



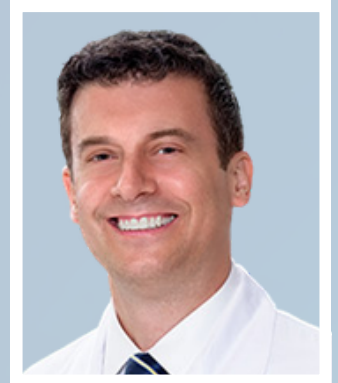
NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026 EDITION

Lauren Kennedy, Editor

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

There is tremendous excitement already for the Annual ELSO Conference taking place this year in Nashville, Tennessee, at the end of September. Each year, our conference provides a unique opportunity for the global ECLS community to come together, share knowledge, celebrate achievements, and strengthen the connections that lead to advances in our field.



This year's meeting promises to be yet another outstanding event, featuring cutting-edge science, engaging educational sessions, and opportunities to connect with colleagues from around the world. Whether you are a longtime attendee or joining us for the first time, Nashville will provide the perfect setting to learn, collaborate, and explore new ideas that will help shape the future of ECLS.

We look forward to welcoming you to Nashville and celebrating the remarkable work being done across our community. Safe travels, and we'll see you in September.

Dan Brodie, President, ELSO

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
Chapter Conferences	2
Committee Roundup	3
Survey Alley	7
Liaison Corner	8
Circuit Chatter	9
Chapter Updates	11
Team Updates	13
CEO Remarks	14

CHAPTER CONFERENCES



7th Annual LATAM Conference

Location: San Jose, Costa Rica

Dates: November 5th- November 7th, 2026

Website: <https://congresosusp.com/congreso-elso/>

SWAAC ELSO
13TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2027
Najran | Saudi Arabia

SWAAC ELSO Conference 2027

Location: Najran, Saudi Arabia

Dates: January 28 - February 1, 2027

Contact: info@imedidea.com



15th Annual EuroELSO Conference

Location: Vienna, Austria

Dates: April 28 - May 1, 2027

Website: <https://euroelso-congress.com/>



9th Annual APELSO Conference

Location: Bali, Indonesia

Dates: June 2027



COMMITTEE ROUNDUP

ELSO Conference Committee

The Countdown Is On!

In just a few weeks, the ELSO community will gather in Nashville, TN for ELSO 2026. With September right around the corner, now is the perfect time to finalize your plans and make the most of your conference experience.

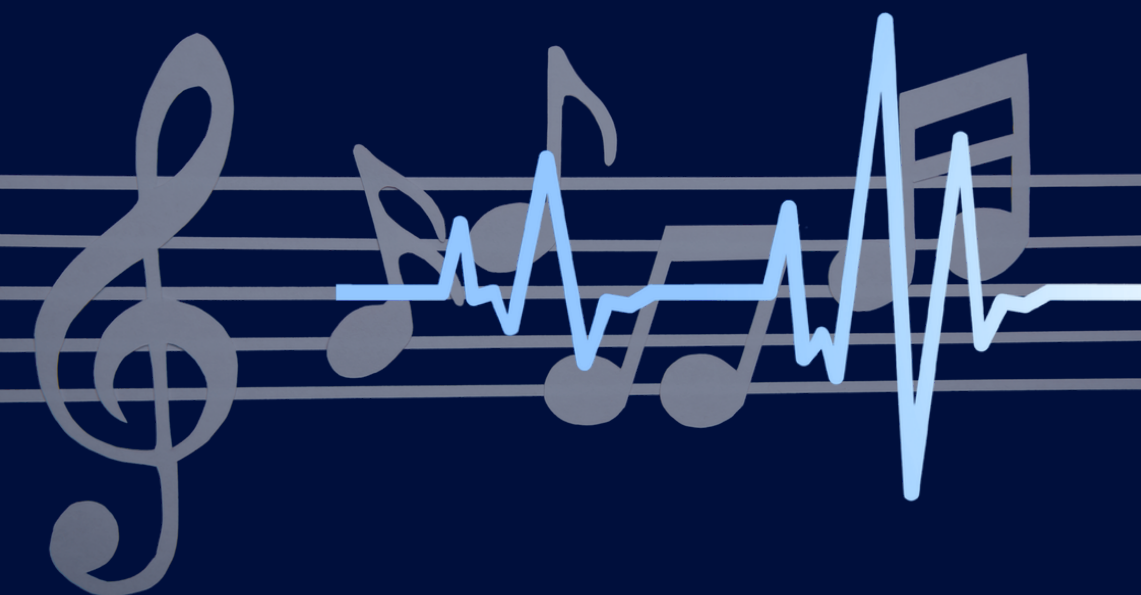
One event you won't want to miss is our Grand Ole Opry Evening on September 30. We'll kick off the night with light food, drinks, and networking just outside the Opry, followed by reserved tickets to join us inside for the world-famous live music experience. There is simply no better way to experience Nashville's iconic music scene while connecting with colleagues from around the world.

