Remarks

Parallel Short Courses

Short Course - 2 Hall 1 09:00 - 12:00 Quality Assurance in Molecular Diagnostic Laboratories: Best Practices from Sample Collection to Clinical Interpretation tbd	Short Course - 3 Hall 1 13:30 - 16:30 Laboratory Quality Management: Performance Improvement Projects (PIPs) and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) Dr. Fadel Hassan AlHababi
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