

EMIRATES THALASSEMIA SOCIETY

2013

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UAE PATIENTS SPONSORED TO PARTICIPATE IN TIF WORLD CONGRESS 2013

20-23 October 2013, Abu Dhabi.



Under the patronage of His Highness general Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi & Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces & Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Executive Council, this year's TIF World Congress 2013 was proudly hosted by United Arab Emirates, in Abu Dhabi from 20-23 October 2013.

Facilitating one of the major aims of the Society to keep patients united &

expose them to international thalassemia communities, Emirates Thalassaemia Society sponsored a large delegate of about 50 individuals including Thalassaemia patients, their super visors, & parents from all over UAE to give them an opportunity to participate in the TIF World Congress 2013. The delegates were specifically a part of the Parents/Patients program, where various issues, updates, & experiences were discussed regarding the challenges of the medicine compliance, emergency management of the patients, symptoms of iron over load & much more. The UAE delegates devotedly participated in many sessions and 'Parents/Patients' round table discussions. The CEO & Executive Secretary of the Society & Member of the Conference Organizing Committee Mrs Khalida Khammas was also invited by TIF to act as a facilitator for the round table discussions, accompanied by Romaine Maharaj from UK, on the 2nd day of the conference. 'Parents support in building patient and NGO capacities' was the topic being discussed on their table which also subjected to forming the biggest discussion group in the Round Table Discussions Workshop including parents & some patients from Morocco, Malaysia, UK, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kuwait. Another contributor from the society to the Conference was also Shakeela Bashir, who had been selected to chair the first session of the conference, accompanied by M.D. Cappellini & George Makris. The session highlights some topics on the basics of Thalassaemia, blood transfusions & iron chelation therapy.

The society also proudly sponsored other Thalassaemia patients from UAE who chaired various other sessions: Fahad Sayed chaired the Session 4 with topics related to fertility, diabetes, & pain management in Thalassaemia patients. Session 5 was chair by Deema Badawi which included topics such as Hypogonadism, patient self management & interactive discussion. The Finance Manager also chaired session 6 & Board Member of the society- Saeed Al Awadhi, with topics related to Iron chelation, heart chelation, psychology & infections. Kauthar Hassan, which included topics such as future outlook on care, chaired session 8 & the Parents/Patients open session.