Best of all, the Grand Ole Opry is within walking distance of the Gaylord Opryland Resort, making it an easy and memorable addition to your conference schedule.

The Grand Ole Opry Evening is available as an optional add-on to conference registration. If you haven't added it yet, there's still time but tickets are limited!



REGISTER HERE!





Education Committee/ELSO Academy



SAVE THE DATE!

ELSO GLOBAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

ESTABLISHED
IN
2025



SEPTEMBER 28, 2026
2:30 PM EST



IN PERSON AT THE
ELSO CONFERENCE
Nashville, Tennessee



Nashville, TN

ABOUT THE ELSO GLOBAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

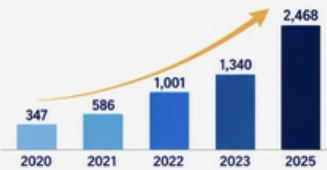
Established in 2025, the ELSO Global Education Committee brings together education leaders, international chapter representatives, faculty, and key stakeholders to shape the future of ECMO education worldwide.

- Align educational priorities across ELSO and its global chapters
- Promote equitable access to ECMO education worldwide
- Share educational resources, innovations, and best practices
- Support competency-based education and workforce development
- Identify opportunities for regional collaboration and capacity building
- Guide strategic growth while maintaining educational quality and standards

ELSO EDUCATION: GROWTH & IMPACT

EDUCATION GROWTH (2020-2025)

More than 600% growth in learner reach since 2020



Year	Learner Reach
2020	347
2021	586
2022	1,001
2023	1,340
2025	2,468

2025 EDUCATION IMPACT

Adult Foundations (English)	1,678
Adult Foundations (Spanish)	118
Neo/Peds Foundations (English)	344
Endorsed Site Visits	9
E-AEC Certification Examinees	200
E-NPEC Certification Examinees	14
TOTAL LEARNERS REACHED GLOBALLY	2,468

KEY TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- Expanding global access and affordability
- Strengthening collaboration with international chapters
- Balancing standardization with regional adaptability
- Scaling simulation and procedural training
- Increasing progression from education to certification
- Leveraging emerging technologies and innovative delivery models
- Developing Train-the-Trainer and regional capacity-building initiatives



A STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP DISCUSSION

Your expertise and perspective will be invaluable as we shape the next chapter of ELSO Education together.

➔

LEADERSHIP QUESTION:

Are we optimizing for the number of learners reached, or for the measurable competency and readiness of the global ECMO workforce?



Learn more about the 2026 ELSO Conference:
<https://web.cvent.com/event/ae2756fc-1703-417b-b139-53619b253cbf/summary>

Upcoming Course Dates

Our Fall 2026 and Spring 2027 ELSO Simulation Center Education activities are live on ELSO Academy! We are offering a variety of Adult Simulation, Neo/Peds Simulation, and Cannulation courses. Please keep an eye on the [ELSO Website](#) as well as ELSO Academy to check course dates & availability!

ELSO Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) Adult Simulation Course

Fall 2026 Dates: November 9-10 & November 11-12

NEW! Spring 2027 Dates: April 12-13 & April 14-15

ELSO Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) Neo/Peds Simulation Course

Fall 2026 Dates: October 13-14

NEXT COURSE ANTICIPATED FALL 2027

ELSO Adult ECMO Cannulation Workshop

Fall 2026 Dates: October 10, October 11, November 13, November 14, November 15

NEW ! Spring 2027 Dates: April 16, April 17, April 18

All Endorsed courses can be found [HERE](#)

All non-ELSO courses/events can be found [HERE](#).



