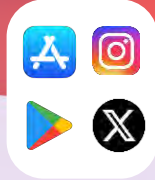




NewsLetter



Message from the president



Dear All,

I would like to welcome you to this new chapter for SWAAC ELSO. Thanks to the strong foundation laid by our previous presidents and members, we now have a dedicated and enthusiastic team ready to take this chapter forward.

We are a diverse chapter, but our greatest strength lies in the talented and committed individuals who are passionate about growing ECMO throughout the region.

Education, research, and the expansion of ECMO services across our member countries will remain our top priorities.

The Annual SWAAC ELSO Conference held in Chennai was truly exceptional. From the outstanding scientific programme to the ECPR Premier League, the ECMO Quiz, and the ECLS abstract presentations showcasing the remarkable research being conducted in our region, the meeting set a new benchmark. We extend our sincere gratitude to Dr. Madhan Kumar and Dr. Indira Jayakumar for their outstanding leadership and hard work.

Looking ahead, the 13th Annual SWAAC ELSO Conference will be held in Najran, Saudi Arabia. The theme, "*ECLS: Riding the AI Wave*," promises to stimulate thought-provoking discussions on the future of extracorporeal life support. With both the Scientific Committee and Conference Subcommittee already working hard behind the scenes, this promises to be another world-class meeting. Please save the dates: **28 January – 1 February 2027**.

A great deal has happened across the region since our last newsletter. In this edition, you will find an overview of the courses, conferences, and online educational activities that have taken place over the past four months.

In honour of Professor Robert Bartlett, the *Bartlett Legacy 24-Hour Virtual Summit* was held on 16–17 March. Short presentations covering all aspects of ECMO, as well as perspectives from different ELSO chapters around the world, were delivered during this unique event. It was a remarkable first initiative, and we hope it will become a recurring educational platform.

We are also looking forward to the upcoming Research Webinar Series, the Paediatric Webinar Series, and the many national and international ECMO courses planned throughout our region. We encourage all centres and members to promote their activities on the SWAAC ELSO App and across social media platforms to broaden participation and engagement.

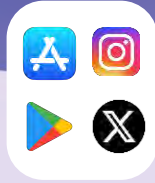
These educational initiatives are a testament to the ongoing dedication, collaboration, and commitment of ECMO professionals throughout our region. Together, we will continue to advance ECLS care, education, and research for the benefit of our patients and healthcare communities.

Warm regards,

Dr. Marlice van Dyk
President, SWAAC ELSO



SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER

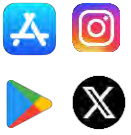


Highlights of this issue

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Page 2:	Highlights of this issue
Page 3:	Updates on Committees and Subcommittees
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Page 5:	ELSO Endorsed courses and upcoming SWAAC region ECMO courses
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SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



Update on Committees/Subcommittees

We have recently announced the newly elected members including country representatives from UAE, Saudi Arabia. New chairs of the Research subcommittee, Guidelines subcommittee, Devices and tech subcommittee, and Membership subcommittee. The new treasurer has been elected as well. New members have joined the SWAAC ELSO steering committee from Bangladesh and Pakistan.

The new members will move our chapter forward in-line with our mission.

Below are the current members:

President

Marlice Van Dyk – **South Africa**
Dr.marlice@icedoctor.co.za

Past President

Huda Alfoudri – **Kuwait**
h_alfoudri@hotmail.com

President Elect

T B D

Chairman Standing Committee

Edu/ Simu/ Comm

Ahmad Labib – **Qatar**
ahmedlabeeb@hotmail.com

Research

Ali Ait Hssain - **Qatar**
Ahhssain@hamad.qa

Guidelines

Salman Abdulaziz - **Saudi Arabia**
Dr-salman@hotmail.com

Devices & Tech

Vivek Gupta – **India**
dr_vivekg@yahoo.com

Conference

Mohamed Azzam – **Saudi Arabia**
mohamed.azzam77@me.com

Membership

Nazar Bukamel - **Bahrain**
nbukamal@mkcc.bh

Treasurer

Norbert Welkovichs – **South Africa**
Diewelk@mweb.co.za

Secretary

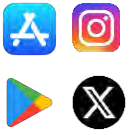
Jana Assy - **Lebanon**
jana.assy101@gmail.com

