

The 13th Congress of the Middle East Society of Organ Transplantation

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The 13th Congress of the Middle East Society of Organ Transplantation (MESOT) was held in December 12–15, 2012, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. Participants of this Congress consisted of physicians, surgeons, scientists, organ procurement personnel, and nurses who were interested in different aspects of solid organ and tissue transplantation. Besides the well-known topics on transplantation, the Congress this year also covered ethical aspects of organ donation to combat transplant commercialism, organ trade and unethical conducts.

The most important topics discussed in the Congress included current and future challenges of transplantation in MESOT countries, chronic allograft dysfunction, trans-

plantation for special recipients, tolerance, and organ allocation and procurement.

The Congress began its work on June 12, with various pre-congress educational courses on transplant histopathology and histocompatibility, transplant immunology and review and update on liver transplantation. On the second day, there were plenary sessions about organ donation and increasing the organ pool while respecting the ethics. Furthermore, there were parallel sessions on immunosuppression, current and future trends in organ, tissue and stem cell transplantation. In the afternoon, there were three parallel free communication sessions about liver transplantation, solid organ transplantation and cardiothoracic transplantation.

On the third day, the plenary session covered regional and international cooperation in transplantation and the parallel sessions included topics about post-transplantation complications, chronic allograft dysfunction, graft outcomes and diagnosis and treatment of graft rejection. A third plenary session was held on the same day on organ allocation and procurement; it was followed by free communication sessions on high sensitization and ABO incompatibility in organ transplantation, surgical aspects of transplantation, and infection in transplantation. Many scientific studies were presented as posters during afternoon of all three days.

An excellent Gala Dinner complemented the scientific part of the meeting well. During this ceremony, three people received Mehmet Haberal Award. They were Professor Seyed-Ali Malek-Hosseini from Shiraz, Iran for his work on establishing deceased donation program in Iran, Professor Iradj Fazel from Tehran, Iran for his endeavors for establishing kidney transplantation in Iran, and Professor Adibul Hasan Rizvi from SIUT for his work on developing kidney transplantation in Pakistan.

The final day of the Congress was devoted to sessions on registry, genetics in transplantation, transplant business and administration and pediatric transplantation.



Professor Seyed-Ali Malek-Hosseini from Shiraz, Iran