Registry

ELSO Registry Q&A Corner

The ELSO Registry Development Subcommittee held its most recent Registry Q&A session on May 13th! The next Registry Q&A session will be on September 9th at 8 AM ET. Register [here](#).

Q: My patient has multiple runs on ECMO in prior years, but I noticed that the run number begins with one for each hospitalization even though my patient had previous runs. How do I allow for the previous runs?

A: With the latest update to the ELSO registry data definitions, hospitalizations were added. ECMO runs are now per hospitalization. The unique ID# follows the patient for a lifetime, but the ECMO run begins at '1' for each hospitalization.

Q: How should bleeding be classified in an open chest patient with central ECMO cannulation? I find it difficult to differentiate between mediastinal cannulation site bleeding and surgical site bleeding.

A: If the patient is open chest and centrally cannulated, the bleeding should generally be classified as: Mediastinal Cannulation Site Bleeding. If the patient has an open chest cannulation, the dressing is saturated and had to go back to the OR for an exploratory and washout, then you would choose Mediastinal Cannulation Site Bleeding. For surgical site bleeding, if there is increased output from the chest tube requiring a blood transfusion meeting the data definitions criteria or another intervention to be performed then you would choose surgical complication.

Q: A VA ECMO patient develops asystole but remains perfused by ECMO. No chest compressions are performed. Is this considered a cardiac arrest complication?

A: No. If ECMO continues providing circulation, blood pressure is maintained, and no CPR/chest compressions are performed, this would not be recorded as a cardiac arrest complication. Instead, record it as an arrhythmia complication.

Q: If converting from VV ECMO to VAV ECMO by adding an arterial cannula, do I need to re-enter the existing venous cannulas?

A: No. If the original cannulas remain in the same role (drainage stays drainage and return stays return) then do not create new entries and do not enter new start dates/times, instead simply add the new arterial cannula.

Keep in touch with Registry Q&A sessions by following ELSO on social media, and checking the announcement section of the ELSO website!

ELSO 2027 Research Grant Application

The ELSO 2027 Research Grant Program is now accepting applications, offering funding to support focused, impactful ECMO-related research from investigators at active ELSO centers. These small grants are designed to help advance meaningful projects that can be completed within the coming year.

- Application deadline: September 30, 2026
- Award levels: \$5,000 or \$10,000

Full details and application requirements: [ELSO Research Grant Website](#)

Questions: ELSOResearchGrants@elso.org



Quality Committee - Award of Excellence

ELSO 2026 Award Ceremony: The AOE Team is excited to celebrate the remarkable accomplishments of our centers at this year's Award of Excellence Ceremony on September 28th during the ELSO Annual Conference. To help showcase your teams, please submit ECMO team photos to award@elso.org by September 11th for inclusion in the ceremony presentation. We look forward to honoring the dedication, innovation, and excellence demonstrated across the ELSO community!

2027 AOE Application Updates: As part of our ongoing commitment to continuous improvement, ELSO is preparing updates to the Award of Excellence Program to better reflect evolving practices and organizational capabilities that support high-quality ECMO care. *These changes will be introduced for the 2027 application cycle, and updated materials will be available on our website in December 2026.* While currently available 2026 documents may still serve as general reference, sections and questions will be updated. Your continued work to advance quality and excellence remains central to the program and we are excited to share more details with our community soon.