Members At Large

Vinod Singh	India	vinodksingh66@yahoo.co.in
Grace Van Leeuwen	Qatar	gvanleeuwe@sidra.org
Mohammed Shamsah	Kuwait	Mashamsa@yahoo.com
Ala Al Lawati	Oman	Ala.allawati@icloud.com
Mohammed Almaani	KSA	almaanim@gmail.com
Alia Abdulfattah	Egypt	dr.aliafattah@gmail.com
Brahim Housni	Morocco	Brahim.housni@ump.ac.ma
Timur Lesbekov	Kazakhstan	lesbekovt@mail.ru
Mohamad Amin Gorji Mahlabani	Iran	mahlab92@gmail.com
Jana Assy	Lebanon	jana.assy101@gmail.com
Norbert Welkovichs	South Africa	Diewelk@mweb.co.za
Praveen Kumar Ghisulal	UAE	drpk1987@gmail.com
Nazar Abdulrahman Bukamal	Bahrain	nbukamal@mkcc.bh
Bijoy Rajbanshi	Nepal	bijoy.rajbanshi@nepalmediciti.com
Tolusha Harischandra	Sri Lanka	tolushah@gmail.com
Ali Raza Mangi	Pakistan	armangi@gmail.com
Raihan Rabbani	Bangladesh	raihanrabbani@yahoo.com



SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



News and Updates



SWAAC ELSO Chapter brilliant minds are giving us amazing opportunities through different Webinar series. With easy access e-learning, and during flexible timings, we have been connecting with amazing professional mentors. SWAAC ELSO **Edu/Simm/Comm** committee provided us with a year long research webinar series. The first session ([Foundations of ECLS research & Epidemiologic Methods](#)) of it was successful and had huge global audience.

The ECMO Society of South Africa has also announced its [pediatrics](#) focused ECMO Webinar series, which is also set for the year.

We will have a busy educational Calander this year, so stay tuned for more on the official social media platforms.



Stay tuned for **SWAAC research webinar series upcoming sessions**.

Keep a close eye on the SWAAC ELSO social media for news on schedule and registration. **For past webinars access information go to [page 7](#)**



Driven by their commitment to enhancing the quality of care, we provide to our patients, members of the SWAAC ELSO Chapter are making beautiful contributions to the medical and scientific community. Providing a rich library of different research designs to help us understand how our practices effect the outcome of our care. Visit **page 11** for the chapter member publications.



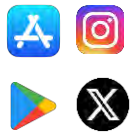
13th Annual SWAAC ELSO Conference is taking place in Najran, KSA. Visit **page 6** for information. The SWAAC ELSO Chapter is tackling the AI universe with an exciting theme for the annual conference. Prepare to participate!



When the heart or lungs fail, ECMO is considered as a crucial lifeline that can alter a patient's life and their loved ones. In this documentary, aired by **Qatar TV**, our colleagues in **Qatar** portray the journey they go through from the first moments of arrival to the moment of survival. [Click here](#) to see their beautiful work.



- [Click here to answer](#) the Survey on Practices regarding ECMO cannula-site infection in ECMO patients.
- [Click here to answer](#) the Survey on Global Survey on Pump-Controlled Retrograde Trial Off (PCRTO) Utilisation in Venoarterial ECMO Weaning
- [Click here to answer](#) the Survey on Designing and Building Optimised ECMO ICU Room: A Roadmap to Standardization and Innovation



ELSO Endorsed Courses

We are pleased to announce that one more course has been awarded ELSO endorsement which is the Qatar HMC course as fully comprehensive adult ECMO simulation course. This will strengthen our chapter educational front and provide more structured training opportunities to our community.

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

1. Mumbai, India - **Riddhi Vinayak Multispeciality Hospital – 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. Gurugram, India - **Fortis Memorial Research Institute: Adult ECMO Comprehensive Simulation Based Course**
7. Doha, Qatar – **Hamad Medical Corporation: Adult ECMO Comprehensive Simulation Based 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).

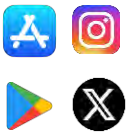
Please visit the ELSO website for more details : <https://www.elseo.org/ecmo-education/certificationexam.aspx>

Upcoming SWAAC region ECMO courses:

Location	Title	Dates	Registration/ Info
Mumbai, India <i>Riddhiviniyak Hospital</i>	Endorsed ECMO Training Course	• August 2026	
Abu Dhabi, UAE <i>Cleveland Clinic</i>	Comprehensive ELSO- Endorsed Simulation- Based ECMO Workshop,	• 16 th – 19 th Sept 2026	
Pretoria, South Africa <i>Zuid Afrikaans Hospital</i>	ECMO and Short term circulatory/ Respiratory Support course	• 27 th – 29 th August 2026 • 5 th – 7 th November 2026	



SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



SWAAC ELSO conference 2027

We're excited to announce the upcoming **13th SWAAC ELSO Annual Conference 2027** with you, which will be held in **Najran, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, from the **28th of Jan to the 1st of Feb 2027**.

