

Endorsed by

MENACTRIMS
Middle East North Africa Committee for
Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis



Pre-MENACTRIMS SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, October 31, 2024

Al Qasr Ballroom, Jeddah Hilton
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia



REGISTER TODAY
Limited seats available

Unfolding the Subject Matter

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) in the Middle East is seeing an increasing prevalence, with regional differences influenced by genetic, environmental, and socioeconomic factors. Understanding these patterns helps inform tailored approaches to MS diagnosis and treatment in this unique population.

Multiple sclerosis (MS) primarily affects women of childbearing age, with symptoms that can influence the ability to conceive and impact family planning decisions. Prof. Oreja-Guevara will present an update on "Pregnancy and Multiple Sclerosis: Safety Aspects and Treatment Modalities", providing the latest insights on this critical topic.

Managing MS in individuals aged 55 and above presents unique challenges due to the complex interplay between aging, comorbidities, immunosenescence, and MS pathophysiology. Prof. Patrick Vermersch will deliver a comprehensive review of "Managing Multiple Sclerosis in Individuals Aged 55 and Above", discussing current knowledge and best practices in this evolving field.

Target Audience

- Specialists
- Neurologists
- Practitioners
- Researchers in the field of MS

Registration

Registration is **complimentary** and can be arranged via the online registration module upon registering for the congress pass.

Agenda: MS and Special Populations

18:30-19:00 Registration and Welcome Coffee

19:00-19:45

Lectures

Chairs: B. Yamout (AE)
Co-Chair: M. Alkhawajah (SA)

19:00-19:04 Welcome and Introduction - B. Yamout (AE) and C. Oreja-Guevara (ES)

19:04-19:16 Epidemiology of MS in the Middle East

19:16-19:28 Pregnancy and Multiple Sclerosis: Safety Aspects and Treatment Modalities

19:28-19:40 Managing Multiple Sclerosis in Individuals Aged 55 and Above

19:40-19:45 Live Q&A & Panel Discussion

S. Bohlega (SA)

C. Oreja-Guevara (ES)

P. Vermersch (FR)

All faculty, facilitated by M. Alkhawajah (SA)

Faculty



Prof. Bassem I. Yamout
Neurology Institute Director
Harley Street Medical Centre
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates



Prof. Saeed Bohlega
Consultant Neurologist, Professor of Neurology
King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



Prof. Mona Alkhawajah
Consultant Neurologist & Assistant Professor
Neuroscience Center, King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Center, Al Faisal University
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



Prof. Celia Oreja-Guevara
Vice Chair of Neurology
University Hospital San Carlos
Madrid, Spain



Prof. Patrick Vermersch
Vice President of Research in the fields of Life and Health Sciences
University of Lille
Lille, France

What are the key takeaways from this Symposium?

By attending this symposium you will:

- Find out how MS prevalence is rising in the Middle East, driven by unique genetic, environmental, and socioeconomic factors, highlighting the need for region-specific approaches to care.
- Understand the impact of multiple sclerosis and the use of MS disease-modifying therapies (DMTs) on fertility, pre-pregnancy, pregnancy, and the postpartum period.
- Learn about the associated risks, the importance of conception timing, and the planning required for stopping and starting DMTs in the context of MS and pregnancy.
- Gain insights into the evolving landscape of MS in older adults.
- Explore the available evidence on the efficacy and safety of DMTs in older patients, including critical decisions relating to the initiation, de-escalation, and discontinuation of DMTs.
- Discover non-pharmacologic approaches for treating and caring for older persons with MS (PwMS), including physical therapy, neuromodulation therapies, cognitive rehabilitation, and psychotherapy.

With thanks to our sponsor, who supports this Symposium without any involvement in the elaboration of the presentations.



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