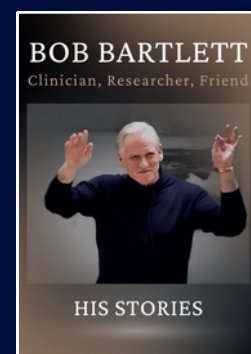
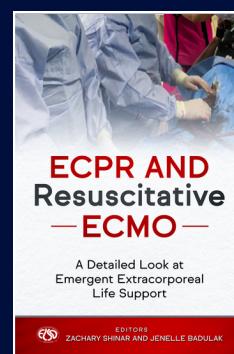
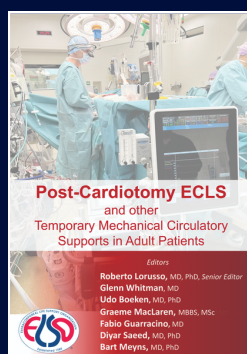
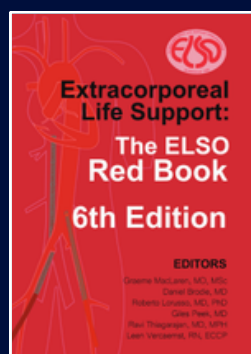
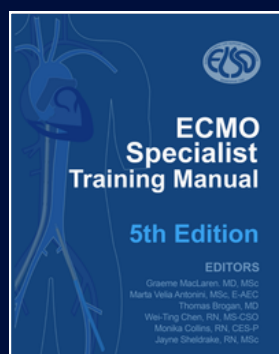
If you have any questions, please reach out to awards@elso.org.

Tracy Morrison, Quality Chair



Publications Committee

We excited to share that the following publications will be available in limited quantities to purchase in-person at ELSO 2026. Please visit us at the Book Sales area outside the Ryman Exhibit Hall!



Visit our website for the full list of publications available [HERE](#).



Technology & Innovation Committee

The Technology and Innovation committee is looking for our next webinar topic. If you are doing something innovative with your ECMO patients or ECMO team (staffing, training, simulation), we want to hear about it! Please reach out to tmaul@elso.org

Tim Maul, Technology & Innovation Chair

FELSO

FELSO is an honorary designation recognizing extraordinary contributions to the art and science of ECLS. Applications are reviewed by the FELSO Nominations Committee.

The FELSO application for 2026 is now closed, and announcements of our new FELSOs will be announced at the ELSO 2026 Award Ceremony.

For additional information, please contact FELSO@elso.org.

SURVEY ALLEY

ECMO Withdrawal Survey

Please consider participating in this survey for a research project focused on ECMO withdrawal practices related to clinical factors, attention to biases, and ethical considerations. Your insights will help us better understand the varied approach to ECMO withdrawal and the scope of varied practices with the ultimate goal of advocating for factors that may promote consideration for standard protocols and policies.

Primary Survey Contact: Adan (Adam) Mora; Adan.Mora@UTSouthwestern.edu

Link to Survey: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/hzp7RgtxWA>



Have a survey that would benefit from insight from the global ELSO community?

Share it in Survey Alley, our newsletter feature highlighting active surveys from ELSO members around the world. To submit, please have your ELSO Center's Medical Director or Coordinator send a brief 2–3 sentence summary of the survey, the primary contact and email, and a link to the survey. Email submissions to newsletter@elso.org, we look forward to showcasing your work in an upcoming issue!



LIAISON CORNER

Coordinators

I wanted to drop a quick hello! I'm Jayne Sheldrake, the ECMO Coordinator at The Alfred Hospital in Melbourne, Australia and I'm excited to be stepping into the role of Coordinator Liaison for ELSO. Over the years, I've loved working with ELSO on everything from guidelines and education to center certification and the Strategic Advisory Council. Erin has done a fantastic job, and I'm looking forward to building on that momentum with all of you.

If you're attending the 37th ELSO Conference in Nashville next month, please grab a spot at the Coordinators' Breakfast Meeting! Mark your calendars—it'll be a great chance to chat about what's working, what's NOT working and what you need from ELSO, and how we can keep shaping our global community together. Have a think and bring those ideas along. In the meantime, feel free to introduce yourself, share any ideas or challenges, or just reach out to say hi.

Jayne Sheldrake, Coordinator Liaison

Perfusionists

We're looking forward to connecting with the perfusion community at ELSO 2026. Perfusion Predicaments in ECMO returns to the main conference program, bringing experts together to discuss challenging cases, practical solutions, and real-world lessons from ECMO management.

The conversation begins in preconference with Anticipating and Mitigating ECMO-related Complications: Strategies From the Bedside, an interactive roundtable focused on sharing experiences and practical approaches to common ECMO challenges. We hope you'll join us for these engaging sessions and all that the conference has to offer.