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for Abstract Submission dates later this year. Contact information and registration: info@imedidea.com

**THE 13TH ANNUAL
SWAAC ELSO CONFERENCE 2027**

Conference Theme: ECLS riding the AI wave

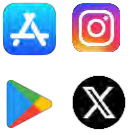
Location: Najran City, Saudi Arabia

Date: Pre-conference workshop: Jan 28-29th 2027 Main Conference: Jan 30th- Feb 1st 2027	Registration Fees: Pre-conference: 700 SAR Physicians: 1200 SAR Non-Physicians: 950 SAR
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For registration & information contact: Email: info@imedidea.com



SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



SWAAC ELSO Research Webinar Series - 2026

SWAAC ELSO Research Webinar Series 2026

Webinar Series Organizers

Dr Ahmed Labib

Dr Abdulrahman AlFares

- Bimonthly Sessions
- Wide range of research focused material
- Global ECLS-Pro Faculty

The SWAAC ELSO Education, Simulation, and Communication (**Edu/Simu/Comm**) Committee launched its 2026 Research Webinar Series to promote research knowledge and foster research development among chapter members across the region, as well as ECLS professionals worldwide.

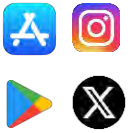
The series began with its first session in April, followed by a second session in May, both featuring valuable insights from experienced researchers in the field of ECLS.

To support continued learning, recordings of both sessions are now available online. Whether you attended and would like to revisit the content, or you were unable to register but are interested in benefiting from the expertise shared by leading ECLS researchers, you can access the recordings through the [webinar webpage](#) by submitting your email address.

Stay tuned for registration details for upcoming sessions. Updates will be shared through the chapter's social media channels.



SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



12th SWAAC ELSO Conference 2026

Highlights from The 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference that took place in Chennai, India. 5th to 8th Feb 2026



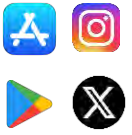
Opening Ceremony speech by the conference chairman – Dr Madhan Kumar



The SWAAC ELSO President between the 2 master minds behind the success of the SWAAC ELSO 2026 in Chennai. Dr Madhan Kumar and Dr Indira Jaikumar.



Unveiling of Dr Robert Bartlett's statue in his honor.



12th SWAAC ELSO Conference 2026

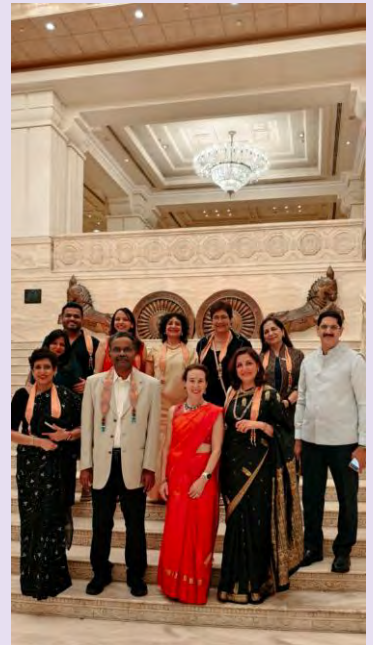
Highlights from The 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference that took place in Chennai, India. 5th to 8th Feb 2026



Ladies in Sari

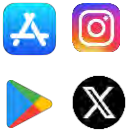


Conference Dinner and Gala Dinner





SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER

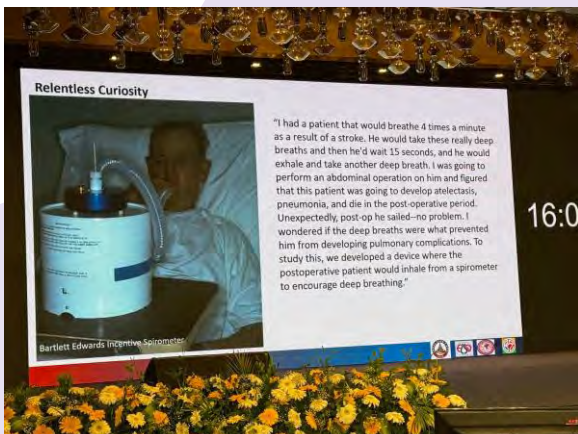


12th SWAAC ELSO Conference 2026

Highlights from The 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference that took place in Chennai, India. 5th to 8th Feb 2026

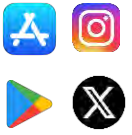


Lighting of the Auspicious lamp





SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



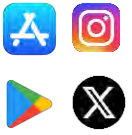
12th SWAAC ELSO Conference 2026

Highlights from The 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference that took place in Chennai, India. 5th to 8th Feb 2026



Conference Abstracts published in ASAIO



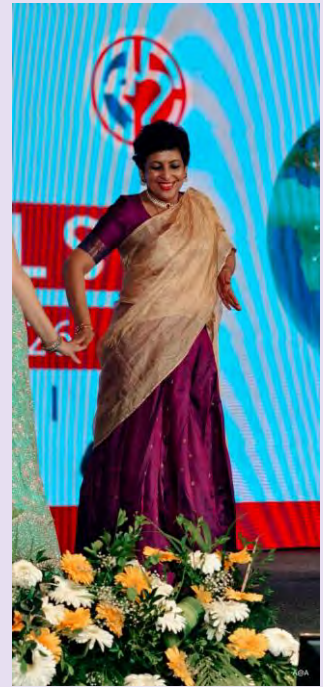


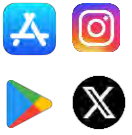
12th SWAAC ELSO Conference 2026

Highlights from The 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference that took place in Chennai, India. 5th to 8th Feb 2026



Flash mob – Dancing
ECMO delegates





12th SWAAC ELSO Conference 2026

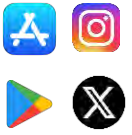
Highlights from The 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference that took place in Chennai, India. 5th to 8th Feb 2026



Preconference Workshops

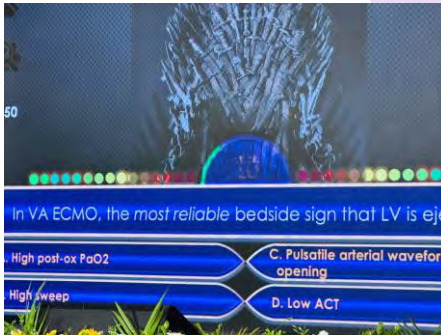


Preconference Workshop preparation



12th SWAAC ELSO Conference 2026

Highlights from The 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference that took place in Chennai, India. 5th to 8th Feb 2026

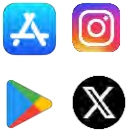


**Game of thrones
ECMO Quiz**



**Convocation
of ECMO**





12th SWAAC ELSO Conference 2026

Highlights from The 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference that took place in Chennai, India. 5th to 8th Feb 2026

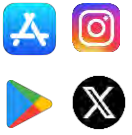


ECPR Competition The winning team





SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



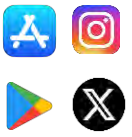
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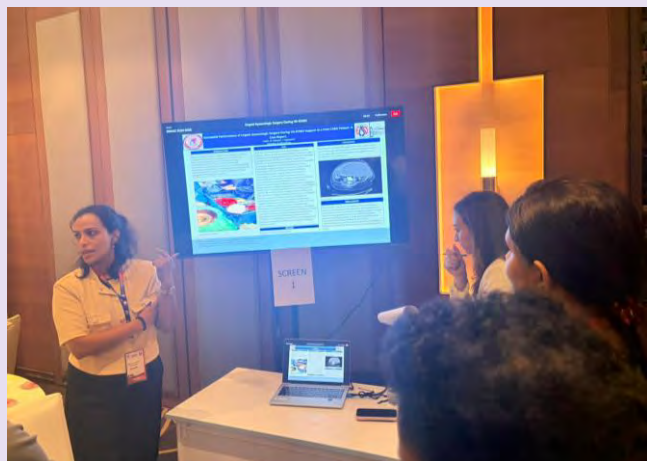


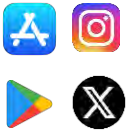
SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



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Highlights from The 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference that took place in Chennai, India. 5th to 8th Feb 2026





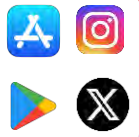
Qatar Comprehensive ECMO Course

Highlights from The Qatar's Comprehensive ECMO course conducted by Hamad Medical Corporation in Doha Qatar, 19th to 23rd April 2026





SWAAC ELSO NEWSLETTER



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
- Yashoda hospital
Hyderabad, India - 2028



Gold Award of Excellence:

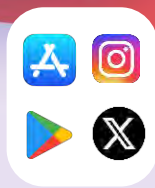
- Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates – 2026
- King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia – 2026
- Kuwait Extracorporeal Life Support Program
Kuwait city, Kuwait – 2026
- Riddhi Vinayak Critical Care and Cardiac Centre
Mumbai, India – 2027
- Hamad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



Silver Award of Excellence:

- Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Education and Medical Trust – Sanchalit K K Patel Super
Bhuj, India - 2028
- Sidra Medicine
Doha, Qatar - 2028

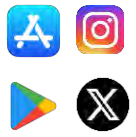
We look forward to more centers achieving the award in the near future.