Desiree Bonadonna, Perfusion Liaison

Respiratory Therapists

The Respiratory Therapy ECMO Working Group continues to expand the role and visibility of respiratory therapists within the global ECMO community. The group provides a dedicated forum for respiratory therapists involved in ECMO to collaborate, share clinical expertise, identify educational needs, and contribute to the continued development of ECMO practice. Recent discussions have focused on ECMO education and competency, mechanical ventilation during ECMO, patient management, multidisciplinary collaboration, and the unique contributions of respiratory therapists across adult, pediatric, and neonatal ECMO.

Currently the group is working on a manuscript for mechanical ventilation during ECMO including an international survey. We are also working on a proposal for a Mechanical Ventilation Addendum to capture this practice in a more detailed manner. Our next meeting is on September 24th. Any Respiratory Therapists that are interested please contact John Priest @ JPriest@elso.org.

John Priest, Respiratory Therapy Liaison

CIRCUIT CHATTER

EDITION 8

EDITED BY DR. GRAEME MACLAREN & DR. GILES PEEK

WRITTEN & SUBMITTED BY:

GRACE VAN LEEUWEN, ELISABETTA GIACOMINI,
IBRAHIM FAWZY HASSAN, AND TAYSEER MOSLEH
SIDRA MEDICINE & HAMAD MEDICAL CORPORATION
QATAR

A 13-year-old boy presented with febrile neutropenia due to methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (Panton-Valentine leukocidin positive) necrotizing pneumonia. His condition rapidly progressed to acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) and septic shock, which were unresponsive to conventional medical management. To provide cardiorespiratory support, peripheral femoral venoarterial ECMO was initiated at Sidra Medicine, a pediatric center. The patient was initially supported with a 21-Fr right femoral venous cannula and a 21-Fr left femoral arterial cannula, along with an additional 8-Fr distal limb perfusion cannula.

Within 24 hours, he showed improvement in cardiac function but developed differential hypoxemia. To transition to veno-venoarterial (V-VA) support, a 19-Fr right internal jugular venous cannula was placed.

After 24 hours, the patient experienced a complete loss of lung tidal volume. He developed severe refractory hypoxemia, with SaO_2 falling to 50%. After excluding sweep gas delivery failure, blood gas analysis indicated failure of the membrane lung, necessitating an emergency circuit change. While this intervention brought some improvement, it did not fully resolve the hypoxia. (Editor's note: Always check the membrane lung inlet and outlet saturation in this situation as the post-oxygenator PaO_2 may be low because the inlet saturation is so low that the membrane lung's capacity is overwhelmed despite being below the rated flow.)

During this time, attempts to optimize the patient's volume status, correct hemoglobin levels, and reduce cardiac output through sedation and beta-blockade led to marginal improvements in oxygen saturation.



A consultation with the HMC adult ECMO team led to critical interventions, including upsizing the venous cannula, removal of the arterial cannula, and converting to VV - both leading to an increase in ECMO flow - and repositioning of the jugular cannula. Following these collaborative strategies, the patient's saturations improved to 90%. He was stabilized and safely transferred to HMC. After six weeks, he was decannulated from ECMO, and is now breathing room air, has had his tracheostomy removed, and is awake.

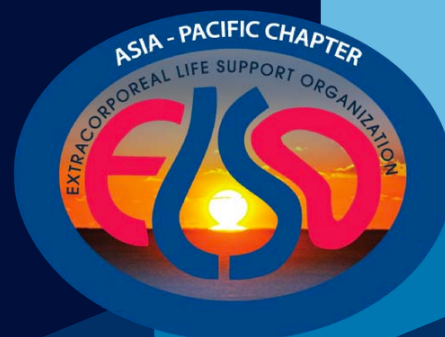
Refractory hypoxemia in VV ECMO can be multifactorial and requires a comprehensive approach to address mechanical, physiological, and patient-specific factors. This case also exemplifies how collaborative troubleshooting across disciplines and institutions can lead to improved patient outcomes. Cross-team consultations facilitated timely interventions, fresh perspectives, and effective technical solutions in a critical situation.