SWAAC ELSO Chapter Publications

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

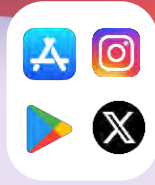
- [February 2026 - Volume 72 - Issue Supplement 1 : ASAIO Journal](#) 12th SWAAC ELSO Conference Abstracts publications
- Arabi, Y. M., Aseri, Z. A., Rada, G., Abdulmomen, A. A., Alenezi, F., Albshabshe, A., Aldekhyl, S., Algahtani, A., Algethamy, H. M., Al-Hameed, F. M., Harbi, M. K. A., Alhazzani, W., Aljasser, T., Aljuaid, M., Matrood, A. A., Mutairi, M. M. A., Alobeiwi, K. N., Alqahtani, S. Y., Alqahtani, M. A., . . . Brunnhuber, K. (2026). Saudi Guideline for Mechanical Ventilation in Adults – Executive Summary. *Saudi Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences*, 14(Suppl 1), S1–S6. https://doi.org/10.4103/sjmms.sjmms_329_25
- Rostami, M.R., Rodriguez-Flores, J., Ait Hssain, A. *et al.* Impact of population-specific pharmacogenomic variants on drug dosing in ICU patients. *Pharmacogenomics J* 26, 23 (2026). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41397-026-00415-3>
- Gist, K.M., Selewski, D.T., Kashani, K.B. *et al.* Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, acute kidney injury, fluid balance, and continuous renal replacement therapy: Acute Disease Quality Initiative (ADQI) and Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO) joint consensus conference. *Intensive Care Med* (2026). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00134-026-08440-3>
- AlGhobaishi, A., Alfraj, A., Alzahrani, A., Azzam, M., Saeedi, A. A., Khawaji, A., Kazzaz, Y., Albarakati, M., Al-Hindi, M., Mufti, H., Alwadai, A., Alheraish, Y., Albshabshe, A., Bahauden, H., AlBenayan, E., Alghamdi, E., Di Nardo, M., Ogino, M. T., Van Leeuwen, G., & Dohain, A. (2026). Survey of pediatric extracorporeal membrane oxygenation knowledge and practice among pediatric intensivists in Saudi Arabia and selected Gulf countries. *Perfusion*, 2676591261452066. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02676591261452066>
- Abdulaziz, S., Alhajri, H. S., So, M., Butt, S., Zaaqq, A. M., Asiri, A., Al-Qahtani, M., Shekar, K., Riera, J., & Brodie, D. (2026). Antimicrobial stewardship during extracorporeal membrane oxygenation: challenges and new perspectives. *Clinical Microbiology and Infection*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cmi.2026.02.021>
- Douflé G, O'Neil ER, Abreu S, Aljassim NA, Di Nardo M, Obonyo NG, Pinzon V, Price S, Ramanathan K, Balik M. Ultrasound in Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation: An ELSO State-of-the-Art Review. *ASAIO J.* 2026 Feb 1;72(2):85-98. doi: 10.1097/MAT.0000000000002656. Epub 2026 Jan 22. PMID: 41588617; PMCID: PMC12829505.



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)



Cont ELSO Guidelines and publications

- 2025 ELSO Consensus Statement for the Provision and Management of Nutrition Therapy in Critically Ill Adult Patients Requiring Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation
 - https://journals.lww.com/asaiojournal/fulltext/2026/02000/2025_elso_consensus_statement_for_the_provision.2.aspx (Contributed as an Author: Dr. Tala Al Dabbous)
- 11th SWAAC Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (SWAACELSO) 2025 Conference Abstracts, Abudhabi, UAE, November 2025
 - [October 2025 - Volume 71 - Issue Supplement 6 : ASAIO Journal](#)
- Ultrasound in Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation: An ELSO State-of-the-Art Review (Contributed as an Author: Dr. Nada Aljassim)
 - [Ultrasound in Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation: An ELSO State-of-the-Art Review – PMC](#)

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

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