ELSO CHAPTER UPDATES: ECMO AROUND THE WORLD

AP ELSO

We're excited to welcome the ECMO community to Bali for the AP ELSO 2027 Congress this June. More details about the program, sessions, and registration will be shared soon, and we look forward to bringing the region together for this special event.



LATAM ELSO

Please join us for the 7th Annual LATAM Conference, being held in San Jose, Costa Rica in November 2026. Up to date news and event information can be found on our website: elsolatam.net.

ELSO CHAPTER UPDATES: ECMO AROUND THE WORLD

SWAAC ELSO

Mark your calendar for the next annual meeting which will be held in Najran, Saudi Arabia. Pre-conference workshop will take place January 28-29, 2027 and Main conference will be held from January 30-February 1, 2027.



EuroELSO

Building on the success of Dublin, the EuroELSO Scientific and Steering Committees are already preparing an outstanding programme for the next EuroELSO Congress, taking place in Vienna from 28 April to 1 May 2027. We look forward to welcoming you there!

Matthieu Schmidt, MD, PhD, EuroELSO Chair



TEAM ELSO & STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES

We are so excited to welcome Eryn Lewis, ELSO's first Education Project manager to our team as of July 2026. Eryn earned her MPH from the University of Michigan in April 2026.

As ELSO's team grows to better serve our community, we are so happy to announce that Lauren Kennedy was promoted to Chief of Staff in July. She's ready and we are lucky to have her!



Eryn Lewis, MPH



Lauren Kennedy, MHSA, ATC



Linda Edwards
Quality



Alex Supady
Research



Jayne Sheldrake
Coordinator



Melissa Vogelsong
Nominations & Membership

Congratulations to ELSO's incoming Steering Committee members whose terms begin January 1, 2027. We look forward to all that we will accomplish together!

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REMARKS

Inspiration

You know it when you feel it: inspiration. In our profession, that's an easy reference to Dr. Bartlett. He inspired so many in how he went above and beyond to make improve extracorporeal life support, and how he did this: you felt you could do more with is encouragement.

Earlier this month, Nashville lost one of their own, Dolly Parton. Dolly was an inspiration in her own right and certainly left the world a better place. She was purposefully and unapologetically herself. She created music for decades, established the Imagination Library which provided over 300 million books to children, and did her work with integrity and an unwavering commitment to the community she came from. Like Dr. Bartlett, no one felt excluded in her world.

Time

One of the most precious resources we have to give is our time. In Nashville, we look forward to sharing our time together to make this world a better place the way we do it: advancing extracorporeal life support. Each day that we will spend together will create more possibilities, improve technology, launch new careers or change the trajectory of careers - and so many other good things.

Thank you, for those that can make it, for the gift of your time together with this unique global community that is diverse in its expertise, professions, and home cities/towns/villages. For those with us in spirit, you will still have an impact and the virtual program will be available shortly thereafter.

As we gather in Nashville to create the foundation of Dr. Bartlett's legacy, let's do it with a little sparkle in honor of Dolly.

Christine Stead, CEO



The Extracorporeal Life Support Organization

Our Mission

Providing global leadership in extracorporeal life support through innovation, advocacy, and advancing knowledge.

Our Vision

ELSO will be the premier organization for the advancement of extracorporeal life support throughout the world.

Guiding Principles

Innovation

Seeking to identify and promote advances for the application of extracorporeal therapies.

Expertise

Bringing together world leaders in the care of critically ill patients for collaboration to advance quality of care through education and publication.

Clinical Support

Maintaining a comprehensive registry of data to assist in reducing morbidity and improving survival of patients requiring extracorporeal therapies.

Community

Fostering communication and collaboration among professionals who apply advanced technologies in the treatment of refractory organ failure.



@ELSO.Org



@ELSOOrg



@elso_official



@ELSO



@TheELSO

The Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO)
3001 Miller Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103, USA

www.elso.org

For editorial concerns related to this newsletter, please contact newsletter@elso.org.

Copyright © 2026 The Extracorporeal Life Support Organization. All Rights Reserved.